

Susan B. Anthony



Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. Have you ever voted?
2. Who is allowed to vote in your country?
3. Do women in your country have the same rights as men?

B. Vocabulary Preview

Match up as many words and meanings as you can.

Check this exercise again after seeing the words in context on page 2.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. take something for granted | a) someone who publicly fights for a cause |
| _____ 2. determined | b) to force someone to pay money as punishment for a crime |
| _____ 3. activist | c) an enemy, a competitor |
| _____ 4. advocate (<i>verb</i>) | d) someone's reputation after death |
| _____ 5. stubborn | e) a place where voting happens |
| _____ 6. rival | f) to accept something without giving much consideration to it |
| _____ 7. suffrage | g) refusing to change one's mind or perspective |
| _____ 8. the polls | h) to support a specific issue |
| _____ 9. fine | i) causing public disagreement |
| _____ 10. controversial | j) the right to vote |
| _____ 11. legacy | k) not giving up |
| _____ 12. immortalize | l) to cause someone's reputation to remain in the public eye forever |

Reading

1. In many parts of the world nowadays, we **take it for granted** that women are allowed to vote. But back in the 1800s in the United States, many people believed this should not be legal. If it hadn't been for some very **determined** people, women might not have been granted the right to vote. One of these people was Susan B. Anthony.
2. Susan B. Anthony was born in 1820 in Adams, Massachusetts. Because her family belonged to the Quaker religion, they always believed that all human beings should be treated equally. In fact, several of Susan's seven siblings also grew up to become **activists**.
3. Anthony started out as a teacher, but by the age of 17, she began to **advocate** for the rights of slaves. She was also part of the temperance movement, which meant that she did not believe people should drink alcohol. Many people at the time believed women should not be involved in politics. In fact, Anthony was once kicked out of a temperance conference because she was female. Anthony, who was **stubborn** and dedicated, did not give up. Her **rivals** only inspired her to fight harder.
4. By 1851, Anthony and her friend Elizabeth Cady Stanton began campaigning for women's **suffrage**. Over the next 50 years, the two women made inspiring speeches all over the United States, started a women's rights newspaper called the *Revolution*, and created the American Equal Rights Association.
5. When the United States government finally passed amendments allowing black men to vote in 1868 and 1870, Anthony and Stanton could not believe that women were still not being included. Anthony and her female colleagues were more determined than ever to win the constitutional right to vote, so they created the National Woman Suffrage Association.
6. Eventually, this led to the incident that Anthony is most famous for. In 1872, she showed up at **the polls** and attempted to vote. Because this was illegal, Anthony was arrested and **fined** \$100, but she refused to pay. This **controversial** event brought national attention to the women's suffrage movement.
7. Susan B. Anthony continued to campaign for women's rights until the end of her life. For example, she convinced the University of Rochester to accept women as students in 1900. Unfortunately, she died just 14 years before the 19th Amendment finally gave women the right to vote in 1920. If she had been alive to see it, Anthony would have been overjoyed that all her hard work had finally paid off. Her **legacy** was later **immortalized** in 1979 by the US government when a silver one-dollar coin was created using her image.

"Independence is happiness."

—Susan B. Anthony

Did You Know?

The United States wasn't the only place where women were fighting for the right to vote. In fact, of all the countries that still exist today, the US was only the ninth to allow women to vote! The first country to allow women to vote was New Zealand in 1893. After that came Australia in 1902, Finland in 1906, Norway in 1913, Denmark in 1915, and Canada in 1917.

Comprehension

A. True or False?

Read the statements below. If the statement is true, write T beside the sentence. If it is false, write F and correct the information in your notebook.

- _____ 1. Susan B. Anthony had six sisters.
- _____ 2. Susan B. Anthony believed alcohol should be illegal.
- _____ 3. Susan B. Anthony started a newspaper called the *Revolution*.
- _____ 4. Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton were sisters-in-law.
- _____ 5. In 1872, all women had to pay \$100 in order to vote.
- _____ 6. Susan B. Anthony celebrated when the 19th Amendment was finally passed.

B. Ask & Answer

Practice asking and answering the following questions with your partner. Then write your answers in complete sentences in your notebook.

1. Why was Susan B. Anthony famous?

2. Which issues were most important to Susan B. Anthony?

3. Which associations did Susan B. Anthony help create?



Comprehension cont.

B. Ask & Answer cont.

4. Why was Susan B. Anthony arrested?

5. How was Susan B. Anthony immortalized by the US government?

Vocabulary Review

A. Complete the Sentences

Complete the sentences using vocabulary from page 1.
You may need to change the word forms.

1. The women's _____ movement was important because it gave women a voice.
2. I parked in an illegal zone and was _____ \$70.
3. Lucille's _____ lives on through her charitable foundations.
4. Charlotte is a vegan and an animal rights _____.
5. I don't care if I win. I just want to do better than my _____.

Vocabulary Review cont.

