

Today we are practicing annotating for Enduring Issues. An enduring issue is a problem that many people have faced over time.

**Directions:**

Read each document. As you read, use your highlight tool to annotate your document each time that you encounter one of the enduring issues listed below. Use the assigned color to annotate examples of each problem. For example, highlight examples of inequality in yellow..

- ★ Remember, let your technology work smarter for you. [Click here for computer help & shortcuts!](#)
- ★ Reminder: Open up your “View” menu and uncheck “Print Layout” to work in computer-view.

**Today’s Enduring Issues**

- Unequal Social Hierarchy
- Oppression
- Scarcity of Resources

Document 1: Latin American Revolutions	Document 2: The French Revolution
<p>After three centuries of colonial rule, independence came rather suddenly to most of Spanish and Portuguese America. Between 1808 and 1826 all of Latin America except the Spanish colonies of Cuba and Puerto Rico slipped out of the hands of the Iberian (Spain + Portugal) powers who had ruled the region since the conquest. The rapidity and timing of that dramatic change were the result of a combination of long-building tensions in colonial rule and a series of external events.</p>	<p>The history of the monarchy in Europe tells the story of oppression of the individual and the inequality between aristocrats and the majority. Absolutism and the ability to control lives never allowed for public participation in politics; it was only until the Enlightenment in the eighteenth century that the French people began to realize change was necessary. With new ways of thinking and increasing literacy, the empowerment of the individual grew to unprecedented levels, leading to a revolution against an oppressive government. The French Revolution of 1789 acts as a</p>

By the late eighteenth century, the Spanish colonies had a thriving class of Creoles (Criollo in Spanish, people of Spanish descent born in the Americas), wealthy men and women of European ancestry born in the New World. The revolutionary hero Simon Bolivar is a good example, as he was born in Caracas to a **well-to-do** (wealthy!)

**Creole family four generations of whom who had lived in Venezuela, but as a rule, did not intermarry with the locals.**

**Spain discriminated against the Creoles, appointing mostly new Spanish immigrants to important positions in the colonial administration.** In the audiencia (court) of Caracas, for example, **no native Venezuelans were appointed from 1786 to 1810.** During that time, ten Spaniards and four creoles from other areas did serve. This irritated the influential Creoles who correctly felt that they were being ignored.

The vast Spanish New World Empire produced many goods, including coffee, cacao, textiles, wine, minerals and more. **But the**

prime example of how **empowerment** of the people could change the formal and informal institutions of French society into democracy and equality.

The **monarchy** of France reigned from the time the Romans withdrew in the fourth century well into the eighteenth century. Each acted as the **figurehead** of the country, serving the people through hard times and **infrastructural** developments. **Most kings reigned with the general intent to help their country, but many became obsessed with the monarchy's high-class status. Louis XVI's obsession with the power of the absolute monarchy furthered the deep class divide between the aristocrats and the rest of France.** Louis' **lavish** spending on personal affairs and the development of the country's **infrastructure** raised high taxes on the French citizens. **Coupled with food scarcity, the people of France lived in poverty.**

Under the monarchy, **individual citizens without money or power**

colonies were only allowed to trade with Spain, and at rates advantageous for Spanish merchants. Many Latin Americans began selling their goods illegally to the British colonies and after 1783, U.S. merchants. By the late 18th century, Spain was forced to loosen some trade restrictions, but the move was too little, too late as those who produced these goods now demanded a fair price for them.

Source: [thoughtco.com](http://thoughtco.com)

were unable to participate in politics for many years. Most kings did not need the approval of his subjects to implement policies that suited him; thus, the people remained voiceless and oppressed. After the meeting of the three estates, the people realized they deserve power over their own lives and should not be ruled by an oppressive king. This began the political empowerment campaign among French citizens and showcases the beginning of overcoming non-participation and the oppression of the citizen's right to vote.

Source: [Link](#)

### Table Discussion

Which of the enduring issues above could you focus on in this essay?	unequal social hierarchy, oppression
In other words, which of these issues did you find in BOTH documents?	
If you were going to write this enduring issues essay, which issue would you write about? Why?	Either one will work - student preference