

Election Words at Work

Read how precise social studies terms explain a local election.

4.21.A “use social studies terminology correctly;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each social studies term from this list whenever it appears in the passage, including plural forms: election, local government, candidate, elected office, campaign, voter, issue, polling place, ballot, vote, election worker, term of office, elected official, citizen. These terms name specific parts of civic life.

A Town Election

- ① In a town election, residents choose people to serve in local government. A candidate is a person seeking an elected office, such as mayor or city council member. Before election day, each candidate may run a campaign. A campaign is an organized effort to persuade voters. Candidates may explain their positions on issues, which are public problems or questions that need decisions.
- ② On election day, a voter goes to a polling place, the location where voting happens. The voter uses a ballot, which is the paper, form, or method used to record an official vote. A ballot can list candidates and choices about an issue. After the voter marks choices, election workers collect the ballots and count the votes.
- ③ When votes are counted, the candidate with the most votes may win the election. Winning an election gives a person a term of office, a set time serving in that job. Elected officials represent the people in their community. They make decisions about services, rules, and spending. Citizens can learn about issues, discuss them respectfully, and vote in later elections.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the difference between a candidate and a campaign? Use both terms correctly.

2 What does the term ballot mean in this passage? Include what it records.

3 Which term names the location where voting happens?

4 After a person wins an election, what term names the set time the person serves in that job?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write three sentences about a made-up town election. Correctly use at least four terms from this list: candidate, campaign, voter, ballot, vote, issue, elected official.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each social studies term from this list whenever it appears in the passage, including plural forms: election, local government, candidate, elected office, campaign, voter, issue, polling place, ballot, vote, election worker, term of office, elected official, citizen. These terms name specific parts of civic life. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the difference between a candidate and a campaign? Use both terms correctly.	A candidate is a person seeking an elected office. A campaign is an organized effort to persuade voters.
2	What does the term ballot mean in this passage? Include what it records.	A ballot is the paper, form, or method used to record an official vote.
3	Which term names the location where voting happens?	polling place
4	After a person wins an election, what term names the set time the person serves in that job?	term of office

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In Pine Hill, Lena is a candidate for mayor, an elected office. During her campaign, she explains her position on a library issue to voters. On election day, each voter uses a ballot to record an official vote, and Lena will serve as an elected official if she wins.

Accept equivalent wording for the passage questions when the social studies terms are used accurately. For the open task, check that the student uses at least four listed terms in a logical election scenario.