

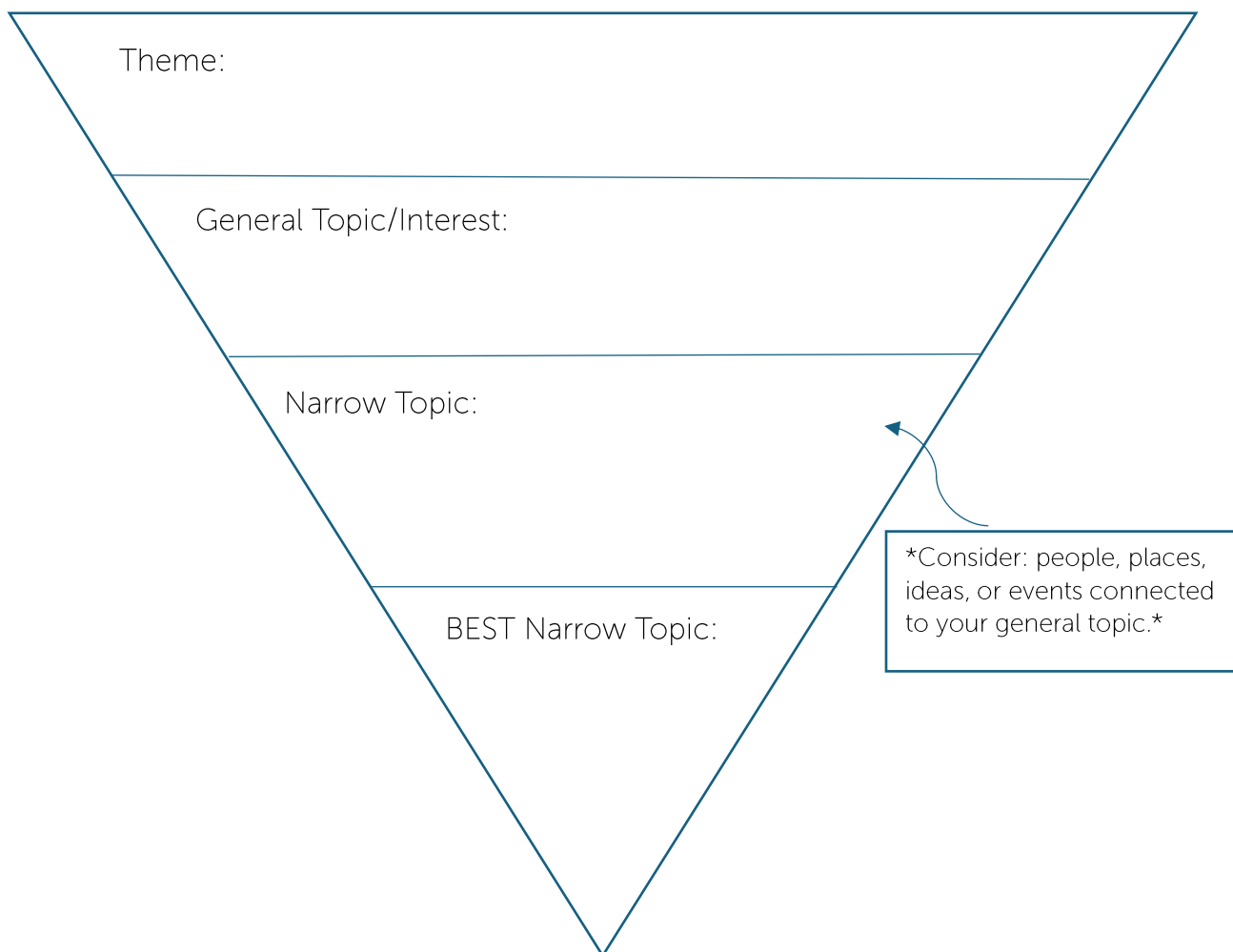


2026 Theme Graphic Organizer: Revolution, Reaction, Reform

The distinctions among revolutions, reactions, and reforms are sometimes blurred.

