Service Takes Shape

Oklahomans who served through leadership and historical work

OKH.C.8.4.A "Identify the contributions of contemporary politicians and public servants (e.g., Speaker Carl Albert, Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller, and educators/historians Eddie Faye Gates, Angie Debo)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each person's name. Circle the action or achievement that shows what the person contributed.

Different Ways to Serve

1. Imagine a wall of nameplates, each showing a different kind of public work. Carl Albert, from Oklahoma, served as speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1971 to 1977. As speaker, he led House business during the Watergate crisis, when Congress investigated President Richard Nixon. Another Oklahoman, Jeane Kirkpatrick, became the first woman to serve as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. From 1981 to 1985, she represented the United States in debates with other nations. Albert worked inside Congress; Kirkpatrick carried U.S. positions into an international forum. Both roles required making choices in public view.

2. Leadership can also begin with a community problem. Before she became Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, Wilma Mankiller helped residents of Bell, Oklahoma, organize to bring running water to their homes. She became Principal Chief in 1985 after the previous chief left office, then won election to the position in 1987. As chief, she worked to expand Cherokee health and education services. Her work joined community action with the responsibilities of tribal government. A water line may seem smaller than a speech in Congress, but it changed daily life for families who needed running water.

3. Public service does not always involve holding office. Oklahoma historian Angie Debo researched how Native Americans lost land and resources through fraud and exploitation. Her book *And Still the Waters Run*, published in 1940, challenged readers to examine abuses in Oklahoma's history. Tulsa educator and historian Eddie Faye Gates recorded survivors' accounts of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, helping preserve memories that had long been overlooked. Debo used historical records to expose injustice; Gates gathered personal testimony to keep a community's history visible. Their contributions show that investigating evidence and protecting voices can shape what the public knows.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What did Carl Albert do as speaker during the Watergate crisis?

2. What position did Jeane Kirkpatrick hold, and what did she do in that role?

3. Identify one contribution Wilma Mankiller made before becoming Principal Chief and one she made as chief.

4. How did Angie Debo and Eddie Faye Gates each contribute to public understanding of Oklahoma history?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose one government leader and one historian from the passage. Write a five-sentence exhibit label that identifies one contribution from each, explains how their contributions differ, and argues why a community needs both kinds of work.

ANSWER KEY

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HIGH SCHOOL · OKH.C.8.4.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each person's name. Circle the action or achievement that shows what the person contributed. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did Carl Albert do as speaker during the Watergate crisis?	**He led U.S. House business while Congress investigated President Nixon.**
2	What position did Jeane Kirkpatrick hold, and what did she do in that role?	**As U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, she represented the United States in debates with other nations.**
3	Identify one contribution Wilma Mankiller made before becoming Principal Chief and one she made as chief.	**She helped Bell residents organize to bring running water to their homes. As chief, she worked to expand Cherokee health and education services.**
4	How did Angie Debo and Eddie Faye Gates each contribute to public understanding of Oklahoma history?	**Debo researched and exposed abuses involving Native American land and resources. Gates recorded Tulsa Race Massacre survivors' accounts.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Wilma Mankiller and Eddie Faye Gates served communities in different ways. Before becoming Principal Chief, Mankiller helped Bell residents bring running water to their homes. Gates recorded accounts of people who survived the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. Mankiller helped address a physical need, while Gates protected memories that could otherwise disappear. A community needs both practical improvements and a truthful record of its past to make informed decisions about its future.

Accept accurate contributions from the passage stated in students' own words. The exhibit label should name one government leader and one historian, distinguish their work, and explain why both matter.