Today, we take it for granted that women can vote. This was not always so. Women won the right to vote, thanks to leaders like Elizabeth Cady Stanton. She fought for equal rights for women. She wanted women to have the same rights as men.

Elizabeth Cady was born in 1815. Her father was a judge. Cady studied law in his office. She also studied Greek, Latin, and math. She got the best education a woman could get at the time.

After graduating from school, Cady met the man who would be her husband. His name was Henry Stanton. He worked hard to end slavery in this country. He and Elizabeth were married in 1840. Then they went to the World’s Anti-Slavery Convention in London, England. There, Cady Stanton met Lucretia Mott. Mott was denied a seat in the meeting hall. In fact, none of the women got a seat. This convinced Cady Stanton that women should hold their own meeting for women’s rights.

In 1848, Cady Stanton led the first women’s rights convention. It took place in Seneca Falls, New York. Cady Stanton wrote statements for a Declaration of Rights. She presented them at this meeting.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton fought for women’s rights for the rest of her life. She died in 1897 at the age of 82.
1. For much of her life, Elizabeth Cady Stanton’s main goal was to __________.
   A) vote for a president
   B) gain equal rights for women
   C) become a lawyer
   D) hold a meeting for women only

2. Based on the information in the passage, which words best describe the character of Elizabeth Cady Stanton?
   A) angry and fierce
   B) generous and caring
   C) humorous and sharp
   D) intelligent and determined

3. Which fact supports the character traits you chose in question two?
   A) She took for granted that women could vote.
   B) Her father was a judge and she got a good education.
   C) She studied law and fought for women’s rights.
   D) Her husband, Henry Stanton, fought to end slavery.

4. What convinced Elizabeth Cady Stanton to hold a convention for women’s rights?

   _______________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________

5. Elizabeth Cady Stanton was considered a daring and dedicated leader. Give one or two details from the passage to support this statement.

   _______________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________