1. Catharine Beecher’s accomplishments included founding Hartford Female Seminary in 1823, calling for increased teacher training, and leading letter-writing protests of Indian Removal. She opposed women’s suffrage because she believed that winning the vote would bring with it responsibilities that, if exercised seriously, would take women away from their duties of raising morally upright children and future citizens. Therefore, she worried it would cause motherhood and education to be further devalued.

2. The Grimké sisters took on an increasingly public role, forcing society to reconsider the idea that women’s place was in the home.

3. The Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions was a document which Stanton wrote and presented at the Seneca Falls Convention. It was modeled on the U.S. Declaration of Independence.

4. In Anthony and Stanton’s partnership, they each lent their particular talents to the cause, and contributed what they could, given their current life situation. Accept reasoned answers.

   “… embody themselves in societies”: Freedom of assembly.
   “… and send petitions up to their different legislatures…”: Freedom of petition.
   “entreat their husbands, fathers, brothers and sons, to abolish the institution of slavery…” Freedom of speech.
   “…no longer to subject woman to the scourge and the chain…such as silver and gold.” Liberty, equality.
   The fact that this document was written and disseminated: Freedom of the press.

6. Virtues necessary for Stanton and other suffragists included self-sacrifice, perseverance, future-mindedness, courage, and others. Accept additional reasoned answers.

7. The treatment experienced by Stanton and Mott drove them to hold a women’s rights convention in the U.S. Evaluate comic strip panels on whatever criteria you choose which could include creativity and humor as well as historical accuracy.

8. The assertion that “it is the duty of the women of this country to secure to themselves their sacred right to the elective franchise” makes it clear that it is the responsibility of women themselves to gain their right to vote. This idea is different from the idea that rights are a gift from the government because it is based on the premise of popular sovereignty and the principle of equality. Government does not grant the condition of equality. Humans are born equally free and independent and they are responsible for bringing institutions into alignment with constitutional principles of legitimate government.

Handout B: Two Declarations

1. The Declaration of Independence refers to “one people” separating themselves from their former political bands to another nation. The Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions refers to “one portion of the family of man” within one country.

2. All men becomes “all men and women.”

3. “Right of the People to alter or abolish a government” becomes “right of those who suffer from it to refuse allegiance to” the government.

4. Declaration of Independence refers to a right and a duty to throw off a despotic government. Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions omits the word “right” and just mentions duty. Also, “patient sufferance of these Colonies” becomes “patient sufferance of the women under this government…to demand the equal station to which they are entitled.”

5. “The history of the present King of Great Britain…over these States” becomes “The history of mankind…on the part of man toward woman”.

6. Creation of unjust laws without representation or consent

7. Property rights

8. Unjust application of unjust laws

9. Property rights

10. Action statement

11. Acknowledgement that seeking justice will be costly and difficult.

Handout C: Document Analysis Jigsaw

Accept reasoned responses for all.