

PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

NAME _____

SOURCE _____

In your small group, answer the following questions about your source:

- What type of source is this? (book, map, etc.)
- When was it created? By whom? Where does it fit into the timeline?
- What countries and/or events is it related to?
- What does this source tell you about the Haitian revolution?
- What does it tell you about any other countries and/or events?

In your large group, answer the questions:

- How does my source fit with the two other sources?
- Where do they fit on the timeline?
- What story do these sources tell when put together?

TIMELINE OF THE HAITIAN REVOLUTION

1789

June: In France, the Third Estate proclaims itself "The National Assembly."

August: The National Assembly issues The Declaration of the Rights of Man.

1790

In Saint-Domingue, the *gens de couleur* (free men of color) demand equal rights with free whites based on The Declaration of the Rights of Man.

October: Jacques Vincent Ogé leads a group of *gens de couleur* and free blacks in an unsuccessful revolt against the colonists.

1791

May: The French National Assembly grants free Blacks full French rights in Saint Domingue, but the colonists refuse to recognize this.

August: The Haitian Revolution begins at the Bois Caïman ceremony. There is continual violence between blacks and the French colonists.

September: The National Assembly revokes the decree granting free blacks equal rights, and attempts to re-establish control over the colony.

Thousands of white planters flee to the United States.

1792

April: Louis XVI affirms to the previous degree to grant equal political rights to free blacks and mulattoes in Saint-Domingue and sends Léger Félicité Sonthonax, to enforce the ruling.

May: Spain declares war on England and France and joins the fight in Saint-Domingue.

September: France abolishes the monarchy.

French colonists issue a proclamation guaranteeing freedom and the full rights of French citizenship to all slaves who join the French.

1793

February: Toussaint L'Ouverture, commander of the freed slaves, temporarily joins the Spanish forces against the French.

August: French Commissioner Sonthonax issues a General Emancipation decree abolishing slavery in the North.

The U.S. declares neutrality.

1794

February: France officially abolishes slavery in France and all of its colonial possessions.

May: Toussaint L'Ouverture rejoins the French after the Spanish refuse to abolish slavery.

1795

July: Great Britain and Spain sign a treaty recognizing Saint-Domingue as a French possession.

To the Special Envoy to France (JAMES MONROE) Washington, Jan. 13, 1803

DEAR SIR,

-- I dropped you a line on the 10th informing you of a nomination I had made of you to the Senate, and yesterday I enclosed you their approbation not then having time to write. The agitation of the public mind on occasion of the late suspension of our right of deposit at N. Orleans is extreme. In the western country it is natural and grounded on honest motives. In the seaports it proceeds from a desire for war which increases the mercantile lottery; in the federalists generally and especially those of Congress the object is to force us into war if possible, in order to derange our finances, or if this cannot be done, to attach the western country to them, as their best friends, and thus get again into power. Remonstrances memorials &c. are now circulating through the whole of the western country and signing by the body of the people. The measures we have been pursuing being invisible, do not satisfy their minds. Something sensible therefore was become necessary; and indeed our object of purchasing N. Orleans and the Floridas is a measure liable to assume so many shapes, that no instructions could be squared to fit them, it was essential then to send a minister extraordinary to be joined with the ordinary one, with discretionary powers, first however well impressed with all our views and therefore qualified to meet and modify to these every form of proposition which could come from the other party. This could be done only in full and frequent oral communications. Having determined on this, there could not be two opinions among the republicans as to the person. You possess the unlimited confidence of the administration and of the western people; and generally of the republicans everywhere; and were you to refuse to go, no other man can be found who does this. The measure has already silenced the Feds. here. Congress will no longer be agitated by them: and the country will become calm as fast as the information extends over it. All eyes, all hopes, are now fixed on you; and were you to decline, the chagrin would be universal, and would shake under your feet the high ground on which you stand with the public. Indeed I know nothing which would produce such a shock, for on the event of this mission depends the future destinies of this republic. If we cannot by a purchase of the country insure to ourselves a course of perpetual peace and friendship with all nations, then as war cannot be distant, it behooves us immediately to be preparing for that course, without, however, hastening it, and it may be necessary (on your failure on the continent) to cross the channel. . . .

