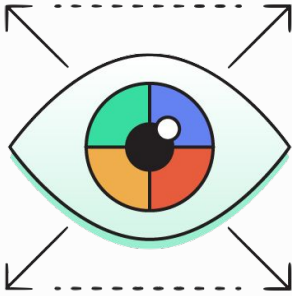


Formative Assessment:

Perspective



Thinking historically means considering how one's personhood has influenced their perspective. It also means recognizing how diverse viewpoints and experiences shape the understanding of historical events. This allows students of history to cultivate empathy for the people of the past that are studied.

Directions: Read the following author context and primary source. Then, answer the questions on perspective that follow. The multiple choice questions for this formative assessment are Weighted Multiple Choice (WMC) Questions. This means that there is only one *incorrect* answer, but the other 3 choices are weighted. The *two best* answers are 2 points, the *next-best* answer is 1 points, and the *incorrect* answer is 0 points.

Formative Assessment: Perspective

Author Context:

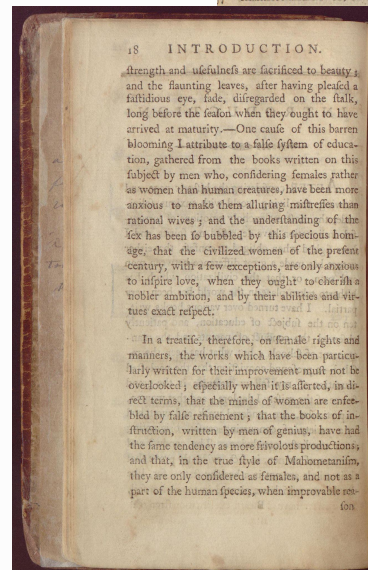
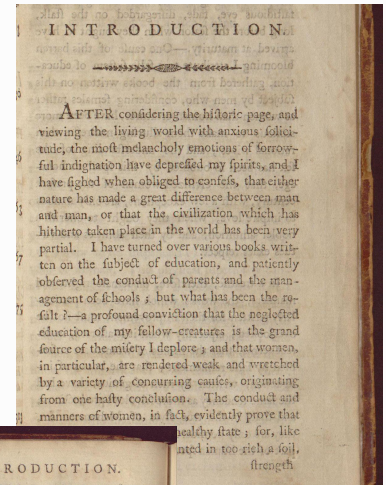
Mary Wollstonecraft (1759-1797) was an English writer, philosopher, and advocate for women's rights. She grew up in a large family that experienced periods of financial instability. She witnessed domestic violence toward her mother as well as societal challenges for her sister, Eliza. In her writings, she played a significant role in the Enlightenment era by promoting ideas of individual rights, reason, and equality, particularly for women. She argued that women were not inherently inferior to men but were denied opportunities for education and personal development due to social norms and prejudices. Wollstonecraft's ideas conflicted with the general position of women during her time. During the Enlightenment women's roles were largely restricted by social norms and traditional gender expectations. Their primary roles were seen as domestic, centered around marriage, motherhood, and managing the home.

Source: Mary Wollstonecraft, "A Vindication of the Rights of Woman," 1792. [Library of Congress](#).

Note: The pictured copy of this book comes from the Susan B. Anthony Collection at the Library of Congress. It was presented to Susan B. Anthony by Maria G. Porter, Rochester N.Y. in August 1881.

I have turned over various books written on the subject of education, and patiently observed the conduct of parents and the management of schools; but what has been the result?— a profound conviction that the neglected education of my fellow-creatures is the grand source of the misery I deplore; and that women, in particular, are rendered weak and wretched by a variety of concurring causes, originating from one hasty conclusion. The conduct and manners of women, in fact, evidently prove that their minds are not in a healthy state...

One cause of this barren blooming I attribute to a false system of education, gathered from the books written on this subject by men who, considering females rather as women than human creatures, have been more anxious to make them alluring mistresses than affectionate wives and rational mothers; and the understanding of the sex has been so bubbled by this specious homage, that the civilized women of the present century, with a few exceptions, are only anxious to inspire love, when they ought to cherish a nobler ambition, and by their abilities and virtues exact respect.



Formative Assessment: Perspective

1. Using both the author context *and* the primary source, select the **two statements** that best demonstrate how the perspective of Mary Wollstonecraft influenced her views on women and education.
 - A. Wollstonecraft believed that women's role in society was largely due to a lack of formal education.
 - B. Wollstonecraft challenged ideas presented in Enlightenment philosophy.
 - C. Wollstonecraft had studied education and the false ideas about women and their abilities.
 - D. Wollstonecraft supported women's political rights.

2. Historians evaluate the significance of the attributes of a person to better interpret a source. Using both the author context and the primary source, explain why one of the statements you chose represents a more significant influence on Mary Wollstonecraft's views on women and education. Cite evidence.



Teacher Key for Formative Assessment: Perspective

- Using both the author context *and* the primary source, select the **two statements** that best demonstrate how the perspective of Mary Wollstonecraft influenced her views on women and education.
 - Wollstonecraft believed that women's role in society was largely due to a lack of formal education. **(2 points)**
 - Wollstonecraft challenged ideas presented in Enlightenment philosophy. **(0 points)**
 - Wollstonecraft had studied education and the false ideas about women and their abilities. **(2 points)**
 - Wollstonecraft supported women's political rights. **(1 point)**

2. Historians evaluate the significance of the attributes of a person to better interpret a source. Using both the author context and the primary source, explain why one of the statements you chose represents a more significant influence on Mary Wollstonecraft's views on women and education. Cite evidence.

Based on the primary source and the author context provided, Choice A and Choice C (worth 2 points) are clear examples of how the perspective of Mary Wollstonecraft influenced her views on women and education. Choice A describes the influence of the time period on Wollstonecraft's views, which is referenced in the author's context and additionally stated by Wollstonecraft as the "grand source of the misery I deplore." Similarly, with Choice C, Wollstonecraft positions herself as a researcher on the subject of women and education in the primary source. This is also supported in the context, which describes her as a major contributor to the greater Enlightenment period. Choice D, while providing a true statement about Wollstonecraft, is not as specific in the ways this impacted her views. Choice D lacks support that can be drawn directly from the primary source and, thus, is worth 1 point. Choice B, worth 0 points, is true but is too broad and vague to fully answer the prompt.



1. Weighted Multiple Choice

Choice 1	2 points (Choice A or C)	1 point (Choice D)	0 points (Choice B)
Choice 2	2 points (Choice A or C)	1 point (Choice D)	0 points (Choice B)
			Subtotal: _____ / 4

2. Short Answer: More Significant Factor

3 points	2 points	1 point	0 points
Student identifies one choice as a more significant factor and cites clear evidence from both the author context and primary source to justify their choice.	Student identifies one choice as more significant and cites clear evidence from one source to justify their answer. Both sources may be cited, but only one provides clear justification.	Student identifies one choice as more significant and may or may not cite evidence to justify their answer. If evidence is cited, it does not provide clear justification for their choice.	Students does not identify one choice as more significant. Student either misunderstood question or did not attempt to answer it.
			Subtotal: _____ / 3

Total: _____ / 7

