

Who Chooses Leaders

Read closely to compare elections and appointments.

3.7.B “identify local, state, and national government officials and explain how they are chosen; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each government official's title. Circle the words that tell how that official is chosen.

Choosing Government Officials

- ① In the made-up city of Pine Hill, voters choose a mayor in a local election. The mayor helps lead the city. Voters also elect city council members. The council makes local laws and decisions about parks and streets. Pine Hill has a city manager, too. The city council appoints the manager to handle daily city work. An appointment means an official is picked for the job, not elected by voters.
- ② At the state level, Texas voters elect a governor. The governor leads the state government and can sign or veto bills. Texas voters also elect state legislators to make state laws. Another state official is the secretary of state. The governor appoints the secretary of state, and the Texas Senate must confirm the choice. This is different from winning an election by receiving voters' ballots.
- ③ National government officials serve the whole United States. People vote for president in a nationwide election. In each state, those votes help decide electoral votes. The Electoral College officially chooses the president after states count votes. The president appoints Cabinet members to lead departments, such as the Department of Education. The Senate must confirm many Cabinet appointments. Voters elect members of Congress to represent states or districts.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How is Pine Hill's mayor chosen? How is the city manager chosen?

2 Name one Texas official voters elect and one Texas official the governor appoints.

3 What officially chooses the president after the states count votes?

4 Which national officials does the president appoint, and who must confirm many of those appointments?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Complete the chart with one local, one state, and one national official. Tell how each official is chosen, and include both an elected official and an appointed official.

GOVERNMENT LEVEL	OFFICIAL	HOW THE OFFICIAL IS CHOSEN

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each government official's title. Circle the words that tell how that official is chosen. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How is Pine Hill's mayor chosen? How is the city manager chosen?	Voters elect the mayor in a local election. The city council appoints the city manager.
2	Name one Texas official voters elect and one Texas official the governor appoints.	Voters elect the governor or state legislators. The governor appoints the secretary of state, and the Texas Senate confirms the choice.
3	What officially chooses the president after the states count votes?	The Electoral College officially chooses the president.
4	Which national officials does the president appoint, and who must confirm many of those appointments?	The president appoints Cabinet members. The Senate must confirm many Cabinet appointments.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

GOVERNMENT LEVEL	OFFICIAL	HOW THE OFFICIAL IS CHOSEN
Local	City council member	Elected by voters in a city election.
State	Texas secretary of state	Appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Texas Senate.
National	U.S. representative	Elected by voters in a congressional district.

Accept accurate officials at each level and accurate explanations of election or appointment. Students may use officials from the passage or other correct examples, as long as the method of choosing each official is correct.