

Vote for Recess

A class uses discussion and a vote to make a shared decision.

3.16.A “use democratic procedures to simulate making decisions on school, local, or state issues; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each step the class used to make its decision. Circle the vote totals, then write 1, 2, and 3 beside the main steps in order.

Choosing Recess Equipment

- ① Ms. Lee’s class had \$60 from a school fundraiser. The class could buy four jump ropes, two playground balls, or a bin of sidewalk chalk for recess. Ms. Lee said the class would use a democratic procedure. Each student would get a chance to share an idea. Then the class would make one choice that followed the group’s vote.
- ② First, students took turns explaining why they liked an item. Jordan said jump ropes could be used by many children at once. Ana said balls would work for games at recess. Nobody interrupted a speaker. After the discussion, Ms. Lee wrote the three choices on slips of paper. Every student received one slip and secretly marked one choice.
- ③ Two students counted the slips while the class watched. Jump ropes got 9 votes, balls got 7 votes, and chalk got 6 votes. The class checked that 22 votes were counted, one from each student. Jump ropes had the most votes, so the class chose them. Students who preferred another item accepted the result. They could share ideas at a later meeting.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What school issue did Ms. Lee’s class need to decide?

2 Name one fair procedure the class used during the discussion.

3 What did every student do after the discussion to take part in the decision?

4 Which item won the vote, and why did the class choose it?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Your class must choose one indoor recess activity: puzzles, drawing, or reading. Write three steps for a fair class decision. Include a way for everyone to share, a vote, and how the class will use the results.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each step the class used to make its decision. Circle the vote totals, then write 1, 2, and 3 beside the main steps in order. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What school issue did Ms. Lee's class need to decide?	The class needed to decide which recess item to buy with the fundraiser money.
2	Name one fair procedure the class used during the discussion.	Students took turns speaking, or nobody interrupted a speaker.
3	What did every student do after the discussion to take part in the decision?	Each student secretly marked one choice on a slip of paper.
4	Which item won the vote, and why did the class choose it?	Jump ropes won because they received the most votes, 9.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

First, students will take turns saying why they prefer puzzles, drawing, or reading. Next, every student will mark one choice on a private ballot. Last, two students will count the ballots, and the activity with the most votes will be chosen.

Accept either discussion procedure named in question 2. For the open task, accept any three clear, fair steps that include sharing ideas, one vote per student, and using the vote result to choose.