

Why We Govern

People form governments to solve shared problems.

SS.2.CG.1.1 "Explain why people form governments."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each sentence that tells why people form a government.

Working Together

- ① At River School, many children used the playground before class. One morning, two groups wanted the same basketball court. Other children ran through their game. Everyone had a different idea about what should happen, and the playground became noisy and unfair.
- ② People in a town can have problems like this too. They form a government to make rules for everyone. Rules can help people take turns, protect each other, and use shared places fairly. A government helps people know what to expect.
- ③ Governments also help communities solve problems that affect many people. Leaders can listen to people and decide how to fix a broken street or keep a park clean. People form governments so they can work together, stay safe, and make life fairer.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Why do people form a government to make rules?

2 How can leaders help solve a problem that affects many people?

3 What are two reasons people form governments?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Imagine that students share a new school garden. In Panel 1, draw a problem that could happen without rules. In Panel 2, draw how class leaders could help, then write one sentence explaining why people form a government.

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PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each sentence that tells why people form a government. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why do people form a government to make rules?	They form a government so rules can help people take turns, protect each other, and use shared places fairly.
2	How can leaders help solve a problem that affects many people?	Leaders can listen to people and decide how to fix the problem.
3	What are two reasons people form governments?	People form governments to work together, stay safe, make life fairer, make rules, and solve shared problems. Accept any two reasons.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Panel 1: Students pick all the tomatoes, and other students do not get any. Panel 2: Class leaders make a rule that each class takes turns picking tomatoes. Sentence: People form a government to make fair rules for shared things.

Accept answers that explain governments help people make fair rules, solve shared problems, work together, or stay safe. For the open task, accept any reasonable shared-garden problem and a leader action that addresses it.