

After Being Convicted of Voting in the 1872 Presidential Election

Susan B. Anthony

How does Anthony use the Constitution's own pronouns to attack exclusion from voting?

TOTAL TIME	TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION
30 minutes	1873 speech - "We, the people" argument

TEACHER SETUP

Open the work in the Enhanced Reader and cue the span using the START and END anchors below.

START	It was we, the people; not we, the white male citizens;
END	the whole people - women as well as men.
PASSAGE ID	sec-anthony-vote-01

THE MOVE

Analyze how an argument redefines a familiar phrase by testing who its grammar includes.

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Anthony turns the Constitution's phrase "We, the people" into textual evidence. By repeatedly narrowing what the words do not say, she argues that the founding language already includes women.

MARK

Underline each version of "we." Circle categories Anthony says the Constitution does not limit itself to. Box the sentence where the argument reaches "the whole people."

NOTICE

- Why does Anthony focus on pronouns instead of beginning with policy?
- What is the effect of repeating "not we"?
- How does the grammar support her constitutional claim?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How does Anthony use the Constitution's own pronouns to attack exclusion from voting? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response. Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.

STRONG ANSWER

Anthony treats "We, the people" as inclusive language whose force is weakened by adding restrictions that are not in the text. The repeated "not we" structure makes exclusion look like a later distortion of the Constitution's own wording.

EVIDENCE

Use the repeated "not we" construction and the phrase "the whole people."

WATCH FOR

Do not simply say Anthony supports women's suffrage. Explain how she makes a grammatical phrase carry a constitutional argument.

SOLO

Read independently.

SUPPORTED

Narration + highlighting.

LISTENING

Listen; same evidence task.

STUDENT PAGE · GRADE 12 · LESSON 335

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WORK	After Being Convicted of Voting in the 1872 Presidential Election
TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION	1873 speech - "We, the people" argument
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Your teacher will open or cue the work in the Enhanced Reader. Use the location and verbatim anchors below to confirm the assigned span.

START

It was we, the people; not we, the white male citizens;

END

the whole people - women as well as men.

READ / LISTEN TO THE ASSIGNED PASSAGE SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration and highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the assigned passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. **MARK** Underline each version of "we." Circle categories Anthony says the Constitution does not limit itself to. Box the sentence where the argument reaches "the whole people."
2. **NOTICE** Why does Anthony focus on pronouns instead of beginning with policy? What is the effect of repeating "not we"? How does the grammar support her constitutional claim?
3. **THINK** Answer provisionally: How does Anthony use the Constitution's own pronouns to attack exclusion from voting?
4. **WRITE** Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.
5. **CLOSE** Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.