

Citizens in Action

Read about rights, responsibilities, and fair participation.

3.1 "The student will apply history and social science skills to define citizenship and explain the rights and responsibilities of United States citizenship by recognizing that Americans are people of diverse ethnic origins, customs..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each right or freedom in the passage. Circle each responsibility or action that shows good citizenship.

Many People, One Country

- ① Citizenship means being a member of a country. United States citizens have rights and responsibilities. Americans come from many ethnic origins and may have different customs and traditions. They are united by ideas in a republican government. People choose representatives to help make laws. The government must respect each person's rights and freedoms, even when people have different backgrounds.
- ② One important set of rights is in the First Amendment. It protects freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition. A citizen may peacefully share an opinion, worship or not worship, meet with others, publish ideas, or ask the government to solve a problem. Citizens also support and defend the Constitution and the Bill of Rights because these documents protect important freedoms.
- ③ Rules help a group stay safe, fair, and orderly. Citizens respect and follow local, state, and federal laws. Adults may vote, run for elected office, serve on a jury, and pay taxes that help fund public services. Students can practice citizenship by voting on classroom choices. Responsible digital citizens use kind words online, protect private information, and check before sharing facts or photos.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What two ideas unite Americans, even when they have different backgrounds?

2 Name two freedoms protected by the First Amendment.

3 How do rules help a group?

4 What are two actions of a responsible digital citizen?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write three sentences about a classroom decision. Describe the choice, tell how students will vote fairly, and name one responsibility students will follow during the decision.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each right or freedom in the passage. Circle each responsibility or action that shows good citizenship. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two ideas unite Americans, even when they have different backgrounds?	They are united by a republican government and respect for each person's rights and freedoms.
2	Name two freedoms protected by the First Amendment.	Any two: freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, or petition.
3	How do rules help a group?	Rules help a group stay safe, fair, and orderly.
4	What are two actions of a responsible digital citizen?	Any two: use kind words online, protect private information, and check before sharing facts or photos.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our class will choose a game for Friday. Each student will place one private ballot in a box. Our responsibility is to listen politely and accept the result.

Accept equivalent wording for First Amendment freedoms and digital citizenship actions. For the open response, look for a clear classroom choice, a fair voting method, and a responsibility such as listening respectfully or accepting the result.