Benchmark: 4a

**Brief Constructed Response Prompt:** Why might it be important to follow the actions of elected officials? Support your answer with an example.

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

Those who follow the actions of elected officials are in a good position to challenge actions that threaten our rights or liberties. For example, a lawmaker introduces a bill to allow federal law enforcement officials to listen in on our phone calls poses a threat to privacy rights and it is up to citizens to challenge such actions so that our rights might be preserved.

Students might also focus on related benefits such as:
- Being in a position to use their votes and voices wisely in support or opposition to candidates for office.
- Being in a position to lobby lawmakers to reconsider their positions on issues.

### Rubric

- **2:** This response gives a valid answer with accurate and relevant support.
- **1:** This response gives a valid answer with inaccurate, irrelevant, or no support.
- **0:** Inaccurate or no response