Revolutions and reforms are often reactions to ideas, actions, or events; in turn, revolutions and reforms inspire reactions. Think of it as a domino effect—knock one down, which knocks the next one down, which knocks . . . Most revolutions and reform movements are too large and complex for an NHD student research project. Rather

than attempting to research and analyze an entire revolution or movement (and the related reactions and reforms), look for more manageable topics associated with it. Let's use the funnel graphic organizer below to help us narrow down our ideas.



Now, consider your BEST narrow topic idea. Is it an example of a revolutionary event, idea or person? What are the reactions to that revolution? Could your idea be considered a reform movement, era, or idea? What ideas led to revolution? Who reacted to or was affected by a revolution or movement? Did the revolution result in reform? How? Why or why not?

Determine which theme aspects your topic applies. Circle the terms you think your topic addresses.

Revolution

Reform

Reaction

Your thesis statement needs to include the words that you believe your addresses.

Your thesis statement should include:

background topic/theme words immediate impact long-term significance

Thesis Statement Draft:

Historical Background:

Revolution, Reaction, Reform:

Immediate Impact:

Long-Term Significance:

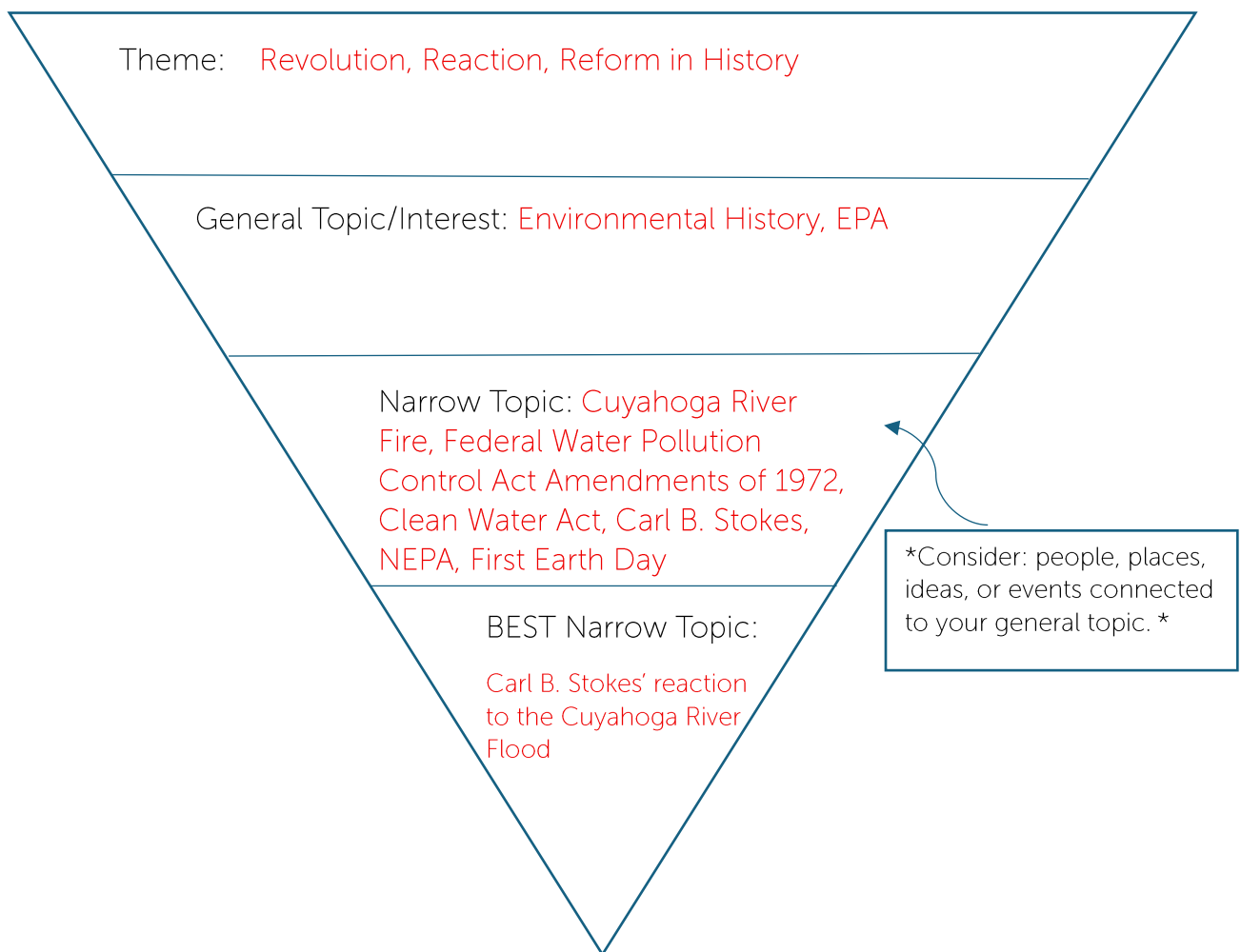
TEACHER GUIDE: 2026 Theme Graphic Organizer: Revolution, Reaction, Reform



