Hours for Everyone

How a community discusses a library decision

5.P.1.1 "Demonstrate an understanding of the virtue of civil discourse to analyze and address real-world problems. Explain how human experiences can shape a person's point of view about civic issues..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two experiences that shape different views about library hours, circle two ways people take part in the public decision, and number the past problem and the current trial 1 and 2.

A New Library Schedule

1. In Cedar Glen, the public library closes on Saturdays. Years ago, a budget cut ended Saturday hours. Now several families have asked the library board to reopen on weekends. Maya's dad works weekdays, so Saturday is the only time he can take her to borrow books. Leo visits after school on Tuesdays. He worries that paying for Saturday hours might mean closing earlier on weekdays.

2. The board invited residents to a public meeting. Each speaker had two minutes, and others listened without interrupting. Maya explained her family's schedule. Leo explained why weekday hours mattered to him. A librarian said the library could try opening for two hours on Saturdays by closing one hour earlier on two quiet weekdays. Board members asked who might be affected before making a decision.

3. After the meeting, the board voted to try the new hours for one month. It chose Monday and Thursday for the earlier closing times, leaving Tuesday hours unchanged. The board also asked visitors to record when they used the library during the trial. At the next public meeting, members would review those records and hear more comments before voting on a longer plan.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do Maya's and Leo's experiences lead them to different concerns about library hours?

2. How did the speakers and board members show respect for different views? Why would that help the board?

3. Name two ways people took part in making the library decision. What did each way allow them to do?

4. How does the trial respond to both the past budget problem and today's requests for Saturday hours?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine your town has money for either a water fountain or a bench at a busy park, but not both. In 4 to 5 sentences, describe how two people's experiences could lead to different views, how they could discuss the choice respectfully, and how the town could decide and take action.

ANSWER KEY

Hours for Everyone

GRADE 5 · 5.P.1.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two experiences that shape different views about library hours, circle two ways people take part in the public decision, and number the past problem and the current trial 1 and 2. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do Maya's and Leo's experiences lead them to different concerns about library hours?	**Maya's dad works weekdays, so she needs Saturday hours to visit with him. Leo visits on Tuesdays and worries that adding Saturday hours could shorten weekday hours.**
2	How did the speakers and board members show respect for different views? Why would that help the board?	**People listened without interrupting, and board members asked who might be affected. This helped the board consider different needs before deciding.**
3	Name two ways people took part in making the library decision. What did each way allow them to do?	**Residents spoke at a public meeting to share their views, and board members voted to choose a one-month trial.**
4	How does the trial respond to both the past budget problem and today's requests for Saturday hours?	**The library will shift two weekday hours to Saturday rather than add hours. It will track visits and hear comments before deciding on a longer plan.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A runner wants a water fountain because she gets thirsty on long runs. An older neighbor wants a bench because he needs a place to rest. At a public meeting, each person could speak while everyone else listens without interrupting. After hearing both sides, the park board could vote to install a bench this year. The board could ask visitors about water access before planning next year's budget.

Accept other passage-supported explanations of how listening and questions informed the decision. For the open task, accept either choice if the response connects two experiences to different views, includes respectful discussion, and describes a decision procedure and action.