Curriculum for a 10-Class Citizenship Course for Intermediate Level ESL Students

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Introduction

The U.S. citizenship process involves an application, an oral civics and history test, a reading test, a dictation test, and an oral personal interview. This is a citizenship preparation curriculum that includes lesson plans, readings, and worksheets focused on the content of the 100 civics and history questions on the test, with a small amount of emphasis placed on the reading, dictation, and personal background portions. It is designed as a ten-class course with each class lasting one to two hours, depending on the students and the choices of the instructor. This curriculum is designed for students with at least a low-intermediate level of English (with a CASAS test score of about 200 in reading) in order for them to understand the readings that are used.

The readings in this curriculum are taken or adapted from the following textbooks: *U.S. Citizen, Yes: Preparing for Citizenship* by Ronna Magy, Heinle Cengage Learning, 2010; *Citizenship Now: A Guide for Naturalization* by Aliza Becker, McGraw-Hill/Contemporary's, 2003. These are great resources and have a lot of other information in them that is not in this curriculum, such as extended history lessons, vocabulary practice, and citizenship interview preparation activities. Other good text books for lower levels are *Citizenship: Passing the Test* by Lynne Weintraub (2009) and *Entry into Citizenship* by Aliza Becker (2000). The worksheets are my own creations, and teachers are welcome to copy them for classroom use, but I recommend checking all information and forms to make sure that they are up to date.

I also recommend going to the USCIS website and looking at the materials offered there, both for students and teachers (http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/citizenship). As a citizenship teacher you can order a toolkit that includes study and teaching materials, a pamphlet with the 100 questions and answers on paper and CD, question flashcards, and a DVD with USCIS videos on it, among other things. I also showed some of the School House Rock U.S. history videos and I highly recommend trying these out (with captions). Though they may seem goofy, outdated, or difficult to understand, when used in conjunction with readings they can reinforce the information in a fun way.

In the following pages you will find detailed lesson plans for the ten classes followed by the readings and worksheets for each class. The pages are coded as follows: R=Reading, Q=Questions list, WS=Worksheet, GB=Game Board. The numbers of the questions correspond to the numbering used in the USCIS pamphlet.

I hope that this is helpful! Good luck with your class!

Best,

Denise Desrosiers

Class 1: Map, Symbolism, Holidays

Materials: USCIS videos, WS-1, Q-1, R-1, crayons/colored pencils, national anthem music

1. Student/Teacher introductions and icebreakers.

    -Students interview and introduce a partner.

    -Students write a blurb about themselves that includes their name, country, amount of time as a U.S. permanent resident, and why they want to be a U.S. citizen.

2. USCIS video "Becoming a U.S. Citizen"/ "A Promise of Freedom" from USCIS Toolkit CD-ROM or USCIS website http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/citizenship

3. U.S. Map Activity

    -Hand out WS-1 and Q-1

    -For more advanced classes, leave some map information blank

    -Students use map to answer worksheet questions #88-95

    -Student can use colored pencils to mark relevant parts of map

4. American symbols and national anthem

    -Hand out R-1

    -Discuss the history and symbolism of the Statue of Liberty

    -Discuss the history and symbolism of the American flag (questions 96-97)

    -Read the modern translation of the national anthem and discuss the history

    -Listen to the national anthem and sing it together (question 98)

5. National holidays

    -Elicit a list of national U.S. holidays from students (question 100)

    -Elicit the date of Independence Day (question 99)

6. Students review questions and answers with a partner.

Questions Covered: 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

Class 2: Revolution and Independence

Materials: R-2, R-2A, Q-2, School House Rock DVD

1. Questions review (flash cards/CD questions)

2. Dictation practice

3. Native American history discussion (question 59)

    -Hand out R-2A and Q-2

    -Practice pronouncing Native American names (question 87)

    *Discussion: Was your country ever colonized?

    Is your family from the native people or the colonizers?

