

SS.7.C.2.13 Low Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	Which option represents a way that multiple perspectives are reflected in political participation?	The correct answer should identify a type of political participation that is available to many people who represent different opinions.
A	public meetings	Correct – Public meetings are open to a variety of different people who may openly express their opinions on public policy issues.
B	press conference	Incorrect – A press conference is a meeting where individuals, usually government officials, explain their perspective to invited journalists. Press conferences are not usually open to the public.
C	legislative sessions	Incorrect – Legislative sessions include lawmakers working together to develop legislation. The public may be invited to observe these sessions but has limited opportunity, if any, to participate by sharing their views.
D	State of the Union address	Incorrect – The State of the Union address is an opportunity for the president to share his views on the direction that the country is going. The State of the Union address is not an opportunity for the public to share multiple opinions about policy issues.



SS.7.C.2.13 Moderate Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	<p>The headline below describes an event in U.S. history.</p>  <p>Source: Library of Congress</p> <p>Which public policy view is reflected in the headline?</p>		<p>Read and evaluate the newspaper headline about President Truman’s executive order. Presidents may issue executive orders, which must be obeyed like laws.</p> <p>The correct answer will identify the public policy perspective that would most likely support President Truman’s executive order.</p>
A	racial discrimination	Incorrect – President Truman ended racial segregation in the military which is a way to reduce race discrimination. The policy action did not did not promote racial discrimination.	
B	racial prejudice	Incorrect – President Truman ended racial segregation in the military which is a way to reduce racial prejudice. The policy action did not promote racial prejudice. President Truman’s action did not support racial prejudice because he allowed people of all races to serve together in the military.	
C	racial tolerance	Incorrect – Tolerance is not a public policy view; tolerance means putting up with something that one may not like which cannot be created or eliminated with a public policy.	
D	racial equality	Correct – Racial equality means treating people the same under the law regardless of their race. President Truman ended race-based segregation in the U.S. military which helped ensure that all service members would be treated equally regardless of race.	



SS.7.C.2.13 High Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	Below are views for and against publicly funded elections.		Compare two perspectives on a current issue.
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 5px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">1.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">It is unfair to force taxpayers to pay for opinions they do not support. Voters should be able to express their opinions by giving candidates as much money as they want.</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 5px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">2.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Candidates would spend less time trying to raise money and spend more time talking about the issues. Some people can afford to give more money to candidates, which gives their opinion an unfair advantage.</p> </div>	The correct response must be supported by both views.
	Which conclusions can be drawn from these views?		
A	Running an election campaign takes many taxpayers.	Incorrect – Both views must be represented in the correct response. View 2 supports publicly funded elections but View 1 does not.	
B	Campaigning for elected office requires many opinions.	Incorrect – Both views must be represented in the correct response. Neither view indicates that running for office requires many opinions.	
C	Campaigning for elected office takes a large amount of time.	Incorrect – Neither passage addresses the time spent campaigning for public office. The focus of the views is on campaign funding.	
D	Running an election campaign requires a large sum of money.	Correct – Both views include concerns about the source of money, public or private, for candidates during elections. Therefore, both views agree that election campaigns are expensive.	

