

Institutions at Work

Compare purpose, leadership, and access in contemporary societies.

6.14.B "compare characteristics of institutions in various contemporary societies; and"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the three bold institution names. Beside each one, write P next to a purpose detail, D next to a detail about who makes decisions, and A next to a detail about who can use or take part in it.

Three Institutions, Three Roles

- ① In contemporary societies, institutions are organized systems that meet public needs. This text compares three named institutions: **Japan's public elementary schools**, **Brazil's Unified Health System, called SUS**, and **India's gram panchayats, or village councils**. Each has rules, workers or leaders, and people it serves, but their purposes differ. Schools provide education. SUS provides health care. Gram panchayats address local needs such as roads, water, and sanitation. Comparing purpose, decision makers, and access reveals how institutions can work differently.
- ② Japan's public elementary schools serve children in their local areas. School attendance is compulsory for Japanese children during the elementary years, so families can enroll their children in public schools. The national government sets broad curriculum standards, while local boards of education manage many school operations. Teachers lead daily learning in classrooms. The schools aim to give students academic knowledge and social skills. Their access is based mainly on age and residence, not on a family's ability to pay tuition.
- ③ Brazil's SUS is a public health system that is meant to serve every person in Brazil, including people who cannot pay for care. The federal government, states, and municipalities share responsibility for running it. Clinics and hospitals provide services, although the availability of services can vary by place. In India, a gram panchayat is an elected local council in a rural area. Its members make local decisions, and the gram sabha, made up of adult village voters, can take part in discussions. Unlike SUS, it focuses on local government services rather than health care.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How is the purpose of Japan's public elementary schools different from the purpose of Brazil's SUS?

2 Compare who makes decisions in SUS and in a gram panchayat.

3 How does access to Japan's public elementary schools differ from taking part in a gram panchayat?

4 What similarity and what difference in access do Japan's public elementary schools and SUS have?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose two institutions from the passage. Complete the table to compare their purpose, decision makers, and access, then write a comparison statement in the last column.

INSTITUTION	PURPOSE	WHO MAKES DECISIONS?	WHO CAN USE OR TAKE PART?	COMPARISON STATEMENT

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the three bold institution names. Beside each one, write P next to a purpose detail, D next to a detail about who makes decisions, and A next to a detail about who can use or take part in it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How is the purpose of Japan's public elementary schools different from the purpose of Brazil's SUS?	Japan's public elementary schools provide education and social skills. SUS provides health care.
2	Compare who makes decisions in SUS and in a gram panchayat.	The federal government, states, and municipalities share responsibility for SUS. Elected members make local decisions in a gram panchayat.
3	How does access to Japan's public elementary schools differ from taking part in a gram panchayat?	Japanese public elementary schools serve children based mainly on age and residence. Adult village voters can take part in gram sabha discussions connected to a gram panchayat.
4	What similarity and what difference in access do Japan's public elementary schools and SUS have?	Both are meant to be available without payment being a barrier. Schools serve children in local areas, while SUS is meant to serve every person in Brazil.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

INSTITUTION	PURPOSE	WHO MAKES DECISIONS?	WHO CAN USE OR TAKE PART?	COMPARISON STATEMENT
Japan's public elementary schools	Provide education and social skills	The national government sets standards, and local boards manage many operations	Local children, based mainly on age and residence	Unlike SUS, schools serve children rather than every person in the country.
Brazil's SUS	Provide health care	The federal government, states, and municipalities share responsibility	Every person in Brazil, including people who cannot pay	Unlike public elementary schools, SUS is meant to serve people of all ages.

Accept accurate comparisons using any two institutions from the passage. In the table, each row should include passage-supported details for purpose, decision makers, and access, plus a clear similarity or difference.