## Topic: Recipe For Revolution

### What Your Student is Learning:

Sometimes change does not occur with revolutions.

### Background and Context for Parents:

Change in the world is often initiated by revolution. Revolutions in Europe, North America, South America, Africa and Asia have in fact shaped the modern global society in which we live. Revolutions have happened to reestablish equity, equality, to give more power to the governed and to give more power to the government. In this lesson students will examine some of those revolutions that have shaped modern society in order to develop a standard recipe for revolution.

### Ways to support your student:

What is the recipe for revolution?

### Online Resources for Students:

See below.
Songs of Revolution

Often the conflicts that cause revolutionary uprisings are found in music lyrics and other artistic mediums. Analyze the following “songs of revolution.” A video and lyrics are provided for each song. Describe the causes of revolution in the song lyrics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Video and Lyrics</th>
<th>Thoughts and Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What's Going On? By Marvin Gaye</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother, mother</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There’s too many of you crying</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brother, brother, brother</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There’s far too many of you dying</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You know we’ve got to find a way</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To bring some lovin' here today, eh eh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father, father</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We don’t need to escalate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You see, war is not the answer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For only love can conquer hate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You know we’ve got to find a way</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To bring some lovin' here today, oh oh o</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picket lines and picket signs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t punish me with brutality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talk to me, so you can see</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oh, what's going on</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s going on</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yeah, what's going on</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ah, what’s going on</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Song Title</td>
<td>Artist(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time Bomb by Bobi Wine</strong></td>
<td>Freedom comes to those Who fight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>But not to those who cry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Because the more you cry is the more your people continue to die</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>So rise and defend your rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yaga yaga yaga yagayo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I would like to communicate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>About the things that we have to eliminate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ignorance and poverty fi eradicate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>And all ghetto youths dem fi educate (yo)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Don't you try to politicize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Don't you think me a try to criticize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(No)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sensitize, me a sensitize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>And mi say my people must realize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The most important things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Say)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>True liberty begins ina your mindset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To free the ghetto people dem must educate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>But education is expensive to get</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>It's like you see how we carry water in a basket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I don't know why the corruption is too much (yaga yaga yaga)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Why the price of electricity is too high (yaga yaga yaga)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Why the price of education is too high (yaga yaga yaga)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can't you see the tribalism is too much</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Soweto Blues by Hugh Masekala and Miriam Makeba</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There was a full moon on the golden city
Looking at the door was the man without pity
Accusing everyone of conspiracy
Tightening the curfew charging people with walking
Yes, the border is where he was awaiting
Waiting for the children, frightened and running
A handful got away but all the others
Hurled their chain without any publicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soweto blues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mabedubula abantuwa (when the children were being shot) Benikhupi na (where were you?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues - abu yethu a mama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues - they are killing all the children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues - without any publicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues - oh, they are finishing the nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues - while calling it black on black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues - but everybody knows they are behind it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto Blues - without any publicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues - they are finishing the nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues - god, somebody help!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues - (abu yethu a mama)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soweto blues</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

World Destruction by Afrika Bambaataa featuring John Lydon
[Verse 2: Afrika Bambaataa]
People, Moslems, Christians, and Hindus
Are in a time zone just searching for the truth
Who are you to think you’re a superior race?
Facing forth your everlasting doom

[Pre-Hook: John Lydon & Afrika Bambaataa]
We are Time Zone
We've come to drop a bomb on you
World destruction, kaboom, kaboom, kaboom!

[Hook: John Lydon & Afrika Bambaataa]
This is the world destruction, your life ain't nothing
The human race is becoming a disgrace
Nationalities are fighting with each other
Why is this? Because the system tells you

[Verse 3: Afrika Bambaataa]
Putting people in racist categories
Knowledge isn't what it used to be
Military tactics to control a nation
Who wants to be a president or king? Me!
Mother Nature is gonna work against you
Nothing in your power that you can do
Yes, the world is headed for destruction
You and I know it, cause the Bible tells you
If we don’t start to look for a better life
The world will be destroyed in a time zone!
The Hatian Revolution

Use the following resources to create a timeline of the Haitian Revolution in the box provided.

