Who Takes Action?

Match California state offices with their duties and how they are chosen.

4.C.4 "Identify major state offices, the duties and powers associated with them, and how they are chosen, such as by election or appointment."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the passage. Underline the four state offices, circle the words that tell how each officeholder is chosen, and put a star beside one duty or power for each office.

A Storm Tests State Leaders

1 In California, a winter storm closes a highway bridge. Families need a safe way around it. The governor can direct state agencies during an emergency and issue orders allowed by state law. Voters choose the governor in a statewide election. The governor also picks some state leaders to help run agencies, but the state Senate must approve certain choices. Not every state leader gets the job in the same way.

2 One of those leaders is California's secretary of transportation. The governor appoints this secretary, and the state Senate confirms the choice. The secretary helps lead the state agencies that plan and care for roads and other travel systems. During the bridge closure, the secretary could help agencies plan repairs and safe travel routes. This office does not decide whether a state law is legal.

3 Suppose someone takes the state to court over its storm response. California's attorney general represents the state in court and gives legal advice to state officials. Voters elect the attorney general. Voters also elect the secretary of state, who oversees state elections and keeps important state records. If the storm disrupts a voting site, that office helps guide election workers so voting can continue under state law.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which office can direct state agencies during an emergency, and how is its officeholder chosen?

2. Which office could help plan bridge repairs and safe travel routes? How is its officeholder chosen?

3. Which office represents California in court, and how is its officeholder chosen?

4. Which office oversees state elections, and how is its officeholder chosen?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A landslide blocks a road to a voting site, and a group sues the state about its response. In three sentences, name three offices that could help, explain what each would do, and tell how each officeholder is chosen.

ANSWER KEY

Who Takes Action?

GRADE 4 · 4.C.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Read the passage. Underline the four state offices, circle the words that tell how each officeholder is chosen, and put a star beside one duty or power for each office. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which office can direct state agencies during an emergency, and how is its officeholder chosen?	**The governor can direct state agencies during an emergency. Voters elect the governor.**
2	Which office could help plan bridge repairs and safe travel routes? How is its officeholder chosen?	**The secretary of transportation could help. The governor appoints the secretary, and the state Senate confirms the choice.**
3	Which office represents California in court, and how is its officeholder chosen?	**The attorney general represents the state in court. Voters elect the attorney general.**
4	Which office oversees state elections, and how is its officeholder chosen?	**The secretary of state oversees state elections. Voters elect the secretary of state.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The secretary of transportation could help state agencies find a safe route around the blocked road, and the governor appoints this secretary with state Senate approval. The elected secretary of state could guide election workers if voters cannot reach their usual voting site. The elected attorney general could represent the state when the group sues.

For Part 3, accept three relevant offices with duties that fit the landslide and lawsuit and the correct method of choosing each officeholder. The governor may be used if the response describes a duty given in the passage.