Ways We Serve

Read how civic traits and service help a community.

3.C.1.4 "Define the concepts of civic virtue and examine the responsibilities of citizens. Examine why civility, cooperation, self-reliance, and respect for the law are important civic traits that support our communities, state, nation, and Tribes..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the four civic traits named in paragraph 1. Underline the two actions in paragraph 2 that let citizens choose or become leaders.

Helping Our Communities

1. At a town park, neighbors plan a clean path. Civic virtue means acting in ways that help the community. Civility means speaking kindly, even during a disagreement. Cooperation means working together. Self-reliance means doing your part without waiting for someone else. Respect for the law means following shared rules that keep people safe. These traits help communities, Oklahoma, the nation, and Tribes.

2. Citizens also help make decisions in a constitutional republic. People elect leaders, and a constitution limits what those leaders can do. Voting lets citizens choose leaders. Running for public office gives citizens a chance to lead. Both help keep power in the people's hands. Citizens may also serve on a jury to help decide a court case or do community service by volunteering to clean the park.

3. Serving in the military is one way Oklahomans have shown love for their country and a sense of duty. Buffalo Soldiers were Black U.S. soldiers who served in the West, including the area that is now Oklahoma. Native Code Talkers, including Choctaw and Comanche people, used their languages to send secret military messages. Oklahoma soldiers also served in the 45th Infantry Division. People can show duty in other ways, too.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why would civility and cooperation help the neighbors plan the park path?

2. How do voting and running for public office help keep power in the people's hands?

3. How can jury duty and community service help others in different ways?

4. What do the Buffalo Soldiers, Native Code Talkers, and Oklahoma soldiers in the 45th Infantry Division show about military service?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine your neighborhood or Tribal community needs a safer place to play. Write three sentences that give two different ways you could help and explain which civic trait each way shows.

ANSWER KEY

Ways We Serve

GRADE 3 · 3.C.1.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the four civic traits named in paragraph 1. Underline the two actions in paragraph 2 that let citizens choose or become leaders. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why would civility and cooperation help the neighbors plan the park path?	**Civility helps neighbors speak kindly when they disagree, and cooperation helps them work together.**
2	How do voting and running for public office help keep power in the people's hands?	**Voting lets citizens choose leaders, and running for office lets citizens become leaders.**
3	How can jury duty and community service help others in different ways?	**A juror helps decide a court case. A volunteer can help the community by cleaning the park.**
4	What do the Buffalo Soldiers, Native Code Talkers, and Oklahoma soldiers in the 45th Infantry Division show about military service?	**Their service shows that serving in the military is one way to show love for the country and a sense of duty.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I could pick up litter near the play area, which shows self-reliance. I could ask my neighbors to plan a safe walking route with me, which shows cooperation. Both actions would help children play more safely.

For the marking job, accept circles around civility, cooperation, self-reliance, and respect for the law. Students should underline voting and running for public office. For Your Turn, accept other practical actions when each is linked to a fitting civic trait.