- The Haitian Revolution Youtube (CrashCourse)
- Black Past: Haitian Revolution
- Haitian Revolution

*HAITIAN REVOLUTION (1791-1804)*

JULY 16, 2007 / CONTRIBUTED BY: CLAUDIA SUTHERLAND

The *Haitian* Revolution has often been described as the largest and most successful *slave rebellion* in the Western Hemisphere. Slaves initiated the rebellion in 1791 and by 1803 they had succeeded in ending not just slavery but *French* control over the colony. The Haitian Revolution, however, was much more complex, consisting of several revolutions going on simultaneously. These revolutions were influenced by the *French Revolution* of 1789, which would come to represent a new concept of human rights, universal citizenship, and participation in government.
In the 18th century, Saint Dominigue, as Haiti was then known, became France’s wealthiest overseas colony, largely because of its production of sugar, coffee, indigo, and cotton generated by an enslaved labor force. When the French Revolution broke out in 1789 there were five distinct sets of interest groups in the colony. There were white planters—who owned the plantations and the slaves—and *petit blancs*, who were artisans, shop keepers and teachers. Some of them also owned a few slaves. Together they numbered 40,000 of the colony’s residents. Many of the whites on Saint Dominigue began to support an independence movement that began when France imposed steep tariffs on the items imported into the colony. The planters were extremely disenchanted with France because they were forbidden to trade with any other nation. Furthermore, the white population of Saint-Dominique did not have any representation in France. Despite their calls for independence, both the planters and *petit blancs* remained committed to the institution of slavery.

The three remaining groups were of African descent: those who were free, those who were slaves, and those who had run away. There were about 30,000 free black people in 1789. Half of them were mulatto and often they were wealthier than the *petit blancs*. The slave population was close to 500,000. The runaway slaves were called maroons; they had retreated deep into the mountains of Saint Dominigue and lived off subsistence farming. Haiti had a history of slave rebellions; the slaves were never willing to submit to their status and with their strength in numbers (10 to 1) colonial officials and planters did all that was possible to control them. Despite the harshness and cruelty of Saint Dominigue slavery, there were slave rebellions before 1791. One plot involved the poisoning of masters.
Inspired by events in France, a number of Haitian-born revolutionary movements emerged simultaneously. They used as their inspiration the French Revolution’s “Declaration of the Rights of Man.” The General Assembly in Paris responded by enacting legislation which gave the various colonies some autonomy at the local level. The legislation, which called for “all local proprietors...to be active citizens,” was both ambiguous and radical. It was interpreted in Saint Dominique as applying only to the planter class and thus excluded petit blancs from government. Yet it allowed free citizens of color who were substantial property owners to participate. This legislation, promulgated in Paris to keep Saint Dominique in the colonial empire, instead generated a three-sided civil war between the planters, free blacks and the petit blancs. However, all three groups would be challenged by the enslaved black majority which was also influenced and inspired by events in France.

Led by former slave Toussaint l’Ouverture, the enslaved would act first, rebelling against the planters on August 21, 1791. By 1792 they controlled a third of the island. Despite reinforcements from France, the area of the colony held by the rebels grew as did the violence on both sides. Before the fighting ended 100,000 of the 500,000 blacks and 24,000 of the 40,000 whites were killed. Nonetheless the former slaves managed to stave off both the French forces and the British who arrived in 1793 to conquer the colony, and who withdrew in 1798 after a series of defeats by l’Ouverture’s forces. By 1801 l’Ouverture expanded the revolution beyond Haiti, conquering the neighboring Spanish colony of Santo Domingo (present-day Dominican Republic). He abolished slavery in the Spanish-speaking colony and declared himself Governor-General for life over the entire island of Hispaniola.
At that moment the Haitian Revolution had outlasted the French Revolution which had been its inspiration. Napoleon Bonaparte, now the ruler of France, dispatched General Charles Leclerc, his brother-in-law, and 43,000 French troops to capture L’Overture and restore both French rule and slavery. L’Overture was taken and sent to France where he died in prison in 1803. Jean-Jacques Dessalines, one of l’Overture’s generals and himself a former slave, led the revolutionaries at the Battle of Vertieres on November 18, 1803 where the French forces were defeated. On January 1, 1804, Dessalines declared the nation independent and renamed it Haiti. France became the first nation to recognize its independence. Haiti thus emerged as the first black republic in the world, and the second nation in the western hemisphere (after the United States) to win its independence from a European power.

