

Activity 1 - Rebellion or Revolution? Haitian Declaration of Independence

Read a translation of the text of Haiti's declaration of independence from 1804:

http://today.duke.edu/showcase/haitideclaration/declarationstext.html

Questions to think about:

- 1. Historians have argued that the Haitian revolution should be seen as a watershed moment in modern history with a huge impact on slavery, imperialism, and anticolonial movements. Do you agree or disagree with this reading of the revolution?
- 2. What are the major themes of the declaration? What intellectual and political points does its author make?