Name: Date: Score: / 6

Voting and Elections: Comprehension

Nonfiction: Community · about 190 words

Read the passage. Then answer each question. Circle the best answer or write your answer on the lines.

🗳️ Voting and Elections

In the United States, citizens choose their leaders by voting. This system, where people have the power to decide who governs them, is called a democracy. The word comes from Greek words meaning "rule by the people."

Elections happen at many levels. Voters elect a president every four years. They also choose members of Congress, governors, mayors, and even school board members. Sometimes voters decide on questions, such as whether their town should build a new library.

To vote in the United States, a person must be a citizen and at least 18 years old. Voters must register before an election. On Election Day, they can go to a polling place, such as a school or community center, and mark their choices on a ballot. Many states also let people vote by mail. Every vote is secret, so no one can see how another person voted.

Voting is both a right and a responsibility. When more people vote, leaders better reflect what the community wants. Even though kids cannot vote yet, they can learn about issues, talk with their families, and take part in student elections at school.

1. **Main idea:** What is this passage mostly about?

   A. how to build a library B. how voting and elections work in the United States C. why kids go to school D. the history of Greece

2. **Vocabulary:** A democracy is...

   A. a system where people have the power to choose their leaders B. a place to vote C. a type of ballot D. a kind of king

3. **Detail:** How often do voters elect a president?

   A. every year B. every ten years C. every four years D. every two months

4. **Detail:** How old must a person be to vote?

   A. at least 12 B. any age C. at least 30 D. at least 18

5. **Detail:** What is a polling place?

   A. a pole on the street B. a place where people go to vote C. a store D. a post office only

6. **Inference:** Why is it important that every vote is secret?

ANSWER KEY

Voting and Elections: Comprehension (answers)

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5. **Detail:** What is a polling place?

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6. **Inference:** Why is it important that every vote is secret?

   so people can vote freely without anyone seeing or pressuring their choice