Design a timeline of Haitian Revolution in the box below. Use images and words.
The Revolutions of 1848

Analyze the resources linked below to describe the similarities of the Revolutions of 1848.

Revolutions of 1848 Youtube (CrashCourse)
Revolutions of 1848 Sparknotes Summary

Beginning shortly after the New Year in 1848, Europe exploded into revolution. From Paris to Frankfurt to Budapest to Naples, liberal protesters rose up against the conservative establishment. To those living through the cataclysmic year, it seemed rather sudden; however, hindsight offers valuable warning signs.

The year 1846 witnessed a severe famine—Europe's last serious food crisis. Lack of grain drove up food and other prices while wages remained stagnant, thus reducing consumer demand. With consumers buying less and less, profits plummeted, forcing thousands of industrial workers out of their jobs. High unemployment combined with high prices sparked the liberal revolt. The subsequent events in February 1848 in France made Austria's Prince Clemens von Metternich's saying seem true: "When France sneezes, Europe catches a cold."

Moderate liberals—lawyers, doctors, merchants, bourgeoisie—began pushing actively for extension of suffrage through their "banquet campaign," named thus because its leaders attempted to raise money by giving rousing speeches at subscribed dinners in France's major urban areas. When on February 22, 1848, Paris officials canceled the scheduled banquet, fearing organized protest by the middle and working classes. Parisian citizens demonstrated against the repression. Skilled workers, factory laborers, and middle class liberals poured into the streets. The National Guard, a citizen militia of bourgeois Parisians, defected from King Louis-Philippe, and the army garrison stationed in Paris joined the revolutionary protesters as well. Louis-Philippe attempted reform, but the workers rejected the halfhearted changes. The king fled and the demonstrators proclaimed the Second Republic on February 24th.
The overthrow of the monarchy set off a wave of protest throughout east and central Europe, led by radical liberals and workers who demanded constitutional reform or complete government change. In March, protests in the German provinces brought swift reform from local princes while Kaiser Friedrich Wilhelm IV of Prussia yielded to revolts in Berlin by promising to create a Prussian assembly. The collapse of autocracy in Prussia encouraged liberals in the divided Germany provinces to join together at the Frankfurt Assembly to frame a constitution and unite the German nation. Meeting in May 1848, the convention was populated by middle class civil servants, lawyers, and intellectuals dedicated to liberal reform. However, after drawing the boundaries for a German state and offering the crown to Friedrich Wilhelm, the Kaiser refused in March 1849, dooming hopes for a united, liberal Germany.

In Austria, students, workers, and middle class liberals revolted in Vienna, setting up a constituent assembly. In Budapest, the Magyars led a movement of national autonomy, led by patriot Lajos Kossuth. Similarly, in Prague, the Czechs revolted in the name of self-government. In Italy, new constitutions were declared in Tuscany and Piedmont, with the goal of overthrowing their Austrian masters. Here, middle class liberals pushed the concept of Italian unification alongside the defeat of the Austrians with the help of the Young Italy movement, founded in 1831 by nationalist Giuseppe Mazzini, an Italian patriot who favored a democratic revolution to unify the country. In February 1849, Mazzini led a democratic revolt against the Pope in Rome, becoming head of the Republic of Rome later that month. By attacking the Pope, the democrats went too far. The self-proclaimed protectors of the Pope, the French, moved in and defeated Mazzini’s Roman legion. The Pope was restored and a democratic Italy collapsed, for now.

Meanwhile, from August 1848, the Austrian army soundly defeated every revolt in its empire. In Vienna, in Budapest, in Prague, the Austrians legions crushed the liberal and democratic movements, returning the empire to the conservative establishment that ruled at the beginning of 1848. Nothing had come of the revolutions of 1848.

