

Votes Give Voice

See how elections help people make group choices.

2.3c "The process of holding elections and voting is an example of democracy in action in schools, communities, New York State, and the nation."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentences that tell what voters do. Circle the words that name places where elections can happen.

Choosing Together

- ① In Ms. Lee's class, students chose a class helper. First, each student could suggest a name. Next, the class heard short reasons for each choice. Then students marked one private ballot. The name with the most votes became the helper.
- ② Voting lets a group help make a decision. Each voter gets a chance to choose. In this class election, votes are counted, and the choice with the most votes wins. This is democracy in action because people take part in choosing leaders or making group decisions.
- ③ Schools, communities, New York State, and the nation hold elections. In a community, adults may vote for local leaders. In New York State and the nation, eligible adults vote for leaders. The same basic process gives people a voice.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What did the class do before students marked private ballots?

2 Why is voting an example of democracy in action?

3 Name two places where elections can happen.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Imagine your class needs to choose a game for recess. Write two sentences that explain how your class will hold a fair election. Include one way everyone can take part and what happens after the votes are counted.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentences that tell what voters do. Circle the words that name places where elections can happen. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did the class do before students marked private ballots?	Students could suggest a name, and the class heard short reasons for each choice.
2	Why is voting an example of democracy in action?	People take part in choosing leaders or making group decisions.
3	Name two places where elections can happen.	Any two: schools, communities, New York State, or the nation.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First, each student may suggest a game and mark one private ballot. After we count the votes, the game with the most votes will be chosen.

Accept answers that describe a choice for each voter and counting votes to make the group decision. For Question 3, accept any two places named in the passage.