

## Sample Answers: Civic and Political Engagement Notes Sheet

*Directions: Use what you learn while reading the “Civic and Political Engagement Placards” to fill in the boxes below. Then, answer the question at the bottom.*

Method of Participation	Explain In Your Own Words
<b>Voting</b>	By voting, you help decide who represents you in elected office. You also help indicate support for that person’s positions and priorities, which can serve as an encouragement or warning to those in office as they lead us.
<b>Peaceful Protests</b>	Can include such tactics as mass assembly, boycotts, and strikes with the goal being to leverage the size of participation to influence public opinion and decision makers.
<b>Petitions</b>	Written statements in support or opposition to something, signed by those passionate about the cause. Petitions indicate to elected officials the level of popular support for a given action, decision, or change, helping guide those officials as they weigh the choices before them.
<b>Demonstrations</b>	Large gatherings/rallies used to raise awareness for a social or political movement. These usually engage with their audience by using an exhibit or public display.
<b>Contacting Government Offices and Officials</b>	Making contact with elected officials, by phone or email, to make your feelings on a particular issue known.

**Short Answer:** How can the methods above be used to achieve or prevent political and/or social change?

*Responses will vary*