The revolutions of 1848 were a ‘turning point in modern history that modern history failed to turn.’ Every one was an utter failure; though minor reforms emerged in the Germany provinces and in Prussia, the conservative regimes that canvassed Europe remained in power.
The year 1848 marked the end of the so-called "concert of Europe" that had been defined after the defeat of Napoleon in 1815 as a way to maintain the European balance of power by having the continent’s major powers meet to resolve their differences and prevent aggression. After 1848, the European powers seemed incapable of united action to maintain the status quo, probably because the revolutions of 1848 weakened the regimes in the eyes of their people. Secondly, the revolutions failed to bring about any significant change. In France, the December 1848 presidential election brought Louis Napoleon, nephew of the former emperor, into office; it took him less than three years to consolidate absolute power. In Austria, a new emperor, Franz Josef I, continued Austrian dominance over all the minorities of eastern Europe. In Prussia, the promised assembly had little power and was constituted by the aristocratic elite.

The final two points emerge from here: 1) Why did the revolutions fail? and 2) why was it so easy for conservative forces to return? The revolutions probably failed due to lack of organization. In Austria, for example, the revolts in Prague, Vienna, and Budapest maintained no communication among them, allowing the Austrian army to attend to each in isolation, without a united front. Finally, the return of conservative and reactionary forces was probably due to the middle class. Another reason why the revolutions failed was because moderate liberals of the middle class feared the radicalism of the workers, preventing any type of lasting alliance. Therefore, when radicals took control of the revolutions in Paris and in eastern Europe, the middle class liberals turned their backs, preferring absolute rule and law and order, to the uncertainty of radical revolution.
In the box below, illustrate or describe the similarity in characteristics of the Revolutions of 1848.
The Cuban Revolution

The Cuban Revolution Youtube
Castro and the Cuban Revolution by History.com
The Cuban Revolution by ThoughtCo
By Christopher Minster
Updated August 28, 2019

In the final days of 1958, ragged rebels began the process of driving out forces loyal to Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista. By New Year’s Day 1959, the nation was theirs, and Fidel Castro, Ché Guevara, Raúl Castro, Camilo Cienfuegos, and their companions rode triumphantly into Havana and history, but the revolution had begun long before. The eventual rebel triumph came only after many years of hardship, propaganda campaigns, and guerrilla warfare.
Batista Seizes Power

The seeds of the revolution were sown when former Army Sergeant Fulgencio Batista seized power during a hotly contested election. When it became clear that Batista—who had been president from 1940 to 1944—would not win the 1952 election, he seized power prior to the voting and canceled the elections outright. Many people in Cuba were disgusted by his power grab, preferring Cuba’s democracy, as flawed as it was. One such person was rising political star Fidel Castro, who would likely have won a seat in Congress had the 1952 elections taken place. Castro immediately began plotting Batista’s downfall.

Assault on Moncada

On the morning of July 26, 1953, Castro made his move. For a revolution to succeed, he needed weapons, and he selected the isolated Moncada barracks as his target. The compound was attacked at dawn by 138 men. It was hoped that the element of surprise would make up for the rebels’ lack of numbers and arms. The attack was a fiasco almost from the start, and the rebels were routed after a firefight that lasted a few hours. Many were captured. Nineteen federal soldiers were killed; those remaining took out their anger on captured rebels, and most of them were shot. Fidel and Raúl Castro escaped but were later captured.

"History Will Absolve Me"

The Castros and surviving rebels were put on public trial. Fidel, a trained lawyer, turned the tables on the Batista dictatorship by making the trial about the power grab. Basically, his argument was that as a loyal Cuban, he had taken up arms against the dictatorship because it was his civic duty. He made long speeches and the government belatedly tried to shut him up by claiming he was too ill to attend his own trial. His
most famous quote from the trial was, “History will absolve me.” He was sentenced to 15 years in prison but had become a nationally recognized figure and a hero to many poor Cubans.

**Mexico and the Granma**

In May 1955, the Batista government, bending to international pressure to reform, released many political prisoners, including those who had taken part in the Moncada assault. Fidel and Raul Castro went to Mexico to regroup and plan the next step in the revolution. There they met up with many disaffected Cuban exiles who joined the new “26th of July Movement,” named after the date of the Moncada assault. Among the new recruits were charismatic Cuban exile Camilo Cienfuegos and Argentine doctor Ernesto “Ché” Guevara. In November 1956, 82 men crowded onto the tiny yacht *Granma* and set sail to Cuba and revolution.

