A Town Chooses

Two ways to take part in a town election

2.C.1.7 "Explain how active citizens participate in democratic governments by voting to elect officials who represent them and by running for public office."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline what Mina does to help choose a public official, and circle what Jay does to try to become one. Look for how each person takes part in the election.

The Town Council Election

1. At the town park, the swings are broken. The town council decides how to use town money for places like parks. Council members are public officials. They speak for people in the town when they make choices.

2. Mina can vote, so she listens to people running for town council. One person says park repairs matter. Mina votes for that person, hoping the new council member will speak for her when the council makes choices.

3. Mina's neighbor Jay wants to help too. Jay runs for a seat on the town council. He tells voters how he would make town choices. If Jay wins the election, he will represent the people and help make decisions.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why does Mina vote for the person who cares about park repairs?

2. What would Jay do for the people if he wins the election?

3. How do Mina and Jay take part in the election in different ways?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine people in your town want a safer place to cross a busy street. Write two sentences: tell how a voter could help choose a public official who cares about this problem, and how a person could run for office to help solve it.

ANSWER KEY

A Town Chooses

GRADE 2 · 2.C.1.7

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline what Mina does to help choose a public official, and circle what Jay does to try to become one. Look for how each person takes part in the election. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why does Mina vote for the person who cares about park repairs?	**She hopes that person will speak for her when the council makes choices.**
2	What would Jay do for the people if he wins the election?	**He would represent them and help make town decisions.**
3	How do Mina and Jay take part in the election in different ways?	**Mina votes to choose a council member. Jay runs for a council seat so voters can choose him.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A voter could choose a town council candidate who wants a safer crossing. A person could run for town council and tell voters how they would work to make the crossing safer.

Accept answers that show voters choose representatives and candidates run for office to represent people. Students may suggest different ways an elected official could work on a safer crossing.