    What kinds of problems does colonization create?

    *Role play: Native Americans and Pilgrims

    -Students divide into two teams and each side writes a letter explaining their feelings toward the other

    -Each side shares their letter out loud with the other side

4. Revolution and Independence

    -Hand out R-2 and read, stopping to answer questions 8, 9, 58, 61, 62, 63, 69, 70

    -Return to map on WS-2 and answer question 64

    *Hint: New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York are easy to remember

    *Role play: English soldiers and colonial representatives

    - Students divide into two teams and each side writes a letter explaining their feelings toward the other

    -Each side shares their letter out loud with the other side

    *School House Rock Video: “No More Kings”

5. Students review questions and answers with a partner

Questions Covered: 8, 9, 58, 59, 61, 62, 63, 64, 69, 70, 87

Class 3: The Constitution

Materials: R-3, Q-3, R-3A, R-3B, School House Rock DVD

1. Questions review (flash cards/CD questions)

2. Hand back previous dictation. Students practice reading sentences with partners.

3. New dictation practice

3. The Constitution

    -Hand out R-3 and Q-3.

    -Read, stopping to answer questions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 48, 65, 66, 67, 68

    *School House Rock Video: “The Preamble”

    *Read and discuss Benjamin Franklin (R-3A)

    *Bill of Rights activity (R-3B)

        -Divide students into small groups

        -Students read the Bill of Rights and choose 3 that they think are the most important

        -Groups share their choices and explain their reasoning

4. Students review questions and answers with a partner.

Questions Covered: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 48, 65, 66, 67, 68

Class 4: The Executive Branch

Materials: R-3A, BG-1, R-4, Q-4, WS-4, School House Rock DVD

1. Questions review (flash cards/CD questions)

2. Hand back previous dictation. Students practice reading sentences with partners.

3. New dictation practice

4. Review Benjamin Franklin reading (R-3A)

5. Students play Review Board Game 1 (BG-1)

6. Executive Branch

    -Hand out R-4 and Q-4

    -Read, stopping to answer questions 15, 26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36

    -Elicit answers to questions 28, 29, 45, 46

    *King vs. President activity (WS-4)

        -Students work in partners to guess the answers on the worksheet

        -Check answers as a group

    *School House Rock video: “Electoral College”

7. Students review questions and answers with a partner

Questions Covered: 15, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 45, 46

Class 5: The Legislative Branch

Materials: R-5, Q-5, WS-5, School House Rock DVD

1. Questions review (flash cards/CD questions)

2. Hand back previous dictation. Students practice reading sentences with partners.

3. New dictation practice

4. The Legislature

    -Hand out R-5 and Q-5

    -Read, stopping to answer questions 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 41, 42

    -Elicit answers to questions 20, 23, 43, 44, 47

    *State vs. Federal activity (WS-5)

        -Students work in partners to guess the answers on the worksheet

        -Check answers as a group

    *School House Rock video: “Bill”

5. Students review questions and answers with a partner

Questions Covered: 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 41, 42, 43, 44, 47

Class 6: The Judicial Branch

Materials: R-6, Q-6, WS-6, BG-2, School House Rock DVD

1. Questions review (flash cards/CD questions)

2. Hand back previous dictation. Students practice reading sentences with partners.

3. New dictation practice

4. Judicial Branch

    -Hand out R-6 and Q-6

    -Read, answering questions 13, 14, 37, 37, 38, 39

    -Elicit answer to question 40

    *School House Rock video: “Three Ring Government”

5. Branches of government role play (WS-6)

    - Pass out or let students choose name tags and have them separate into groups

    -Executive Branch talks to Congress about the law that they want

    -Congress writes a law and votes on it

    -Congress presents the law to the President to sign

    -Judicial Branch reviews the law to see if it is constitutional

6. Students play Review Board Game 2 (BG-2)

Questions Covered: 13, 14, 37, 38, 39, 40

Class 7: Expansion, Civil War, Civil Rights

Materials: R-7, R-7A, School House Rock DVD

1. Questions review (flash cards/CD questions)

2. Hand back previous dictation. Students practice reading sentences with partners.

3. New dictation practice

4. Westward Expansion

-Hand out R-7 and discuss U.S. land acquisitions, question 71

*School House Rock video: "Elbow Room"

