

Town Decisions

Read how people use community government words.

3.15.A “use social studies terminology correctly;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the social studies words *citizen*, *vote*, and *taxes*. Circle the words that explain what each term means.

A Safer Street

- ① In the town of Pinebrook, citizens noticed that children needed a safer way to cross Oak Street near the library. A citizen is a member of a community who has rights and responsibilities. Maya and her neighbors wrote a petition. Their petition asked the local government to add a crosswalk and a crossing guard there.
- ② The town council, a group of local leaders, placed the petition on its meeting agenda. At the meeting, the mayor listened as citizens spoke. Council members discussed the cost of paint and safety signs. Then they held a vote. A vote is a choice people make to help decide an issue. Most members supported the crosswalk.
- ③ The crosswalk was painted, and a crossing guard began helping before school. This public service was paid for with local taxes. Taxes are money people pay to support services in a community. Maya learned that citizens can share ideas, local government can make decisions, and public services can help meet community needs there each day.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which social studies term means a member of a community with rights and responsibilities?

2 What term names the group of local leaders that put the petition on its agenda?

3 What term names the choice council members made to decide the crosswalk issue?

4 What term means money people pay to support services in a community?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Imagine that one citizen wants a new public service in the community. Write three sentences that correctly use the terms *citizen*, *local government*, and *public service*.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the social studies words *citizen*, *vote*, and *taxes*. Circle the words that explain what each term means. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which social studies term means a member of a community with rights and responsibilities?	citizen
2	What term names the group of local leaders that put the petition on its agenda?	town council
3	What term names the choice council members made to decide the crosswalk issue?	vote
4	What term means money people pay to support services in a community?	taxes

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

One citizen asked the local government for a public service at the park. The mayor put the idea on the council meeting agenda. After a vote, the town council chose to repair the playground.

Accept accurate sentences about an imagined community problem that use citizen, local government, and public service correctly. The student may also correctly use related terms such as mayor, town council, agenda, vote, or taxes.