

Many Roots, One Community

How diversity and shared civic principles connect Americans.

3.1.a “recognizing that Americans are people of diverse ethnic origins, customs, and traditions that are united by the basic principles of a republican form of government and respect for individual rights and freedoms;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details that show different customs or traditions, then circle two details that show rights, freedoms, or representative government that unite people.

Community Day in Riverton

- ① On Community Day, Riverton families shared traditions from their backgrounds. Some families had roots in Mexico, Ghana, or China. The Ortiz family brought pan dulce, a sweet bread. Maya’s grandparents taught a drum rhythm from Ghana. The Chen family showed how they make paper lanterns for Lunar New Year. Neighbors listened, asked questions, and enjoyed the customs.
- ② Although the families had different traditions, they were all Americans. At a town meeting, adults elected council members to make local choices. This is one part of a republican form of government. People choose representatives to speak and decide for the community. Each person’s vote matters, even when neighbors have different customs or ideas.
- ③ Riverton’s residents also respect individual rights and freedoms. People may share their opinions at public meetings, practice their religion, and celebrate family traditions. These freedoms do not require everyone to act alike. They help people live together fairly. Community Day reminded the town that differences can be valued while shared rights and representative government unite Americans.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What are two customs or traditions that families shared on Community Day?

2 How did Riverton choose people to make local choices?

3 Name two rights or freedoms described in the passage.

4 How can Americans have different customs and still be united, according to the passage?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly three sentences about an imaginary community celebration. Describe two different customs, then explain how one right, freedom, or representative government practice helps the people belong to one community.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline two details that show different customs or traditions, then circle two details that show rights, freedoms, or representative government that unite people. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are two customs or traditions that families shared on Community Day?	Answers include bringing pan dulce, teaching a drum rhythm from Ghana, and making paper lanterns for Lunar New Year.
2	How did Riverton choose people to make local choices?	Adults elected council members, who are representatives that make choices for the community.
3	Name two rights or freedoms described in the passage.	Answers include sharing opinions at public meetings, practicing religion, and celebrating family traditions.
4	How can Americans have different customs and still be united, according to the passage?	Americans can have different customs while sharing individual rights and freedoms and choosing representatives in a republican government.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the neighborhood festival, one family performs an Irish step dance, and another family serves Ethiopian injera bread. People enjoy learning about both customs. Everyone may share ideas, and elected town representatives listen to the community.

Accept any accurate examples of different customs and a clear explanation of a shared individual right, freedom, or representative government practice. The response should contain exactly three sentences.