As to the time of your going you cannot too much hasten it, as the moment in France is critical. St. Domingo delays their taking possession of Louisiana, and they are in the last distress for money for current purposes. You should arrange your affairs for an absence of a year at least, perhaps for a long one. It will be necessary for you to stay here some days on your way to New York. You will receive here what advance you chuse. Accept assurances of my constant and affectionate attachment.

Thomas Jefferson

TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

The President of the United States of America and the First Consul of the French Republic in the name of the French People desiring to remove all Source of misunderstanding relative to objects of discussion mentioned in the Second and fifth articles of the Convention of the 8th Vendmiaire on 9/30 September 1800 relative to the rights claimed by the United States in virtue of the Treaty concluded at Madrid the 27 of October 1795, between His Catholic Majesty & the Said United States, & willing to Strengthen the union and friendship which at the time of the Said Convention was happily reestablished between the two nations have respectively named their Plenipotentiaries to wit The President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate of the Said States; Robert R. Livingston Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States and James Monroe Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy extraordinary of the Said States near the Government of the French Republic; And the First Consul in the name of the French people, Citizen Francis BarbÃ© Marbois Minister of the public treasury who after having respectively exchanged their full powers have agreed to the following Articles.

Article I

Whereas by the Article the third of the Treaty concluded at St Ildefonso the 9th Vendamiaire on 1st October 1800 between the First Consul of the French Republic and his Catholic Majesty it was agreed as follows.

"His Catholic Majesty promises and engages on his part to cede to the French Republic six months after the full and entire execution of the conditions and Stipulations herein relative to his Royal Highness the Duke of Parma, the Colony or Province of Louisiana with the Same extent that it now has in the hand of Spain, & that it had when France possessed it; and Such as it Should be after the Treaties subsequently entered into between Spain and other States."

And whereas in pursuance of the Treaty and particularly of the third article the French Republic has an incontestible title to the domain and to the possession of the said Territory--The First Consul of the French Republic desiring to give to the United States a strong proof of his friendship doth hereby cede to the United States in the name of the French Republic for ever and in full Sovereignty the said territory with all its rights and appurtenances as fully and in the Same manner as they have been acquired by the French Republic in virtue of the above mentioned Treaty concluded with his Catholic Majesty.

Article II

In the cession made by the preceeding article are included the adjacent Islands belonging to Louisiana all public lots and Squares, vacant lands and all public buildings, fortifications, barracks and other edifices which are not private property.--The Archives, papers & documents relative to the domain and Sovereignty of Louisiana and its dependances will be left in the possession of the Commissaries of the United States, and copies will be afterwards given in due form to the Magistrates and Municipal officers of such of the said papers and documents as may be necessary to them.

Article III

The inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated in the Union of the United States and admitted as soon as possible according to the principles of the federal Constitution to the enjoyment of all these rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States, and in the mean time they shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and the Religion which they profess. . . .

Article X

The present treaty Shall be ratified in good and due form and the ratifications Shall be exchanged in the Space of Six months after the date of the Signature by the Ministers Plenipotentiary or Sooner if possible.

In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have Signed these articles in the French and English languages; declaring nevertheless that the present Treaty was originally agreed to in the French language; and have thereunto affixed their Seals.

Done at Paris the tenth day of Floreal in the eleventh year of the French Republic; and the 30th of April 1803.

Robt R Livingston [seal]

Jas. Monroe [seal]

Barba Marbois [seal]

APPENDIX.

No. I.

(Referred to in Page 131.—“The fascinating eloquence of the
Abbe Gregoire,” &c.)

*Among the other Public Efforts of the Society of Amis de Nons,
was the following Letter of the Abbe Gregoire, Bishop of the
Department of Loire and Cher, Deputy of the National Assem-
bly, to the Citizens of Color in the French West Indies, concern-
ing the Decree of the 15th May, 1791, which produced an im-
mediate and striking Effect.*

FRIENDS,

YOU were Men;—you are now CITIZENS. Reinstated in the
fulness of your rights, you will in future participate of the sove-
reignty of the people. The decree which the National Assembly
has just published respecting you, is not a *favor*; for a favour
is a *privilege*, and a privilege to one class of people is an injury
to all the rest.—They are words which no longer disgrace the
laws of the French.

In securing to you the exercise of your political rights, we
have acquitted ourselves of a *duty*:—not to have paid it, would
have been a crime on our part, and a disgrace to the constitution.
The legislators of a free nation certainly could not do less for you
than our ancient despots have done.

