

Tax Money Works

Read how taxes help pay for community goods and services.

2.8d "Taxes are collected to provide communities with goods and services."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each thing in the passage that tax money helps pay for. Circle words that tell who pays or collects taxes, so you can see how taxes help the community.

Maya's Market Trip

- ① At the Saturday market, Maya's family bought a backpack. The price tag said \$20. At the register, they paid a little more. The extra money was a sales tax. The store sent that tax money to the government.
- ② The government collects taxes from people and businesses. It uses tax money to help pay for community goods and services. In Maya's town, tax money helps pay for the public library, firefighters, street lights, and repairs to sidewalks.
- ③ Maya borrowed a book from the library after shopping. That night, firefighters came quickly when a neighbor needed help. Maya noticed that families did not pay each time they used these services. Taxes helped the whole community share their cost.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What was the extra money Maya's family paid at the register called?

2 Name two things in Maya's town that tax money helps pay for.

3 Why did families not have to pay each time they used the library or needed firefighters?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one community service not named in the passage. Write two sentences. Name the service, then tell how taxes can help pay for it.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each thing in the passage that tax money helps pay for. Circle words that tell who pays or collects taxes, so you can see how taxes help the community. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What was the extra money Maya's family paid at the register called?	A sales tax.
2	Name two things in Maya's town that tax money helps pay for.	Any two: the public library, firefighters, street lights, or sidewalk repairs.
3	Why did families not have to pay each time they used the library or needed firefighters?	Taxes helped the whole community share the cost of these services.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A public school is a community service. Taxes can help pay for teachers, books, and school buildings. Accept passage-based answers that connect collected taxes to paying for community goods or services. For the open response, accept a reasonable community service and a clear explanation that taxes help pay for it.