Rights for Everyone

Read how equal rights guide fair rules.

2.C.1 "Explain that the United States government is founded on the belief of equal rights for its citizens."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells the belief our government was founded on. Circle the words that show both neighbors have the same right.

A Chance to Speak

1. At a town meeting, two neighbors share ideas about a new park. One wants swings. The other wants more trees. They disagree, but each gets a chance to speak. That is one way to respect an equal right.
2. The United States government was founded on a belief that citizens have equal rights. A law should not give one citizen a right but deny that right to another because of who they are. Equal rights do not mean everyone must agree.
3. Long ago, some citizens were kept from voting because of their race or because they were women. People worked to change unfair laws. Today, laws cannot deny adult citizens a vote for those reasons. That helps our government protect equal rights.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the town meeting show equal rights, even though the neighbors disagree?

2. Why would a law that lets only one citizen speak go against the belief our government was founded on?

3. How did changing unfair voting laws help protect equal rights?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine two citizens want to use a town playground for different games. Write two sentences: give a fair rule for using the playground, then explain how it shows the belief about equal rights that our government was founded on.

ANSWER KEY

Rights for Everyone

GRADE 2 · 2.C.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells the belief our government was founded on. Circle the words that show both neighbors have the same right. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the town meeting show equal rights, even though the neighbors disagree?	**Both neighbors get a chance to share their ideas.**
2	Why would a law that lets only one citizen speak go against the belief our government was founded on?	**It would give one citizen a right while denying that right to another.**
3	How did changing unfair voting laws help protect equal rights?	**Laws can no longer deny adult citizens a vote because of their race or because they are women.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Both citizens can take turns using the playground for their games. This rule gives each citizen the same chance to use the playground, which fits our government's belief in equal rights.

For the marking job, look for the first sentence of paragraph two and the words “each gets a chance to speak” in paragraph one. For Your Turn, accept a fair rule that gives both citizens a chance to use the playground and explains its link to equal rights.