

Civic Duty

Working Together



Shirin Shamsi

Table of Contents

What Is Civic Duty? 4

★ ★ Jump into Fiction: ★

 Ali’s Morning..... 6

You and Your Civic Duty 10

Famous Figures..... 12

Powerful Politicians 16

Students Who Serve 22

Doing Your Part 26

Glossary..... 30

Index..... 31

Civics in Action..... 32



What Is Civic Duty?

Have you ever seen a tapestry? It is made of many colors and textures. The threads are joined together, stitch by stitch. When those threads are woven, they become one work of art.

Civic duty is like that. This is the responsibility each person has for the whole community. Just like a tapestry, people come together to serve their communities. They can serve on juries, helping to make courtroom decisions. They pay taxes. They can vote. They can serve in the **armed forces**. They can follow laws and know their rights. All these things are part of civic duties.

You may not be able to do all these things yet. But there are other ways you can serve your community. You have your own civic duties.



These woven threads form a tapestry.



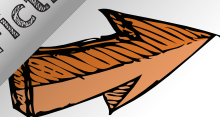
These people serve on a jury.

Where Did It Come From?

The word *civics* comes from two Latin words or phrases. The first is *civis*, a citizen of ancient Rome. The second is *corona civica*, a word for a type of crown. The crown was given to a person who saved someone's life. It showed that they helped people in their community.



Jump into
Fiction



Ali's Morning

"Yes! If I run, I won't be late to school again," Ali yelled. He grabbed his backpack and bolted out the door and down the street, running as fast as his legs could carry him. He had already been given a warning for being late. He might get kicked off the track team! This was his last chance, and he wasn't going to blow it.





The cool breeze whipped Ali's hair as he picked up speed and imagined he was a champion runner on a racetrack. Track was his favorite sport. Ali sighed. *One day, he promised himself, I'll be an Olympic champion runner.* But first, he needed to get to school on time.

Ali stopped suddenly when he saw Mr. Patel, his elderly neighbor, lying in the middle of the road. A car was coming. The driver might not see him on the road!





Ali grabbed his yellow backpack and waved it above his head as he stepped into the road. He stood by Mr. Patel and kept waving hard until the oncoming car stopped. Then, Ali gently helped his neighbor stand. Ali picked up the walking stick that lay on the ground and handed it back to Mr. Patel. Ali walked Mr. Patel to the sidewalk, making sure he wasn't hurt.



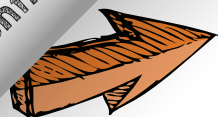


“Thank you, son,” said Mr. Patel. “Go on now, or you’ll be late for school.”

Ali sighed softly. He already knew he was late. And he knew he might get kicked off the track team. As sad as Ali was, he also knew he had done the right thing. He swung his backpack over his shoulder and ran the rest of the way to school.



Back to
Nonfiction



Civic Duty

Working Together

Everyone has a civic duty. It is a responsibility of all people. Some people have taken that responsibility above and beyond and changed life for millions of people! Learn how you can be like these civic leaders and work together to change the world.

121671

TCM Teacher
Created
Materials

Lexile®: 650L

ISBN-13: 978-1-0876-0513-5



9 781087 605135