**In the Highlands**

Batista’s men had gotten wind of the returning rebels and ambushed them. Fidel and Raul made it into the wooded central highlands with only a handful of survivors from Mexico—Cienfuegos and Guevara among them. In the impenetrable highlands, the rebels regrouped, attracting new members, collecting weapons, and staging guerrilla attacks on military targets. Try as he might, Batista could not root them out. The leaders of the revolution permitted foreign journalists to visit and interviews with them were published around the world.
The Movement Gains Strength

As the July 26th Movement gained power in the mountains, other rebel groups took up the fight as well. In the cities, rebel groups loosely allied with Castro carried out hit-and-run attacks and nearly succeeded in assassinating Batista. Batista boldly decided to send a large portion of his army into the highlands in the summer of 1958 to try and flush out Castro once and for all—but the move backfired. The nimble rebels carried out guerrilla attacks on the soldiers, many of whom switched sides or deserted. By the end of 1958, Castro was ready to deliver the coup de grâce.
**Castro Tightens the Noose**

In late 1958, Castro divided his forces, sending Cienfuegos and Guevara into the plains with small armies; Castro followed them with the remaining rebels. The rebels captured towns and villages along the way, where they were greeted as liberators. Cienfuegos captured the small garrison at Yaguajay on December 30. Defying the odds, Guevara and 300 weary rebels defeated a much larger force at the city of Santa Clara in a siege that lasted from December 28–30, capturing valuable munitions in the process. Meanwhile, government officials were negotiating with Castro, trying to salvage the situation and halt the bloodshed.

**Victory for the Revolution**

Batista and his inner circle, seeing that Castro’s victory was inevitable, took what loot they could gather up and fled. Batista authorized some of his subordinates to deal with Castro and the rebels. The people of Cuba took to the streets, joyfully greeting the rebels. Cienfuegos and Guevara and their men entered Havana January 2, 1959, and disarmed the remaining military installations. Castro made his way into Havana slowly, pausing in every town, city, and village along the way to give speeches to the cheering crowds, finally entering Havana on January 9, 1959.

**Aftermath and Legacy**

The Castro brothers quickly consolidated their power, sweeping away all remnants of the Batista regime and muscling out all of the rival rebel groups that had aided them in their rise to power. Raul Castro and Che Guevara were put in charge of organizing squads to round up the Batista-era "war criminals" who’d engaged in torture and murder under the old regime in order to bring them to trial and execution.
Although Castro initially positioned himself as a nationalist, he soon gravitated toward communism and openly courted the leaders of the Soviet Union. Communist Cuba would be a thorn in the side of the United States for decades, triggering international incidents such as the Bay of Pigs and the Cuban Missile Crisis. The United States imposed a trade embargo in 1962 that led to years of hardship for the Cuban people.

Under Castro, Cuba has become a player on the international stage. The prime example is its intervention in Angola: thousands of Cuban troops were sent there in the 1970s to support a leftist movement. The Cuban revolution inspired revolutionaries throughout Latin America as idealistic young men and women took up arms to try and change hated governments for new ones. The results were mixed.

In Nicaragua, rebel Sandinistas eventually did overthrow the government and come to power. In the southern part of South America, the upswing in Marxist revolutionary groups such as Chile’s MIR and Uruguay’s Tupamaros led to right-wing military governments seizing power (Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet is a prime example). Working together through Operation Condor, these repressive governments waged a war of terror on their own citizens. The Marxist rebellions were stamped out, however, many innocent civilians died as well.

Cuba and the United States, meanwhile, maintained an antagonistic relationship well into the first decade of the 21st century. Waves of migrants fled the island nation over the years, transforming the ethnic makeup of Miami and South Florida. In 1980 alone, more than 125,000 Cubans fled in makeshift boats in what came to be known as the Mariel Boatlift.
After Fidel

In 2008, the aging Fidel Castro stepped down as president of Cuba, installing his brother Raul in his stead. During the next five years, the government gradually loosened its tight restrictions on foreign travel and also began allowing some private economic activity among its citizens. The U.S. also began to engage Cuba under the direction of President Barack Obama, and by 2015 announced that the long-standing embargo would gradually be loosened.

