

Ways of the World: A Global History with Sources for the AP® Course
AP® Skills Workshop Activity Handout: Analyzing Secondary Sources
Chapter 16: Atlantic Revolutions, Global Echoes

Name _____
Date _____ Class _____

1. Activity: Identifying Claims and Evidence in Secondary Sources. Using Historians' Voices 16.1, found on page 732, trace the evolution of the French Revolution from a movement based on democratic principle to one that invited dictatorship. What is the claim that Tocqueville is making about this evolution? What is the evidence?

Tocqueville's claim:

Evidence supporting the claim:

2. Activity: Analyzing a Secondary Source. Read the following passage from a chapter on the French Revolution written by UCLA professor Lynn Hunt. Her area of expertise is the French Revolution, and she is the foremost expert on the origins of the idea of human rights in the eighteenth century. In this piece, she argues that the French Revolution was primarily caused by broader revolutionary sentiment that she and others have called the Atlantic movement.

Until the past ten years or so . . . historians [of the French Revolution] have focused on causes such as food shortages and on major mechanisms, e.g., the push for popular democracy or the resistance to women's rights, that were internal to the history of metropolitan . . . France. Few denied that the French Revolution had a global dimension, but that global dimension was usually seen as an effect of the geopolitical ambitions of the revolutionary ideology at home. . . . The arrow of influence always pointed outward, from mainland France, and especially from Paris, to other places, including the French colonies. Mainland French historians were only too happy to note the far distant reverberations of their French Revolution, but by and large they rejected efforts to make the French Revolution part of a broader Atlantic movement, as [American historian] R. R. Palmer had argued it should be.

— Lynn Hunt, "The French Revolution in Global Context" in *The Age of Revolutions in Global Context*, c. 1760–1840, 2010

The author explains in this paragraph that before ten years ago the French Revolution was discussed in terms of internal causes, but not as an effect of a larger Atlantic revolutionary movement. What evidence can you find that supports this claim? How does her context as a world historian affect her view on the French Revolution?

Evidence:
