

Important People

by Michael Stahl



The janitor is the person who helps keep the school clean. Every morning students come from all over and walk into the school building. A building can get dirty, especially when a lot of people go into it. The janitor sweeps and mops the floors so that the dirt brought in gets cleaned up.

The teacher is the person who runs the classroom. The teacher helps you learn about different topics and gives you assignments. If you don't understand something, you can ask the teacher for help.

The principal is the person who is in charge of the whole school. The principal is the leader of the school. The principal is in charge of all the teachers at the school. The principal is the person whom parents call when they want to talk to someone about the school. The principal

usually sets high expectations for the students and makes sure that learning is happening in the school.

American schools are in a city or town. The city or town has a leader, too. The leader is usually called the mayor. The mayor is in charge of running the government of the city or town. The mayor works with the people in the city or town and the other people in the government to fix the problems of the city or town. The mayor has a lot of responsibility.

An American city or town is located within a state. Just like a city or town has a leader, a state has a leader, too. The leader of a state is called the governor. An American state is a part of the United States. There are 50 states, and each one has a governor. The person who is the leader of the United States of America is called the president. There have been over forty presidents throughout the course of America's history. The first president of the United States of America was George Washington. Who is the current president?

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Who are some of the people described in the passage?

- A. lawyers, doctors, and bankers
- B. singers, actors, and dancers
- C. janitors, teachers, and principals

2. What does the passage list?

- A. This passage lists some of the different jobs people have.
- B. This passage lists the mayors of America's five largest cities.
- C. This passage lists all the Presidents of the United States.

3. A janitor helps keep a school clean. A teacher helps students learn at school. A principal is in charge of all the teachers at a school.

What can be concluded from this information?

- A. Principals often work with janitors but do not often work with teachers.
- B. Many janitors want to become teachers, and many teachers want to become principals.
- C. People can work in the same place and do different things.

4. Which job mentioned in the article is not a job that involves leadership?

- A. janitor
- B. principal
- C. mayor

5. What is this passage mainly about?

- A. the responsibilities of janitors and governors
- B. different people and their jobs
- C. how a janitor keeps a school clean

6. Read the following sentences: "The city or town has a leader, too. The **leader** is usually called the mayor. The mayor is in charge of running the government of the city of town."

What does the word "**leader**" mean above?

- A. someone who helps children learn
- B. someone who has power over other people
- C. someone who does not get along with other people

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

The principal makes sure learning is happening in the school, _____, the principal is in charge of the teachers.

- A. but
- B. before
- C. so

8. What is the leader of a city or town called?

9. What are some of a mayor's responsibilities?

10. The title of this passage is "Important People." Are the people described in it important? Explain why or why not, using evidence from the passage.