It

368

APPENDIX.

No. I.
Letter of the
Abbe Gre-
goire.

It is now above a century that Louis XIVth solemnly acknow-
ledged and proclaimed your rights; but of this sacred inheritance
you have been defrauded by pride and avarice, which have gra-
dually increased your burthens, and embittered your existence.

The regeneration of the French empire opened your hearts to
hope, whose cheering influence has alleviated the weight of your
miseries; miseries of which the people of Europe had no idea.
While the white planters resident amongst us were loud in their
complaints against *ministerial* tyranny, they took especial care to
be silent *as to their own*. Not a hint was suggested concerning
the complaints of the unhappy people of mixed blood; who,
notwithstanding, are their own children. It is *we*, who, at the
distance of two thousand leagues from you, have been constrained
to protect these children against the neglect, the contempt, the
unnatural cruelty of their fathers!

But it is in vain that they have endeavoured to suppress the
justice of your claims. Your groans, notwithstanding the extent
of the ocean which separates us, have reached the hearts of the
European Frenchmen; for *they have hearts*.

APPENDIX.

369

No, Gentlemen :—you could not escape the solicitude of the
National Assembly. In unfolding to the eyes of the universe the
great charter of nature, your titles were traced. An attempt had
indeed been made to expunge them; but, happily, they are
written in characters as indelible as the sacred image of the
Deity, which is graven on your countenances.

Already had the National Assembly, in the instructions which
it prepared for the government of the colonies, on the 28th of
March, 1790, comprized both the whites and people of color
under one common denomination. Your enemies, in asserting
the contrary, have published a forgery. It is incontestibly true;
that when I demanded you should be expressly named, a great
number of members, among whom were several planters, eagerly
exclaimed, that you were already comprehended under general
words contained in those instructions. M. Barnave himself, upon
my repeated instances to him on that head, has at length ac-
knowledgeed, before the whole Assembly, that this was the fact.
It now appears how much reason I had to apprehend that a false
construction would be put upon our decree!

[5]

pietous in the Island than the Whites, were in a depressed and degraded state. They felt forcibly the justice of these principles; and when they considered that these were held out by the Representatives of the Parent Country, they determined to assert their right to equal privileges with the rest of the Colonists. In consequence of this they held a Meeting, after which they sent several worthy Persons of their own body to Paris, to represent them in the National Assembly of France.

On their arrival they found their way to the Bureau de Verification, where it was necessary for them to have their Claim to representation ascertained and sanctioned, before they could be admitted as Deputies into the Assembly.

The White Planters, however, who happened to have seats in the National Assembly at the time, found means to cloud into this Bureau or Committee just mentioned, with a view of hindering the Deputies from the People of Colour from having a place in the same legislative body with themselves. They pretended to find some flaw in their powers, and put off the further consideration of the subject for a few weeks.—At the end of this time, in consequence of the great exertions of the Deputies of Colour, they were obliged to resume the consideration of the case; they then acknowledged their error, gave up the legality of the flaw as insisted, but pretended to have discovered one of another nature. In this way they put off the Deputies from Committee to Committee, hindering them by these means from coming

[6]

coming before the Assembly at all.—When at last, one of the Deputies of the name of Ogé, a Man of Property, Education and Abilities, but of much stronger Passions than his Colleagues, returned to St. Domingo to represent to their Constituents the treatment they had met with from the White Planters in France.

His representation of the case soon reached the ears of some of the Whites of St. Domingo, who communicated the intelligence to others of their own description, which produced a determination in them, to make a victim of Ogé, by taking away his life. They attacked him and a few of his adherents at various times in armed parties, some of whom he defeated, and from others he was obliged to fly; pressed however at last, he was obliged to take refuge in the Spanish part of the Island, where he was treacherously given up, and soon after, though he was never publicly examined, he was broken alive on the wheel with twenty-five of his followers. This barbarous destruction of a person whom the People of Colour so generally and deservedly esteemed, only widened the breach between them and the Whites of the Island, and exasperated them to wreak their revenge upon the latter. While they were planning schemes with this view, news arrived in the Colony that those of their deputies who, after Ogé's departure, had remained in France, had by their perseverance obtained a hearing before the National Assembly; which on the same day decreed that all the People of Colour born of free parents were Frenchmen, and of course entitled to all the privileges of Frenchmen