The announcement resulted in a surge of travel from the U.S. to Cuba and more cultural exchanges between the two nations. However, with the election of Donald Trump as president in 2016, the relationship between the two countries is in flux. Fidel Castro died on Nov. 25, 2016. Raúl Castro announced municipal elections for October 2017, and Cuba's National Assembly officially confirmed Miguel Díaz-Canel as Cuba’s new head of state.

Describe the criteria or causes for the Cuban Revolution.
Iran’s Islamic Revolution shook the world in 1979, with currents that continue to be felt today. Decades later, the details of this watershed event—which redrew the geopolitical order in many ways—are worth recalling. On the eve of the revolution’s 40th anniversary, we here at Brookings have put together a timeline featuring key events that led to the fall of the Pahlavi dynasty and the rise of the Islamic Republic.

**THE IRANIAN REVOLUTION—A TIMELINE OF EVENTS**

**STORM CLOUDS GATHER**

**1977 January – July**

Journalists, intellectuals, lawyers, and political activists publish a series of open letters criticizing the accumulation of power at the hands of the Shah.
October

A 10-night poetry festival organized by the Iranian writers’ association at the Goethe Institute in Tehran attracts thousands of participants for lectures criticizing the government.

October 23

Mostafa Khomeini, the eldest son of exiled cleric Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, dies of unknown causes at age 47 in Najaf, Iraq. The elder Khomeini has lived in exile since 1963, when he was arrested for leading protests against the Shah’s modernization program.

November 15-16

During a visit to Washington, the Shah’s welcome at the White House is disrupted by protests by Iranian students (as well as the tear gas used by police to quash the protests.)

December 31

On a brief visit to Iran, President Jimmy Carter toasts the Shah, describing Iran as “an island of stability in one of the most troubled areas of the world.”
A SPARK IGNITES

1978 January 6

Iranian newspaper Etteia’at publishes a front-page editorial disparaging Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, reportedly written by the royal court at the directive of the Shah.
January 9

The main bazaar in Qom, where Iran’s largest seminaries are based, closes to protest the defamation of Khomeini. Several thousand protestors attacks symbols of the monarchy; security forces kill at least five people.

February 18

Consistent with Shia tradition, mourning ceremonies are held in cities across Iran on the fortieth day following the death of the Qom protestors. A student protestor is killed in Tabriz, provoking riots and further violence.

March – May

The cycle of protests, repression, violence, and mourning continues in three dozen Iranian cities.
June 7

The Shah replaces General Nematollah Nassiri, the head of SAVAK; one of his successor’s first moves was to order the release of 300 detained clerics.

July 20

Protests erupt in Mashhad after the death of a cleric in a road accident; a number of people were killed in the upheaval there and elsewhere.

August 9-10

The arrest of a cleric provokes riots in Isfahan, which quickly spread to Shiraz, Qazvin, Tabriz, Abadan, and Ahwaz. The Shiraz Art Festival is cancelled and an estimated 100 are killed. Martial law is declared in Isfahan.
August 19

477 Iranians die in a deliberately set fire at Cinema Rex in Abadan. The opposition blames SAVAK; after the revolution, an Islamist confessed and was prosecuted for the arson.
August 27

Prime Minister Jamshid Amouzegar resigns; his successor, Jafar Sharif-Emami, undertakes reforms intended to assuage.

September 8

On the morning after the Shah declared martial law, security forces fire on a large protest in Tehran’s Jaleh Square. At least 100 were killed and the event became known as “Black Friday.”

October 3

At the Shah’s behest, the Iraqi government deports Khomeini. After he is denied entry to Kuwait, Khomeini travels to France and settles in Neuville-le-Chateau, a Parisian suburb, where he benefits from far greater media access and attention.

November 6

Days after protests swell in Tehran on a religious holiday, efforts to broker a national unity government with the opposition collapse, thanks to Khomeini’s defiance. Prime Minister Sharif-Emami resigns, succeeded by Gen. Gholamreza Azhari. The Shah broadcast on national television a promise not to repeat past mistakes and to make amends saying, “I heard the voice of your revolution...As Shah of Iran as well as an Iranian citizen, I cannot but approve your revolution.”
December 6

Only a week after he publicly reaffirmed U.S. support for and “confidence in” the Shah, President Jimmy Carter publicly hedges in press statements, noting that “We personally prefer that the Shah maintain a major role, but that is a decision for the Iranian people to make.”