*School House Rock video: "Great American Melting Pot"

5. Slavery

-Read "Slave or Free?" (R-7), stopping to answer questions 60, 72

*See Constitution-Three-Fifths Compromise, Article 1, Section 2, Paragraph 3

*Discussion: Have there ever been slaves in your country? Why? What happened?

*Role play: Southern farmers vs. Northern businessmen

- Students divide into two teams and each side writes a letter explaining their feelings toward the other about slavery

-Each side shares their letter out loud with the other side

6. Civil War

-Read "The Civil War and Lincoln" (R-7), stopping to answer questions 73, 74, 75, 76

*Discussion: Should Lincoln have started the Civil War? Why?

Has there ever been a civil war in your country? Why? What happened?

7. Suffrage

-Read "Susan B. Anthony" (R-7A), stopping to answer question 77

*Discussion: Do women have equal status in your country? Give examples.

Class 7: Expansion, Civil War, Civil Rights (Continued)

8. Civil Rights Movement

-Read “MLK, Jr. and Civil Rights” (R-7A), stopping to answer questions 84, 85

*Show part of “I Have a Dream” speech from You Tube

*Discussion: Is there racial discrimination in your country? Why? Between whom?

9. Students review questions and answers with a partner

Questions covered: 60, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 84, 85

Class 8: 1900s History

Materials: R-8, R-8A, Q-8

1. Questions review (flash cards/CD questions)

2. Hand back previous dictation. Students practice reading sentences with partners.

3. New dictation practice

4. WWI

    -Hand out R-8 and Q-8

    -Read, stopping to answer questions 79, 80, 81, 82

5. UN

    -Read (R-8A)

    *Discussion: What do you know about the UN?

6. Cold War/Vietnam War

    -Read (R-8A), stopping to answer question 83

    *Discussion: What do you know/think about Communism?

    *Discussion: How does U.S. involvement in Vietnam compare to WWI?

7. 9/11 Terrorist Attack

    -Read (R-8A), stopping to answer question 86

    *Discussion: What do you know about this incident?

8. Students review questions and answers with a partner.

Questions covered: 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 86

Class 9: Citizenship Rights and Responsibilities

Materials: R-9, R-9A, Q-9, WS-9, BG-3, N-400 Form

1. Questions review (flash cards/CD questions)

2. Hand back previous dictation. Students practice reading sentences with partners.

3. New dictation practice

4. Citizenship rights and responsibilities

    -Hand out R-9 and Q-9

    -Read, stopping to answer questions 49, 50, 51, 54, 55, 56, 57

5. Pledge of Allegiance/Oath of Allegiance

    -Read "Pledge of Allegiance" (R-9A), stopping to answer question 52

    -Read easy translation of Oath of Allegiance (R-9A), stopping to answer question 53

6. Voting activity

    -Students divide into two equal groups, Democrats and Republicans

    -Hand out WS-9 and explain that each candidate is a real president from history and their names will be revealed after the election

    -Each group reads about the candidates from their party and discusses their merits

    -Each group votes for a presidential candidate and the two candidates are put on the board according to their number (Democrat 1, etc.)

