

the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

National Archives, *Charters of Freedom* exhibit, www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution_transcript.html.

PRACTICING Historical Thinking

Identify: What is the actual compromise?

Analyze: Explain the thinking behind this compromise.

Evaluate: To what extent does this compromise address the concerns presented in Document 5.11?

DOCUMENT 5.16 | **Declaration of the Rights of Man** 1789

The Declaration of the Rights of Man was adopted by the French National Assembly a little over one month after the storming of the Bastille prison in Paris on July 14, 1789. Inspired by the ideas of John Locke, Montesquieu, and Voltaire, this declaration echoed the sentiments of the American Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution.

1. Men are born and remain free and equal in rights. Social distinctions may only be founded upon the general good.
2. The aim of all political association is the preservation of the natural and imprescriptible rights of man. These rights are liberty, property, security and resistance to oppression.
3. The principle of all sovereignty resides essentially in the nation. No body nor individual may exercise any authority which does not proceed directly from the nation.
4. Liberty consists in the freedom to do everything which injures no one else; hence the exercise of the natural rights of each man has no limits except those which assure to the other members of the society the enjoyment of the same rights. These limits can only be determined by law.
5. Law can only prohibit such actions as are hurtful to society. Nothing may be prevented which is not forbidden by law, and no one may be forced to do anything not provided for by law.
6. Law is the expression of the general will. Every citizen has a right to participate personally or through his representative in its foundation. It

must be the same for all, whether it protects or punishes. All citizens, being equal in the eyes of the law, are equally eligible to all dignities and to all public positions and occupations, according to their abilities, and without distinction except that of their virtues and talents.

James Harvey Robinson, ed., *Translations and Reprints from the Original Sources of European History*, vol. 1, no. 5 (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1897), 6–7.

PRACTICING Historical Thinking

Identify: Determine five significant points that are made in this declaration. Explain your choices.

Analyze: In what ways does this document borrow from the American Declaration of Independence (Doc. 5.6)?

Evaluate: In what ways does this document express concerns or interests that differed from those of British North Americans?

DOCUMENT 5.17 TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE, Letter to the Directory

1797

Toussaint L'Ouverture (1743–1803) was the leader of Haitian revolutionary forces in the island colony of Saint Domingue that led to the liberation of the slaves there. In 1797, he faced an attempt by former slaveholders to recover their lost property. In this letter, L'Ouverture warns the French revolutionary government not to attempt to reestablish slavery on the island.

... They [the former slaveholders on the island on Saint Domingue] cannot see how this odious conduct on their part can become the signal of new disasters and irreparable misfortunes, and that far from making them regain what in their eyes liberty for all has made them lose, they expose themselves to a total ruin and the colony to its inevitable destruction. Do they think that men who have been able to enjoy the blessing of liberty will calmly see it snatched away? They supported their chains only so long as they did not know any condition of life more happy than that of slavery. But to-day when they have left it, if they had a thousand lives they would sacrifice them all rather than be forced into slavery again. But no, the same hand which has broken our chains will not enslave us anew. France will not revoke her principles, she will not withdraw from us the greatest of her benefits. She will protect us against all our enemies; she will not permit her sublime morality to be perverted, those principles which do her most honor to be destroyed, her most beautiful achievement to be degraded, her Decree of 16 Pluviose [which abolished slavery in French colonies] which so honors humanity to be revoked.