The distinctions among revolutions, reactions, and reforms are sometimes blurred.

Revolutions and reforms are often reactions to ideas, actions, or events; in turn, revolutions and reforms inspire reactions. Think of it as a domino effect—knock one down, which knocks the next one down, which knocks . . . Most revolutions and reform movements are too large and complex for an NHD student research project.

Rather than attempting to research and analyze an entire revolution or movement (and the related reactions and reforms), look for more manageable topics associated with it. Let's use the funnel graphic organizer below to help us narrow down our ideas.



Now, consider your BEST narrow topic idea. Is it an example of a revolutionary event, idea or person? What are the reactions to that revolution? Could your idea be considered a reform movement, era, or idea? What ideas led to revolution? Who reacted to or was affected by a revolution or movement? Did the revolution result in reform? How? Why or why not?

Determine if your topic idea addresses all three aspects of the 2026 theme, two, one etc. Circle the terms you think your topic addresses.

Revolution

Reform

Reaction

Your thesis statement needs to include the words that you believe your project connects to.

Your thesis statement should include:

background topic/theme words immediate impact long-term significance

Thesis Statement Draft:

Historical Background: In 1969, the Cuyahoga River in Ohio became so polluted that it caught fire. While this was not the first time,

Revolution, Reaction, Reform: Cleveland Mayor Carl B. Stokes called attention to the need for environmental reform.

Immediate Impact: This drew immediate reactions from the state and federal governments, local industries and community members.

Long-Term Significance: By bringing national attention to water pollution issues, Carl B. Stokes' actions contributed to the creation of the federal Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

