

Our Shared Services

Read how government services are paid for in a market economy.

SS3E2 “Explain that governments provide certain types of goods and services in a market economy (schools, libraries, roads, police/fire protection, and military) and pay for these through taxes.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each good or service that government helps provide. Circle every sentence that tells how government gets money to pay for these services.

Services We Share

- ① In a market economy, families and businesses make many choices about what to buy and sell. Still, a town needs some goods and services that help everyone. The town government helps provide them. A public school gives children a place to learn. A library lends books and offers spaces to read, study, and use computers.
- ② Government also helps provide roads, police protection, fire protection, and military defense. Roads let buses, cars, and delivery trucks travel. Police officers work to keep people safe, and firefighters respond to fires and other emergencies. The military protects the country. These services are useful because people throughout the community or nation can use or benefit from them.
- ③ To pay for these goods and services, governments collect taxes. Taxes are money people and businesses pay to the government. For example, a worker may pay part of each paycheck in taxes, and shoppers may pay sales tax on some purchases. Government leaders use tax money to help pay for schools, libraries, roads, police and fire protection, and the military.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Name two goods or services that government helps provide.

2 How do roads help people, according to the passage?

3 What are taxes?

4 How can tax money help a public school?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Think of one need in your community. Write three sentences that name a government good or service that could help, tell how it would help people, and explain how taxes could help pay for it.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each good or service that government helps provide. Circle every sentence that tells how government gets money to pay for these services. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name two goods or services that government helps provide.	Answers may include schools, libraries, roads, police protection, fire protection, or military defense.
2	How do roads help people, according to the passage?	They let buses, cars, and delivery trucks travel.
3	What are taxes?	Taxes are money that people and businesses pay to the government.
4	How can tax money help a public school?	Government leaders use tax money to help pay for schools.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our town government should build a safer road crossing near the school. It would help children and families cross the busy street safely. Taxes paid by people and businesses could help pay for the crossing.

Accept any accurate government good or service named in the passage. For Part 3, accept a reasonable community need, a clear benefit, and an accurate explanation that tax money can help pay for the service.