

Appendix A

Student handout: My thinking on government responsibilities

Premise: A good strategy to develop critical thinking is to reflect on your thinking about a topic or issue and explore how and why your thinking has changed. This is useful for you to track new learning and identify any new beliefs, understanding, and opinions. In this way, your thinking becomes **visible** to you. Also, you are engaging in **knowledge construction** by extending or building on your previous understanding or background knowledge.

“I used to think...”

Record your initial thoughts to the question of, **“What role does government play in my life?”**.

“I am now thinking...”

- Have your thoughts changed because of what you have learned so far in the lesson? Record what you are thinking about the question. Start your sentences with *“I am now thinking...”*; *“Here’s what I am thinking so far...”*; *“I had a hunch that...and it looks like I am on the right track because...”*; *“What I am now thinking is very different from what I used to think because...”*.

“My final thoughts are...”

- Consolidate all thoughts here as you consider all the materials from this lesson. Start your sentence with *“My final thoughts are...”*.
- Remember the question is, “What role does government play in my life?”.