    -Each student reads about both candidates and privately votes for the candidate that they prefer

    -The new president is revealed along with the names of all the candidates

7. Students play Review Board Game 3 (BG-3)

8. Hand out N-400 form for students to take home and preview

Questions covered: 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57

Class 10: Application and Interview

Materials: R-10, R-10A, R-10B, R-9A, USCIS video, N-400 Form

1. Questions review (flash cards/CD questions)

2. Hand back previous dictation. Students practice reading sentences with partners.

3. Steps and requirements to become a citizen

    -Read R-10

    -Demonstrate USCIS website studying and information resources at www.uscis.giv/portal/site/uscis/citizenship

    -Show USCIS video "The Naturalization Interview and Test"

4. Application and personal interview

    -Review N-400 application vocabulary and information

    -Partner interview practice (R-10A)

5. Practice oath ceremony

    -Read "Before the Ceremony" (R-10B)

    -Ask for volunteers to read the different parts in the ceremony practice

    -Give the judge the Oath of Allegiance (R-9A) to read at the appropriate time

    -Students read and act the parts, standing and sitting, etc.

*If it is possible to have someone who has gone through the process to come and answer questions, this is a good class to do that.

Q-1

Citizenship Questions 1

88. Name one of the two longest rivers in the United States.

_____

_____

89. What ocean is on the West Coast of the United States?

_____

_____

90. What ocean is on the East Coast of the United States?

_____

_____

91. Name one U.S. Territory.

_____

_____

92. Name one state that borders Canada.

_____

_____

93. Name one state that borders Mexico.

_____

_____

94. What is the capital of the United States?

_____

_____

95. Where is the Statue of Liberty?

_____

_____

96. Why does the flag have 13 stripes?

_____

_____

Q-1

97. Why does the flag have 50 stars?

_____

_____

98. What is the name of the national anthem?

_____

_____

99. When do we celebrate Independence Day?

_____

_____

100. Name two national U.S. holidays.

_____

_____

Q-2

Citizenship Questions 2

8. What did the Declaration of Independence do?

_____

_____

9. What are two rights in the Declaration of Independence?

_____

_____

58. What is one reason colonists came to America?

_____

_____

59. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?

_____

_____

61. Why did the colonists fight the British?

_____

_____

62. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?

_____

_____

63. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?

_____

_____

64. There were 13 original states. Name three.

_____

_____

69. Who is the “Father of our Country”?

_____

_____

Q-2

70. Who was the first President?

_____

_____

87. Name one American Indian tribe in the United States.

_____

_____

Q-3

Citizenship Questions 3

1. What is the supreme law of the land?

_____

_____

2. What does the Constitution do?

_____

_____

3. The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words?

_____

_____

4. What is an amendment?

_____

_____

5. What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution?

_____

_____

6. What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment?

_____

_____

7. How many amendments does the Constitution have?

_____

_____

10. What is freedom of religion?

_____

_____

11. What is the economic system in the United States?

_____

_____

Q-3

12. What is the “rule of law”?

_____

_____

48. There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. Describe one of them.

_____

_____

65. What happened at the Constitutional Convention?

_____

_____

66. When was the Constitution written?

_____

_____

67. The Federalist Papers supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution. Name one of the writers.

_____

_____

68. What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for?

_____

_____

Q-4

Citizenship Questions 4

15. Who is in charge of the Executive Branch?

_____

_____

26. We elect a President for how many years?

_____

_____

27. In what month do we vote for President?

_____

_____

28. What is the name of the President of the United States now?

_____

_____

29. What is the name of the Vice President of the United States now?

_____

_____

30. If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President?

_____

_____

31. If both the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, who becomes President?

_____

_____

32. Who is the Commander in Chief of the military?

_____

_____

33. Who signs bills to become laws?

_____

_____

Q-4

34. Who vetoes bills?

_____

_____

35. What does the President's Cabinet do?

_____

_____

36. What are two Cabinet-level positions?

_____

_____

45. What are the two major political parties in the United States?

_____

_____

46. What is the political party of the President now?

_____

_____

Q-5

Citizenship Questions 5

16. Who makes federal laws?

_____

_____

17. What are the two parts of the U.S. Congress?

_____

_____

18. How many U.S. Senators are there?

_____

_____

19. We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years?

_____

_____

20. What is one of your state's U.S. Senators now?

_____

_____

21. The House of Representatives has how many voting members?

_____

_____

22. We elect a U.S. Representative for how many years?

_____

_____

23. Name your U.S. Representatives.

_____

_____

24. Who does a U.S. Senator represent?

_____

_____

Q-5

25. Why do some states have more Representatives than other states?

_____

_____

41. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the federal government. What is one power of the federal government?

