

Name:

Date:

What is a revolution anyway?

Before I can ask you if an event we study is a revolution you need to find out for yourself what a true revolution is. *Before you start reading, answer the questions below.*

1. Put a check by any of the following examples you think would be a revolution.

The poor of Germany get together and kill all the rich. They take over the government.	The rich rulers in China make new laws that say poor people cannot look at them.
New technology makes smaller computers possible and people are implanted with them in their heads. Within a few weeks, the entire planet is linked via a global communication system never before seen.	Farmers in the town of Johnsonville, MI rise up against the Wal-Mart in its town and destroy it because it is hurting their business. They never allow another Wal-Mart to be built there again.
The untouchables in India band together and take down the caste system by using violent riots to force the government to make laws saying it is illegal.	The poor in France take over the government and set up a new one that favors them. Within months, the government is retaken over by the wealthy.
Women gain the right to vote through peaceful protesting. Over time, men come to see women as equals.	Poor workers take over the government of Russia. After a few years, these new leaders establish laws that benefit only them and keep them in power.

2. Come up with at least two criteria for what defines a revolution to you.

Read the two passages and answer the following questions.

Reading #1

3. Where is this passage from? How might that affect what it says?

4. How does it define a revolution?

5. What does it say about the American Revolution? Was it a true revolution according to this article?

Reading #2

6. Where is this passage from? How might that affect what it says?

7. Why do revolutions occur, according to this passage?

8. Generally, is this author in favor of revolutions or not? How do you know this?

9. According to this passage, why do people often argue that a revolution today wouldn't work?

Quotes

Read the four quotes and then explain what each one is really saying below in your own words.

#1

#2

#3

#4

10. Which quote do you agree with most? Why?

11. Which quote do you disagree with most? Why?

12. Once you have done this, go back and look at the examples of revolutions on the other side of this page. Have your opinions changed? Would you mark any of the examples differently? Why or why not?