Why Groups Form

Sort reasons, explain two choices, and create your own.

S.6.3 "Explore reasons for group formation; distinguish instrumental from expressive needs."

NAME _____ DATE _____

INSTRUMENTAL NEED

A group meets an instrumental need when it forms to accomplish a practical goal. Its members want to get something done.

Birdwatchers coordinate to count migrating cranes for a research project.

EXPRESSIVE NEED

A group meets an expressive need when it forms for friendship, belonging, or emotional support. Its members want to connect with others.

Grandparents meet to swap stories and enjoy each other's company.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1 SORT, circle TASK or BOND for each item, and for Part 2 PROVE IT, choose two items and explain how you knew where each belonged.

1. Residents organize to remove trash from a polluted creek. TASK BOND

2. Students start a club to feel accepted after changing schools. TASK BOND

3. Drivers join a carpool to lower commuting costs. TASK BOND

4. Workers form a committee to negotiate higher pay. TASK BOND

5. People meet weekly to support one another after losing loved ones. TASK BOND

6. First-year students get together to make friends and feel less lonely. TASK BOND

7. Tenants form a group to demand repairs from their landlord. TASK BOND

8. People meet to celebrate their shared cultural identity and feel connected. TASK BOND

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Part 3 MAKE YOUR OWN: Write one new reason a group might form to meet an instrumental need and one to meet an expressive need.

TASK _____

BOND _____

CHALLENGE

Challenge: Write two sentences about a group that meets both kinds of needs, and name each need.

ANSWER KEY

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PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Residents organize to remove trash from a polluted creek.	**TASK**	The group forms to complete a cleanup.
2	Students start a club to feel accepted after changing schools.	**BOND**	The group forms to meet a need for belonging.
3	Drivers join a carpool to lower commuting costs.	**TASK**	The group forms to reduce a practical expense.
4	Workers form a committee to negotiate higher pay.	**TASK**	The group forms to achieve a specific workplace goal.
5	People meet weekly to support one another after losing loved ones.	**BOND**	The group forms to provide emotional support.
6	First-year students get together to make friends and feel less lonely.	**BOND**	The group forms for friendship and connection.
7	Tenants form a group to demand repairs from their landlord.	**TASK**	The group forms to secure needed repairs.
8	People meet to celebrate their shared cultural identity and feel connected.	**BOND**	The group forms for connection and belonging.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **TASK**: Students form a team to collect data for a science fair project.
- **BOND**: Musicians meet to feel understood when they talk about stage fright.

Challenge: A neighborhood choir rehearses to perform at a fundraiser, meeting an instrumental need. Its members also build friendships, meeting an expressive need.

For Part 2, explanations should connect each group's stated reason to either a practical goal or a need for connection or emotional support. For Part 3, accept distinct examples that clearly show each need.