

Texas Leaders Trail

Identify leaders at local, state, and national levels.

4.16.A “identify leaders in state, local, and national governments, including the governor, local members of the Texas Legislature, the local mayor, U.S. senators, local U.S. representatives...”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each leader title or leader name. Write L, S, or N beside it to show whether the leader serves in local, state, or national government.

Who Leads Texas?

- ① Texas has leaders at several levels. The governor leads the state’s executive branch. As of 2026, Texas Governor Greg Abbott is one state leader. Texas lawmakers meet in the Texas Legislature in Austin. Each Texan has a local state senator and a local state representative who speak for that area. A mayor leads a city government. Your local mayor works on city needs, such as parks and streets.
- ② National leaders serve the whole country or a part of it. Two U.S. senators represent all of Texas in Congress. As of 2026, they are Ted Cruz and John Cornyn. A U.S. representative serves one congressional district, so your local U.S. representative depends on your address. The president leads the executive branch of the national government. A president is a national leader.
- ③ Texas is also connected to national leadership through its presidents. Dwight D. Eisenhower was born in Denison, Texas, and later became president. Lyndon B. Johnson was born near Stonewall, Texas, and became president after serving Texas in Congress. George W. Bush made Texas his political home and became president after serving as Texas governor. These former presidents are national leaders from Texas.

2

ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1

Who is the Texas governor named in the passage, and what level of government does this leader serve?

2

Name the two U.S. senators who represent all of Texas.

3

How is a local Texas legislator different from a local U.S. representative?

4

Which three former presidents with Texas ties are named in the passage?

3

YOUR TURN

Your own words

Complete the chart for your home or school address. Include the governor, local Texas legislators, local mayor, both U.S. senators, local U.S. representative, and one former president with Texas ties. Write L, S, or N in the last column.

LEADER ROLE	NAME OR NAMES	LEVEL: L, S, OR N

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each leader title or leader name. Write L, S, or N beside it to show whether the leader serves in local, state, or national government. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who is the Texas governor named in the passage, and what level of government does this leader serve?	Greg Abbott, state government.
2	Name the two U.S. senators who represent all of Texas.	Ted Cruz and John Cornyn.
3	How is a local Texas legislator different from a local U.S. representative?	A local Texas legislator serves in state government and represents an area in Texas. A local U.S. representative serves in national government and represents a congressional district.
4	Which three former presidents with Texas ties are named in the passage?	Dwight D. Eisenhower, Lyndon B. Johnson, and George W. Bush.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

LEADER ROLE	NAME OR NAMES	LEVEL: L, S, OR N
Texas governor	Greg Abbott	S
Local Texas legislators	Sarah Eckhardt and Lulu Flores	S
Local mayor	Kirk Watson	L
U.S. senators	Ted Cruz and John Cornyn	N
Local U.S. representative	Lloyd Doggett	N
Former president with Texas ties	Lyndon B. Johnson	N

Accept current, accurate local names for the student's home or school address. For local Texas legislators, accept a state senator and a state representative, or one correctly identified local member if space is limited.