Citizenship & Civic Participation



Name _____ Date _____

1 Recall, then make a connection.

Start from memory. Write a meaning or quick example for each term.

citizenship	civic participation	legal duty

Explain how citizenship can differ from civic participation. Where does a legal duty fit, and why is a voluntary contribution not automatically a legal requirement?

Context for the task

Citizenship is legal membership in a political community. Civic participation is what people do to influence public life or help a community function. These ideas overlap, but they are not interchangeable. A person may be a U.S. citizen and rarely participate. A resident who is not a citizen may volunteer, attend an open public meeting, or ask officials to address a problem. A teenager can contribute before becoming old enough to vote. None of those observations determines a person's worth or belonging in a neighborhood.

2 Organize the records.

Repair the mislabeled folders

Use these categories for the examples as described. A legal obligation may have qualifications; a voluntary action can still be valuable.

Place each example in the most accurate folder.

A. Legal duty in the stated situation
B. Privilege requiring citizenship and other eligibility
C. Voluntary civic contribution

Write the category letter beside each record.

1. ___ Following a traffic law that applies to this driver

2. ___ Paying a tax this person legally owes

3. ___ Voting in a federal election when eligible

4. ___ Running for the U.S. House after meeting its constitutional qualifications

5. ___ Helping count cars near the community center

6. ___ Speaking at the center's open public meeting

Evidence, application & transfer.



3 Read the evidence closely.

Check the welcome poster

A draft poster says, "Residents who cannot vote cannot influence local decisions." Your job is to evaluate that claim using records from this fictional center.

Select every record that directly challenges the poster's claim.

A. A meeting log records a teenager's crossing proposal and the council's decision to request a traffic study.

B. The study includes observations submitted by adult residents who are not citizens.

C. A voter registration flyer gives the date of the next election.

D. A national survey reports how often registered voters vote in presidential elections.

Selections: _____ Explain your reasoning:

4 Apply the idea.

Write the accurate conclusion

The crossing proposal is adopted after the public meeting. The file does not say that volunteering changed anyone's citizenship or that every resident agreed with the decision.

Which conclusion stays within the evidence?

A. People with different citizenship and voting statuses contributed to one local decision.

B. Everyone who attended automatically became legally eligible to vote.

C. The adopted proposal proves that all eligible citizens participated.

My choice: _____ Explain why it fits:

5 Carry the idea forward.

Write a short recommendation for a new volunteer who says, "I cannot vote yet, so I have no civic role." Use two examples from the file and one qualification about duties or eligibility.