Roots of Republics

Sort clues about two ancient governments.

7.C.6.2 "Trace the historic roots of constitutional republics. Explain why the government of ancient Athens is considered the beginning of democratic government and examine Greek political concepts, including the "polis" or city-state, rule of law..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

ANCIENT ATHENS

In ancient Athens, eligible citizens could take part in public decisions themselves. Women, enslaved people, and foreigners could not vote.

Some public jobs were assigned by drawing lots.

ROMAN REPUBLIC

In the Roman Republic, citizens elected officials to govern. The Senate also played a major role, but its members were not directly elected to the Senate by citizens.

Censors recorded citizens and their property in a census.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle ATHENS or ROME for each item; for Part 2, choose two numbered items and explain the clue that helped you sort each one.

1. 1. Citizens in Athens vote on a decree to repair a harbor. ATHENS ROME

2. 2. A large jury of citizens decides a court case in Athens. ATHENS ROME

3. 3. Two consuls share the top executive office for one-year terms. ATHENS ROME

4. 4. A tribune can veto an action to protect plebeians. ATHENS ROME

5. 5. Only adult male citizens may vote in the Athenian Assembly. ATHENS ROME

6. 6. Citizens debate a peace proposal in the Athenian Assembly. ATHENS ROME

7. 7. A Greek polis is a city-state with its own government. ATHENS ROME

8. 8. Roman senators, usually former public officials, advise leaders on state business. ATHENS ROME

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

For Part 3, write one new clue about ancient Athens and one new clue about the Roman Republic.

ATHENS _____

ROME _____

CHALLENGE

Explain one difference between how citizens took part in government in Athens and Rome, then name one group that could not vote in either place.

ANSWER KEY

Roots of Republics

GRADE 7 · 7.C.6.2

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	1. Citizens in Athens vote on a decree to repair a harbor.	**ATHENS**	Eligible Athenian citizens voted on public decrees.
2	2. A large jury of citizens decides a court case in Athens.	**ATHENS**	Citizen juries were part of civic participation in Athens.
3	3. Two consuls share the top executive office for one-year terms.	**ROME**	The Roman Republic had two consuls with one-year terms.
4	4. A tribune can veto an action to protect plebeians.	**ROME**	Roman tribunes could veto certain government actions.
5	5. Only adult male citizens may vote in the Athenian Assembly.	**ATHENS**	Voting in the Athenian Assembly was limited to adult male citizens.
6	6. Citizens debate a peace proposal in the Athenian Assembly.	**ATHENS**	Eligible citizens debated public questions in the Athenian Assembly.
7	7. A Greek polis is a city-state with its own government.	**ATHENS**	Athens was a Greek polis, or city-state.
8	8. Roman senators, usually former public officials, advise leaders on state business.	**ROME**	The Senate was a major institution of the Roman Republic.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **ATHENS**: In Athens, the Council of 500 prepared business for the Assembly.
- **ROME**: In Rome, elected quaestors managed public funds.

Challenge: In Athens, eligible citizens could vote on public decisions in the Assembly. In Rome, citizens elected officials to govern, and citizens could also vote in assemblies. Women could not vote in either place.

Part 1 follows this order: ATHENS, ATHENS, ROME, ROME, ATHENS, ATHENS, ATHENS, ROME. For Part 2, accept explanations that identify an accurate clue in each of the two chosen items.