

One Vote, One Choice

See how a group uses a fair vote to make a decision.

5.17.C “use voting as a method for group decision making.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the steps the Green Team used to hold its vote, and circle the sentence that tells which choice won and why.

The Green Team Decides

- ① The Green Team at Oak School needed to choose one project for its small courtyard. Members suggested planting native flowers, growing vegetables, or adding benches. The team used a vote because every member could share an opinion and help make the decision. Before voting, the group discussed the choices, costs, and amount of care each project would need.
- ② Next, the team wrote the three choices on identical paper ballots. Each member marked one choice privately and placed the ballot in a box. Two students counted the ballots while the group watched. Native flowers received 9 votes, vegetables received 4 votes, and benches received 2 votes. Since native flowers had more than half of the 15 votes, that choice won.
- ③ The team recorded the result in its meeting notes and planned the flower project. Some members had voted for another choice, but they still helped because the group had followed an agreed-on process. The team also decided what to do in the future if a vote ended in a tie: discuss the choices again, then vote again. Clear rules make voting fair and useful.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What did the Green Team do before voting to help members make an informed decision?

2 What did the team do to make sure each member had an equal vote?

3 Why did native flowers win the vote? Use the vote totals in your answer.

4 What was the team's plan if a future vote ended in a tie?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Imagine your class must choose one rainy-day recess activity. Write exactly three sentences that name three choices, explain how each student will vote, and tell how the class will choose the winner.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the steps the Green Team used to hold its vote, and circle the sentence that tells which choice won and why. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did the Green Team do before voting to help members make an informed decision?	They discussed the choices, costs, and care each project would need.
2	What did the team do to make sure each member had an equal vote?	Each member marked one choice on a ballot.
3	Why did native flowers win the vote? Use the vote totals in your answer.	Native flowers won because they received 9 of the 15 votes, which was more than half.
4	What was the team's plan if a future vote ended in a tie?	They would discuss the choices again and then vote again.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our class will choose a rainy-day recess activity: board games, reading, or drawing. Each student will mark one choice on a ballot, and two classmates will count the votes. The choice with the most votes will be our activity, and we will vote again if there is a tie.

Accept responses that give three possible choices, a fair one-vote-per-student method, and a clear rule for choosing the result. For Question 3, accept an answer stating that native flowers earned the most votes and more than half of all votes.