

SECTION  
**2**

# Reading for Understanding

## ▶ Key Ideas

### BEFORE, YOU LEARNED

The British colonies shared a unique culture shaped by prosperity, literacy, and new movements in religion and thought.

### NOW YOU WILL LEARN

American democracy has its roots in the English tradition of representative government.

## ▶ Vocabulary

### TERMS & NAMES

**Magna Carta** charter of English political and civil liberties

**Parliament** England's chief lawmaking body

**Edmund Andros** English governor appointed to rule the reorganized northern colonies

**Glorious Revolution** events of 1688–1689, during which the English Parliament invited William and Mary to replace James II as monarchs

**English Bill of Rights** 1689 laws protecting the rights of English subjects and Parliament

**John Peter Zenger** New York publisher who was taken to court for criticizing the governor of New York

### BACKGROUND VOCABULARY

**prominent** important and well-known

**heritage** tradition



Visual Vocabulary  
Magna Carta

## ▶ Reading Strategy

Create a diagram like the one shown at right. As you read and respond to the **KEY QUESTIONS**, use the diagram to describe how each document or event strengthened English rights over the centuries.



See Skillbuilder Handbook, page R5.

### SEQUENCE EVENTS

1215  
Magna  
Carta

1688  
Glorious  
Revolution

1735  
Zenger trial  
*establishes  
freedom of the  
press*



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