December 10-11

Millions of Iranians protest all over the country demanding the removal of the Shah and return of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.
December 29

The Shah appoints Shapour Bakhtiar as prime minister. A long-time nationalist politician and vocal critic of the Shah, he is confirmed by the parliament two weeks later.

1979 January 12

In Paris, Ayatollah Khomeini forms the Revolutionary Council to coordinate the transition.

THE INTERREGNUM

January 16

Shah and his family leave Iran for Egypt, ostensibly for “vacation.” As he departs, the Shah tells Prime Minister Bakhtiar “I give Iran into your care, yours and God’s.” The Shah’s farewell address can be heard here.

February 1

Khomeini returns to Iran and is greeted by millions of people in the streets of Tehran.

February 4

Khomeini appoints Mehdi Bazargan as the prime minister of an interim government. Bakhtiar insists that he remains the head of the only legitimate Iranian government.
1979  February 10

Bakhtiar announces country-wide curfew and martial law. Khomeini orders his followers to ignore the curfew and rise up in national revolution.

February 11

The armed forces declare neutrality, and any remnants of the Shah’s government collapse. Bakhtiar quickly fled Iran for France, where he was assassinated in 1991 by Iranian agents.

THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

February 14

The U.S. Embassy in Tehran is attacked by crowds; embassy staff initially surrender, but the protestors were ousted on the order of Iran’s acting Foreign Minister Ibrahim Yazdi.
March 8


March 30-31

Iranians participate in a national referendum on whether Iran should become an “Islamic Republic;” the motion (which offered no alternatives) received near-unanimous support.

May 5

Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps is established by a decree issued by Khomeini.

August 3

Iranians vote in nation-wide elections for the Assembly of Experts, a clerical-dominated body empowered to finalize the draft constitution. Due to boycotts by leftist, nationalist, and some Islamist factions, voter turnout falls far below the March referendum.
**October 14**

Assembly of Experts approves draft new constitution, enshrining Khomeini’s innovative doctrine of *velayat-e faqih*, which accords ultimate authority to a religious leader.

**October 22**

Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi is allowed to enter the U.S. for medical treatment. Khomeini condemns the U.S. for allowing the deposed Shah entry into the country.

---

**THE HOSTAGE CRISIS**

**November 4**

Student protestors overrun the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, seizing its personnel as hostages.
December 4

The United Nations Security Council passes a resolution calling for Iran to release the hostages.

December 15

The Shah leaves the United States for Panama.

1980 January 25

Abolhassan Bani Sadr is elected as the Islamic Republic’s first president; within 18 months, he would be impeached and flee the country.

March 14

Iranians vote in parliamentary elections, with a second round held in May.

April 7

U.S. formally severs diplomatic relations with Iran.
April 25

Operation Eagle Claw: Embassy hostage rescue mission fails, after sandstorms cause the crash of one of the helicopters and the death of eight U.S. soldiers.

April 28

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance announces his resignation, submitted to President Carter four days before the rescue operation was launched.

July 9

Iranian authorities discover a coup plot and launch a new purge of the military.

July 27

Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi dies in Cairo, Egypt.

September 12

In a speech, Ayatollah Khomeini outlines the preconditions for an agreement.
**September 22**

Iraq invades Iran, setting off an eight-year conflict that resulted in hundreds of thousands of casualties on both sides.

**1981 January 20**

All remaining U.S. hostages are released after 444 days, after Tehran and Washington conclude the Algiers Accords. The agreement unfreezes Iranian assets, lifts other U.S. sanctions on Iran, and establishes a tribunal to adjudicate billions of dollars of financial claims between the two countries.
Former Iranian hostages and their families disembark their plane upon their arrival at Andrews Air Force Base. / National Archives
Illustrate the causes of the Iranian Revolution in the box provided.
Recipe for Revolution Prevention

After studying all the revolutions in this lesson, write a standard recipe for revolution in the box provided.

Ingredients:

________________
________________
________________
________________
________________
________________

Directions:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________