B. Choose the Closest Meaning

Choose the word or phrase with the closest meaning to the underlined word or phrase in the following sentences.

1. The prime minister was immortalized with a professional portrait.
 - a) revived
 - b) commemorated
 - c) buried
2. I promised my husband I would never take him for granted.
 - a) forget him
 - b) embarrass him
 - c) stop appreciating him
3. Gunther was fined for throwing litter out his car window.
 - a) arrested
 - b) charged a fee
 - c) feeling good
4. He may be stubborn, but he does amazing work.
 - a) strong-willed
 - b) angry
 - c) focused
5. I hope more young people will show up to the polls for the next election.
 - a) the voting station
 - b) the police station
 - c) parliament
6. Even though Claire is terrible at bowling, she is determined to get better.
 - a) unlikely
 - b) excited
 - c) motivated
7. It is important to advocate for young girls so that they become confident adults.
 - a) vote for
 - b) support
 - c) trust
8. The two con men were rivals until they realized they could make a larger profit by working together.
 - a) related
 - b) allies
 - c) enemies
9. The pop star wore a shirt with a controversial design, and the media went crazy.
 - a) problematic
 - b) unattractive
 - c) confusing

Grammar Review

THE THIRD CONDITIONAL

A. Introduction

Consider the following two lines from the reading. What do they mean?

1. If it hadn't been for some very determined people, women might not have been granted the right to vote.
2. If she had been alive to see it, Anthony would have been overjoyed that all her hard work had finally paid off.

Both of these sentences use the third conditional, also known as the past conditional. This grammatical structure can be used for talking about hypothetical situations in the past. We can also use the third conditional for talking about regrets or criticisms.

Pattern

If + had + past participle, would/could/might + have + past participle

Use

The third conditional expresses a past regret or shows a different outcome that would have happened if a certain condition had been met.

Examples

- If I **had passed** that math class, I **could have gone** to Harvard.
- If she **hadn't been** passive-aggressive, Sandy **would have won** the award.
- I **might have met** the famous actor if I **had stayed** at the gala longer.

Grammar Review cont.

B. Practice

Use the third conditional to complete the sentences.

1. If Anna had gone to the party, _____ .
2. _____ if we hadn't already made soup for dinner.
3. _____ if he hadn't been allergic to tomatoes.
4. If Victor hadn't joined the army, _____ .

Discussion

1. Why is voting so important?
2. How would life be different if women had not won the right to vote?
3. Have you ever seen a Susan B. Anthony coin? Which other famous people have been immortalized by having their picture on money?
4. Susan B. Anthony never married or had children, which was considered unusual for women at that time. How does society expect women to behave now? What has changed? What is still the same?

Answer Key

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

In this lesson, students learn about Susan B. Anthony, a famous American woman who helped women gain the right to vote in the United States. This lesson includes a review of the third conditional.

LEVEL: High Int

TIME: 1.5–2 hours

TAGS: women, voting, Susan B. Anthony, suffrage, gender, United States, rights, equal rights, women’s rights, history

Pre-Reading

A. WARM-UP QUESTIONS

Answers will vary.

B. VOCABULARY PREVIEW

- | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1. f | 3. a | 5. g | 7. j | 9. b | 11. d |
| 2. k | 4. h | 6. c | 8. e | 10. i | 12. l |

Reading

Read out loud as a class, or assign as silent reading or home reading. Have students underline any vocabulary that they are unfamiliar with.

Comprehension

A. TRUE OR FALSE?

1. F – Susan B. Anthony had seven siblings, not just sisters.
2. T
3. T
4. F – Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton were friends.
5. F – \$100 was the fine for voting illegally.
6. F – Susan B. Anthony was already dead when the 19th Amendment was passed.

B. ASK & ANSWER

1. Susan B. Anthony was famous for advocating for women’s suffrage.
2. She fought for the rights of slaves as well as the rights of women.
3. She created the American Equal Rights Association and the National Woman Suffrage Association.
4. She was arrested for trying to vote and refusing to pay the \$100 fine.
5. She was immortalized by the US government when they created a one-dollar coin with her image on it.

Vocabulary Review

A. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

1. suffrage
2. fined
3. legacy
4. activist
5. rival

B. CHOOSE THE CLOSEST MEANING

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. b | 3. b | 5. a | 7. b | 9. a |
| 2. c | 4. a | 6. c | 8. c | |

(continued on the next page...)

Answer Key cont.

Grammar Review

Review the grammar notes with your students and check their understanding as they work on their sentences in Part B. Answers will vary.

For more practice with the third conditional, try our Grammar Practice Worksheet lesson:
<https://esllibrary.com/courses/88/lessons/1604>

Discussion

Discuss in small groups or as a class. Answers will vary.

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the word *Practice*. Most other English-speaking countries spell it this way: *Practise* (when used as a verb; *Practice* when used as a noun). Make it a challenge for your students to find this word in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spelling.