Who Gets Chosen?

How one town chooses its local leaders

3.SS.4.4 "Explain how local government officials are chosen, e.g., election, or appointment."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline who chooses Mayor Ortiz, Council Member Lee, and Parks Director Chen. Circle the word that tells whether each official was chosen by election or appointment.

Leaders at the Street Fair

1. On Saturday, the town of Maple Bend holds a street fair. Mayor Ortiz welcomes families at the gate. She did not get her job by asking the old mayor for it. Town voters chose her in an election last fall. Each voter picked a candidate on a ballot. The candidate with the most votes became mayor. In Maple Bend, the mayor serves the whole town.

2. At the fair, Council Member Lee asks neighbors what the town should fix next. Lee also got this job through an election. Voters in Lee's part of town chose between candidates on a ballot. Lee got the most votes and won the seat on the town council. The mayor and council members both make decisions for Maple Bend, but voters elect them in different races.

3. Near the playground, Parks Director Chen checks that the swings are safe. Chen did not run in an election for this job. The mayor chose Chen to lead the parks department, and the town council approved the choice. This is an appointment. The mayor picked someone with experience caring for parks. Voters chose the mayor and council members, but they did not vote for Chen.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Ortiz become mayor, and who chose her?

2. A neighbor says Mayor Ortiz chose Lee for the town council. Explain why that is not correct.

3. How did Chen become parks director? Tell what the mayor and town council each did.

4. Why could a voter choose Mayor Ortiz on a ballot but not choose Parks Director Chen on a ballot?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine Maple Bend can decide how to choose a new town garden leader. In two or three sentences, choose election or appointment, name who would make the choice, and explain why that way fits the job.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 3 · 3.SS.4.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline who chooses Mayor Ortiz, Council Member Lee, and Parks Director Chen. Circle the word that tells whether each official was chosen by election or appointment. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Ortiz become mayor, and who chose her?	**Ortiz won an election. Town voters chose her.**
2	A neighbor says Mayor Ortiz chose Lee for the town council. Explain why that is not correct.	**Voters in Lee's part of town chose Lee in an election.**
3	How did Chen become parks director? Tell what the mayor and town council each did.	**The mayor chose Chen, and the town council approved the choice. Chen was appointed.**
4	Why could a voter choose Mayor Ortiz on a ballot but not choose Parks Director Chen on a ballot?	**Voters elected Ortiz, but Chen was appointed by the mayor with the town council's approval.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would have the mayor appoint a town garden leader. The town council could approve the choice. The mayor could pick someone who knows how to care for plants.

Accept either election or appointment for the new role if the student names who would make the choice and gives a reason that fits the garden leader's work.