

# Redrawing Democracy – 8th Grade Student Packet

## Vocabulary Sheet

Instructions: Fill in the meaning of each term in your own words.

Term	Meaning in Your Own Words
Democracy	
Voting	
Redistricting	
Gerrymandering	
Cracking	
Packing	

## **District Map Redesign Template**

Instructions: Use the blank space below or a printed district map to redraw a fairer voting district. Label your district and key features, such as cities or neighborhoods.

Sketch Area:

(Provide printed map separately or give blank space for sketching)

Explain your new map in 3-5 sentences:

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## **Civic Engagement Reflection**

Think about the project and answer the following:

1. Why are voting and fair district maps essential in a democracy?

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2. What was the biggest challenge you faced when designing your map?

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3. What is one thing you would tell a leader about how to make elections fairer?

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## Project Rubrics

### Map Design Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Good	Needs Work
District Shape	Logical and compact.	Mostly logical with minor flaws.	Messy or illogical.
Population Fairness	Evenly spread populations.	Mostly even.	Uneven with significant gaps.
Community Awareness	Communities kept together.	Some community splits.	Communities are not considered.

### Written Justification Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Good	Needs Work
Explanation	Clear and detailed reasoning.	Basic reasoning.	Hard to understand.
Connection to Fairness	Strong link to democratic fairness.	Some connection made.	No clear connection.

### Presentation Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Good	Needs Work
Speaking Skills	Clear, loud, and confident.	Mostly clear and understandable.	Hard to hear or confusing.
Visuals	Easy to see and understand.	Mostly clear visuals.	Poor or missing visuals.
Understanding	Shows a strong grasp of ideas.	Shows some understanding.	Shows little understanding.