

Activity Title *	Changing Vote
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School *	Roger B. Chaffee Elementary School
School System *	Huntsville City Schools
Online Resource Title *	Excerpt from the 1819 Alabama Constitution
Online Resource URL *	http://www.alabama200.org/educators/primary-sources/constitutions-and-citizenship/who-gets-to-vote/detail/excerpt-from-the-1819-alabama-constitution
Online Resource Description *	This is an excerpt from the 1819 of Alabama Constitution which establishes the voter's rights during that time..
Content Standard *	ALCOS Social Studies Grade 4 Standards 5 and 6
Description *	<p>Standard 5: Describe Alabama's entry into statehood and establishment of its three branches of government and the constitutions.</p> <p>Standard 6: Describe cultural, economic, and political aspects of the lifestyles of early nineteenth-century farmers, plantation owners, slaves, and townspeople.</p>
Content Standard	ALCOS English Language Arts Grade 4 Standards 3 and 9
Description	<p>Standard 3: Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text..</p> <p>Standard 9: Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeable.</p>
Content Standard	
Description	
Phase *	Lesson Core
Activity Description *	Students will be split into five groups. Each group will be given one of the Voter's Rights Excerpts (1819, 1861, 1865, 1868, 1875) (The other four excerpts are attached!)) Students will discuss their excerpt with their group and write 4-5 important details about their excerpt on chart paper. Students will then be regrouped with students from the other excerpts so that they can discuss the similarities and differences between the excerpts.
Bloom's Taxonomy *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding Analyzing

Assessment Strategies *

Students will write down the similarities and differences between their excerpt and at least one other excerpt.

Advanced Preparation *

Print out all five excerpts. Will need chart paper and markers for groups. May need index cards for the final assessment.

This would be a great activity after students learn about the voter's rights

Variation Tips (Optional)

Due to the wording of the excerpts, they may need to be read aloud as a whole group

Notes/Recommendations (Optional)

The excerpt for the 1875 Voting Rights from Alabama Constitution will not upload but it is in the archives!

Attach a File



[1861_voting1.pdf](#)

61.36 KB · PDF

Attach a File



[1865_voting.pdf](#)

80.82 KB · PDF

Attach a File



[1868_voting1.pdf](#)

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Alabama Constitution of 1861

ARTICLE III

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

Section 5. Every male white person of the age of twenty-one years, or upwards, who shall be a citizen of this State, and shall have resided therein one year next preceding an election, and the last three months within a county, city, or town, in which he offers to vote, shall be deemed a qualified elector, but no elector shall be entitled to vote except in the county, city, or town, (entitled to separate representation) in which he may reside at the time of the election.

Alabama Constitution of 1865

ARTICLE VIII ELECTIONS BY THE PEOPLE

Section 1. Every white male person, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, who shall be a citizen of the United States, and shall have resided in this State one year next preceding the election, and the last three months thereof in the county in which he offers to vote, shall be deemed a qualified elector. Provided, that no soldier, seaman, or marine, in the regular army or navy of the United States, and no person who shall have been convicted of bribery, forgery, perjury, or other high crime or misdemeanor which may be by law declared to disqualify him, shall be entitled to vote at any election in this State.

Alabama Constitution of 1868

ARTICLE VII.

ELECTIONS.

Section 2. Every male person, born in the United States, and every male person who has been naturalized, or who has legally declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, twenty-one years old or upward, who shall have resided in this State six months next preceding the election, and three months in the county in which he offers to vote, except as hereinafter provided, shall be deemed an elector: Provided, That no soldier, or sailor, or marine in the military or naval service of the United States, shall hereafter acquire a residence by reason of being stationed on duty in this State.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to provide, from time to time, for the registration of all electors; but the following classes of persons shall not be permitted to register, vote or hold office: 1st, Those, who, during the late rebellion, inflicted, or caused to be inflicted, any cruel or unusual punishment upon any soldier, sailor, marine, employee or citizen of the United States, or who, in any other way, violated the rules of civilized warfare. 2d, Those who may be disqualified from holding office by the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States, known as "Article XIV," and those who have been disqualified from registering to vote for delegates to the Convention to frame a Constitution for the State of Alabama, under the act of Congress, "to provide for the more efficient government of the rebel States," passed by Congress March 2, 1867, and the acts supplementary thereto, except such persons as aided in the reconstruction proposed by Congress, and accept the political equality of all men before the law: Provided, That the General Assembly shall have power to remove the disabilities incurred under this clause. 3d, Those who shall have been convicted of treason, embezzlement of public funds, malfeasance in office, crime punishable by law with imprisonment in the penitentiary, or bribery. 4th. Those who are idiots or insane.

Section 4. All persons, before registering, must take and subscribe the following oath: I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of the State of Alabama; that I am not excluded from registering by any of the clauses in Sec. 3, Article 7, of the Constitution of the State of Alabama; that I will never countenance or aid in the secession of this State from the United States; That I accept the civil and political equality of all men; and agree not to attempt to deprive any person or persons, on account of race, color, or previous condition, of any political or civil right,

privilege, or immunity, enjoyed by any other class of men; and furthermore, that I will not in any way injure, or countenance in others any attempt to injure, any person or persons, on account of past or present support of the government of the United States, the laws of the United States, or the principle of the political and civil equality of all men, or for affiliation with any political party.