

“History teaches us that those who forget to think about themselves will be forgotten by others! It is this principle that prompts me to publish a women’s newspaper.

My sisters, join me so that we shall not be left behind while everyone else around us is pushing forward. We demand the right to cultivate our human potential and the right to act independently in the state.

We want to spread the great ideas of liberty and humanity through every avenue open to us. To the wider world, we want to spread these ideas through the press. Within the narrower world of our families, we want to spread these ideas through example, instruction, and child-rearing.

We want to earn our liberty and humanity, not by striving individually—each one for herself—but rather by looking after those who languish forgotten and neglected in poverty, misery, and ignorance—each for all.”

Source: Louise Otto-Peters, German writer, first issue of the Women’s Newspaper, the first women’s newspaper published in Germany, 1849. The newspaper was banned by the government in Saxony, Germany.

2. Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- A. Identify one likely audience for the claims that the author makes in the passage.
- B. Describe one historical context during the nineteenth century that explains the increased poverty and misery referred to in the fourth paragraph.
- C. Explain how one ideology or set of ideas likely influenced the author’s claims in the passage.