

Power and Order

Compare how classical governments made laws, kept order, and made decisions.

6.5b "Political structures were developed to establish order, to create and enforce laws, and to enable decision making."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that show who made decisions, circle details about laws or enforcement, and write 1 beside each detail that shows how a government created order.

Three Ways to Govern

- ① In classical civilizations, governments used different political structures to organize large groups of people. In Athens, many adult male citizens could meet in the Assembly. They listened to speeches, voted on laws, and chose some officials. This system gave citizens a direct role in decisions. However, women, enslaved people, and foreign residents were excluded from voting. Athens created order by having agreed-upon meetings and rules for public decisions. The Assembly met regularly.
- ② The Qin dynasty in China built a strong central government after unifying much of China in 221 B.C.E. The emperor appointed officials to carry out orders in different areas. Qin rulers used written laws with strict punishments to control behavior and enforce the government's authority. Standard weights, measures, and writing helped officials manage trade, taxes, and records. These policies increased order, but the emperor and officials, rather than ordinary people, made the main decisions for the empire.
- ③ The Roman Republic divided power among several groups. Two consuls led the government and commanded armies, while the Senate advised leaders and influenced policy. Assemblies of male citizens voted on some laws and elected officials. Written laws, including the Twelve Tables, stated legal rules that citizens could consult. Compared with Qin China, the Roman Republic shared decision making among more offices and assemblies. Yet Roman political participation was still limited, since women, enslaved people, and many others had no vote.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 How did the Athenian Assembly enable some people to take part in decision making? Who was left out?

2 Name two Qin policies that helped the government establish order or enforce its authority.

3 Compare decision making in Qin China and the Roman Republic. Who made most decisions in Qin, and which two Roman groups had political roles?

4 What similarity did Qin China and the Roman Republic share in the way they used laws?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Invent a political structure for a small town. Write 3 or 4 sentences explaining who makes decisions, how laws are enforced, and one way the structure creates order.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that show who made decisions, circle details about laws or enforcement, and write 1 beside each detail that shows how a government created order. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Athenian Assembly enable some people to take part in decision making? Who was left out?	Adult male citizens could meet in the Assembly, vote on laws, and choose some officials. Women, enslaved people, and foreign residents could not vote.
2	Name two Qin policies that helped the government establish order or enforce its authority.	The emperor appointed officials to carry out orders, and Qin rulers used written laws with strict punishments. Standard weights, measures, and writing also helped officials manage the empire.
3	Compare decision making in Qin China and the Roman Republic. Who made most decisions in Qin, and which two Roman groups had political roles?	In Qin China, the emperor and officials made the main decisions. In the Roman Republic, the Senate and assemblies had political roles. Consuls also led the government.
4	What similarity did Qin China and the Roman Republic share in the way they used laws?	Both used written laws. Qin laws included strict punishments, while Roman laws stated legal rules that citizens could consult.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In River Town, five elected council members meet each week to decide community rules. The council posts each new rule in the market, and two judges hear cases and assign fair consequences when someone breaks a rule. Citizens can speak at meetings and vote each year to choose council members.

Accept accurate answers that use passage details about decision makers, laws, enforcement, and order. For the open task, accept varied systems if the response clearly includes all three required functions.