

Many Voices, One Community

Read how cultural diversity and shared participation shape a society.

6.13.B "define a multicultural society;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the first sentence that defines a multicultural society, circle two details that show people continuing cultural traditions, and number 1, 2, and 3 beside phrases showing groups living together, sharing community life, and continuing traditions.

What Makes a Society Multicultural?

- ① A multicultural society is a society where people from many cultural groups live together. Culture includes shared languages, beliefs, customs, arts, foods, and ways of celebrating. In a multicultural society, groups may keep important parts of their own cultures while also taking part in the larger community. People can have more than one cultural connection. For example, a student may share a family tradition at home, speak another language with relatives, and join school activities with classmates from many backgrounds.
- ② Consider Harborville, a town where families have roots in different places. The public library offers story hours in English, Arabic, and Spanish. At a neighborhood festival, visitors may hear several kinds of music and taste foods prepared for different holidays. These details show cultural diversity, but diversity alone is not the whole idea. Harborville becomes multicultural when people and groups live in the same society, participate in shared spaces, and have opportunities to express and continue their cultural traditions.
- ③ Being multicultural does not mean that every person has the same experiences or agrees about everything. It also does not require people to give up a home language, religion, or custom. A multicultural society needs fair participation and respect, so people can contribute without being excluded because of their culture. Learning about neighbors' traditions can build understanding, yet respect also means avoiding stereotypes. A society is multicultural because different cultural groups live and participate together, not because it holds one festival or serves one unfamiliar food.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is a multicultural society? Write the definition in your own words.

2 Name two details from Harborville that show cultural diversity.

3 According to paragraph 2, what must happen besides having cultural diversity for Harborville to be multicultural?

4 Why does one festival or one unfamiliar food not prove that a society is multicultural?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-sentence description of an imaginary multicultural community. Include two cultural groups or traditions, one shared space or activity, and explain how people can continue traditions and participate fairly.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the first sentence that defines a multicultural society, circle two details that show people continuing cultural traditions, and number 1, 2, and 3 beside phrases showing groups living together, sharing community life, and continuing traditions. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is a multicultural society? Write the definition in your own words.	A society where people from different cultural groups live together, participate in the larger community, and can keep important cultural traditions.
2	Name two details from Harborville that show cultural diversity.	Answers may include library story hours in English, Arabic, and Spanish; several kinds of music at the festival; or foods prepared for different holidays.
3	According to paragraph 2, what must happen besides having cultural diversity for Harborville to be multicultural?	People and groups must live in the same society, participate in shared spaces, and have opportunities to express and continue their traditions.
4	Why does one festival or one unfamiliar food not prove that a society is multicultural?	One event or food is only an isolated cultural display. A multicultural society involves different cultural groups living and participating together.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In Pine Street Community, Somali families and Mexican American families share stories at the library and play on the same soccer teams. At a community event, families use Somali, Spanish, and English while sharing foods and music from their traditions. Community leaders give each group equal time to participate, so people can continue their traditions with respect.

Accept equivalent definitions that include multiple cultural groups living in one society and participating together. For the open response, accept varied groups, traditions, and settings if the student includes shared participation, continued traditions, and fairness or respect.