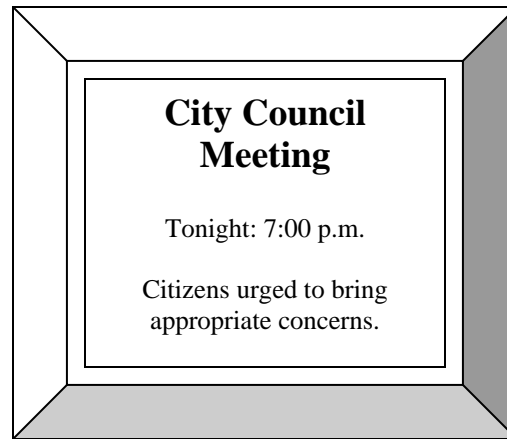


**Benchmark: Civics 1b**



**Brief Constructed Response Prompt:** Identify one responsibility of local government that might be an appropriate topic for discussion at this meeting? Explain why this responsibility is assigned to local government.

**Possible Response(s):** Students may offer a variety of plausible responses.

Students have a range of credible responses to offer for the first part of this question including waste removal, snow removal, local development, emergency services (police, ambulance, fire), traffic control, and recording documents such as deeds, birth and death certificates are usually the tasks of local government.

Students demonstrate understanding when they are able to explain that these responsibilities align with the limited resources and capabilities of smaller, local governments. Local governments are better equipped and positioned (closer to the problems) to deal with these “local” matters.

Moreover, state and federal governments need to be freed up from relatively smaller matters to handle issues that affect larger groups of people and that require sizeable resources unavailable to local governments.

**Rubric**

**2** = This response gives a valid answer with an accurate and relevant explanation.

**1** = This response gives a valid answer with an inaccurate, irrelevant, or no explanation.

**0** = inaccurate or no response