

Town Meeting Words

Use social studies vocabulary to explain local government.

S.3.i "using content vocabulary to demonstrate learning through oral and written products."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle five social studies vocabulary words that help explain how a colonial town made decisions. Number the words 1 through 5 to show the order you found them.

Decisions in a Colonial Town

- ① On a cool morning in 1773, people gathered at a town meeting in Boston. A town meeting was a local gathering where eligible voters discussed community choices. Many people living in the town, including women, children, and enslaved people, could not vote. The meeting showed how some colonists took part in local government decisions together.
- ② Before the meeting, a group could write a petition. A petition is a written request signed by people who support an idea. At the meeting, a speaker might ask for a new market rule. The voters could debate the rule, listen to different views, and vote. The result could guide the town leaders in office.
- ③ Sometimes a town made an ordinance, or a local law. An ordinance might set rules for keeping animals off a busy street. A representative was a person chosen to speak for a group. In larger colonial governments, representatives met in assemblies. These words help historians explain how people tried to solve public problems, even though voting rights were limited.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Use the words *town meeting* to explain what people did there.

2 Which vocabulary word means a written request signed by people who support an idea?

3 Use the word *ordinance* to explain one kind of rule a town could make.

4 What was a representative? Use the word *group* in your answer.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-sentence announcement for a colonial town that wants to fix a muddy road. Use at least three of these words: *petition, debate, vote, ordinance, representative*. Underline the vocabulary words, then read your announcement aloud.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle five social studies vocabulary words that help explain how a colonial town made decisions. Number the words 1 through 5 to show the order you found them. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Use the words <i>town meeting</i> to explain what people did there.	A town meeting was a local gathering where eligible voters discussed community choices.
2	Which vocabulary word means a written request signed by people who support an idea?	petition
3	Use the word <i>ordinance</i> to explain one kind of rule a town could make.	An ordinance was a local law. It could set rules for keeping animals off a busy street.
4	What was a representative? Use the word <i>group</i> in your answer.	A representative was a person chosen to speak for a group.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Neighbors signed a petition asking the town to fix the muddy road. At the town meeting, voters will debate the plan and vote. A representative will share the group's ideas before the town makes an ordinance about road repairs.

Accept answers that accurately use the passage vocabulary and explain its meaning in context. For the open response, accept any sensible three-sentence town announcement using at least three listed terms correctly.