

*Extended Response Item*

**Standard:** Civics 4a

**Grade Cluster:** 6-8



Source: [http://www.fotosearch.com/thumb/ICL/ICL145/IDS\\_122.jpg](http://www.fotosearch.com/thumb/ICL/ICL145/IDS_122.jpg)

A nuclear power plant has inquired into purchasing available land in your town to construct a nuclear power plant. Some of the people in the community support the development of a nuclear power plant, while others are against the development of a nuclear power plant in town.

**Prompt:** How might you communicate your thoughts and feelings effectively to an elected official? Why might it be important to do so?

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

Students might offer one of the following responses and explain how each might be done effectively...

- in person, speak at a town meeting, write a letter, phone call, e-mail, fax, write a letter to an editor.
- Elected officials have a responsibility to represent the varied interests of large numbers of people and need citizens' input to make informed decisions.

***Rubric***

*2 = this response gives a valid response with an accurate and relevant explanation.  
1 = this response gives a valid response with an inaccurate, irrelevant, or no explanation.  
0 = inaccurate or no answer.*