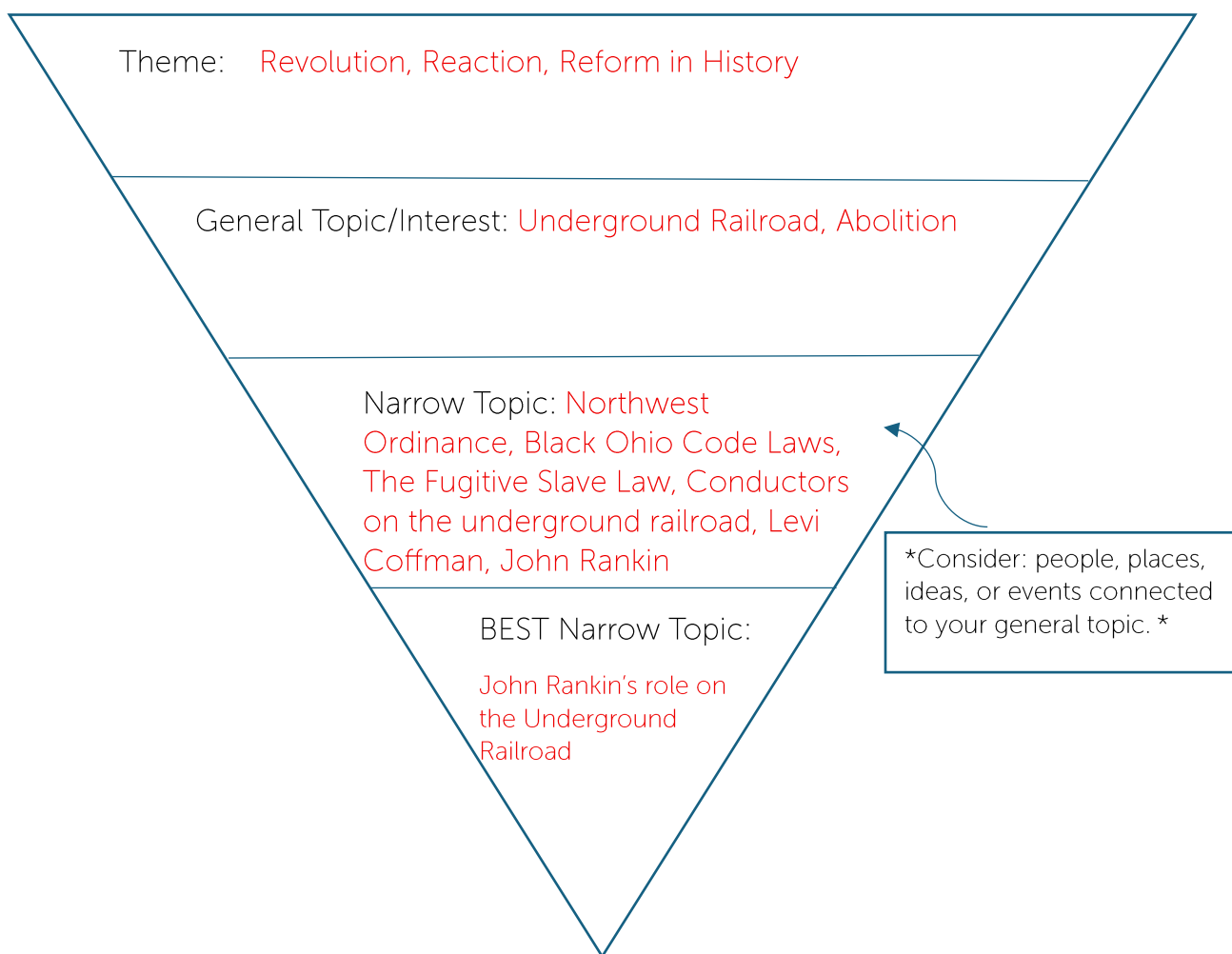
TEACHER GUIDE: 2026 Theme Graphic Organizer: Revolution, Reaction, Reform



The distinctions among revolutions, reactions, and reforms are sometimes blurred.

Revolutions and reforms are often reactions to ideas, actions, or events; in turn, revolutions and reforms inspire reactions. Think of it as a domino effect—knock one down, which knocks the next one down, which knocks . . . Most revolutions and reform movements are too large and complex for an NHD student research project. Rather than attempting to research and analyze an entire revolution or movement (and the related reactions and reforms), look for more manageable topics associated with it.

Let's use the funnel graphic organizer below to help us narrow down our ideas.



Now, consider your BEST narrow topic idea. Is it an example of a revolutionary event, idea or person? What are the reactions to that revolution? Could your idea be considered a reform movement, era, or idea? What ideas led to revolution? Who reacted to or was affected by a revolution or movement? Did the revolution result in reform? How?

Why or why not?

Determine if your topic idea addresses all three aspects of the 2026 theme, two, one etc. Circle the terms you think your topic addresses.

Revolution

Reform

Reaction

Your thesis statement needs to include the words that you believe your project connects to.

Your thesis statement should include:

background topic/theme words immediate impact long-term significance

Thesis Statement Draft:

Historical Background: For over 200 years, slavery was legal in the United States

Revolution, Reaction, Reform: John Rankin's revolutionary ideas surrounding abolition and the right to freedom for all lead to his commitment to helping enslaved people escape via the Underground Railroad, despite the danger and reactions he would face.

Immediate Impact: Rankin and his wife were able to help 2,000 people escape slavery.

Long-Term Significance: John Rankin represented Ohioans in the abolitionist movement that eventually led to the passing of the 13th amendment.