Two Written Plans

Read how state and national governments serve Oklahoma.

3.C.1.1.B "Explain that the Constitution of the United States of America and the Oklahoma Constitution are written plans for organizing the functions of government, which is composed of both state and national levels of authority."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the names of the two written plans, then underline one job of government linked to each plan.

Maya Finds Two Constitutions

1. At the school library, Maya finds two books about government. One is the Constitution of the United States of America. The other is the Oklahoma Constitution. These are not storybooks. They are written plans that tell how government is set up and what it can do. The United States Constitution plans the national government. The Oklahoma Constitution plans Oklahoma's state government.

2. Maya wants to know who makes decisions for people in Oklahoma. The national government has authority, or the power to make decisions, across the country, including Oklahoma. The United States Constitution gives the national government power to set up post offices. The Oklahoma Constitution sets up a state government for Oklahoma. It says the state must provide a system of free public schools. Both levels have jobs to do.

3. Maya thinks of the mail truck near her school. The post office is a national job, even when the truck stops in Oklahoma. Her school is part of a state school system, even though its students live in the United States. The two written plans help show which level of government does each job. State and national governments both serve people in Oklahoma.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do the two constitutions help organize two levels of government?

2. Which written plan gives the national government power to set up post offices?

3. Which written plan says Oklahoma must provide a system of free public schools?

4. How do the mail truck and Maya's school show that both levels of government serve people in Oklahoma?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A new neighbor asks why Oklahoma has two constitutions to learn about. Write three sentences explaining what each written plan does, then give an example of a government job not named in the passage and tell which level does it.

ANSWER KEY

Two Written Plans

GRADE 3 · 3.C.1.1.B

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the names of the two written plans, then underline one job of government linked to each plan. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do the two constitutions help organize two levels of government?	**The United States Constitution is a written plan for the national government. The Oklahoma Constitution is a written plan for the state government.**
2	Which written plan gives the national government power to set up post offices?	**The Constitution of the United States of America gives the national government that power.**
3	Which written plan says Oklahoma must provide a system of free public schools?	**The Oklahoma Constitution says the state must provide that school system.**
4	How do the mail truck and Maya's school show that both levels of government serve people in Oklahoma?	**The post office is a national job, while Maya's school is part of a state school system. Both serve people in Oklahoma.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The United States Constitution is a written plan for the national government, which has authority across the country. The Oklahoma Constitution is a written plan for the state government, which has authority in Oklahoma. The national government also makes coins that people can use in Oklahoma.

Accept accurate wording that identifies both constitutions as written plans for their respective levels of government. For Part 3, accept any correct new government job with the correct level identified.