_____

_____

42. Under the Constitution, some powers belong to the states. What is one power of the states?

_____

_____

43. Who is the Governor of your state now?

_____

_____

44. What is the capital of your state?

_____

_____

47. What is the name of the Speaker of the House of Representatives now?

_____

_____

Q-6

Citizenship Questions 6

13. Name one branch or part of the government.

_____

_____

14. What stops one branch of government from becoming too powerful?

_____

_____

37. What does the judicial branch do?

_____

_____

38. What is the highest court in the United States?

_____

_____

39. How many justices are on the Supreme Court?

_____

_____

40. Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now?

_____

_____

Q-7

Citizenship Questions 7

60. What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves?

_____

71. What territory did the United States buy from France in 1803?

_____

72. Name one war fought by the United States in the 1800s.

_____

_____

73. Name the U.S. war between the North and the South.

_____

74. Name one problem that led to the Civil War.

_____

_____

75. What was one important thing that Abraham Lincoln did?

_____

_____

76. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?

_____

_____

77. What did Susan B. Anthony do?

_____

_____

84. What movement tried to end racial discrimination?

_____

_____

85. What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?

_____

_____

Q-8

Citizenship Questions 8

78. Name one war fought by the United States in the 1900s.

_____

_____

79. Who was President during World War I?

_____

_____

80. Who was President during the Great Depression and World War II?

_____

_____

81. Who did the United States fight in World War II?

_____

_____

82. Before he was President, Eisenhower was a general. What war was he in?

_____

_____

83. During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the United States?

_____

_____

86. What major event happened on September 11, 2001, in the United States?

_____

_____

Q-9

Citizenship Questions 9

49. What is one responsibility that is only for United States citizens?

_____

_____

50. Name one right only for United States citizens.

_____

_____

51. What are two rights of everyone living in the United States?

_____

_____

52. What do we show loyalty to when we say the Pledge of Allegiance?

_____

_____

53. What is one promise you make when you become a United States citizen?

_____

_____

54. How old do citizens have to be to vote for President?

_____

_____

55. What are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?

_____

_____

56. When is the last day you can send in federal income tax forms?

_____

_____

57. When must all men register for Selective Service?

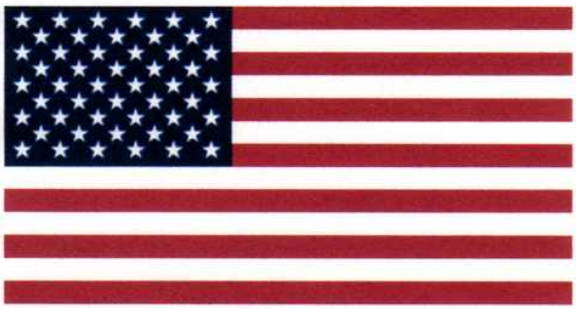
_____

_____

R-1

American Symbols & National Anthem

Statue of Liberty



American Flag - Stars & Stripes

The Star Spangled Banner

O, say can you see
by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hail'd
at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars
through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched
were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare,
The bomb bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night
that our flag was still there.
O, say does that star spangled banner
yet wave
O'er the land of the free
and the home of the brave?

Oh tell me, can you see
in the morning light
The flag we were watching
last night?
With wide stripes and bright stars,
that in the danger of the battle,
We saw over the walls of the fort
waving in the breeze?
The glowing rockets,
and the exploding bombs
Showed in the dark night
that our flag was still there.
Tell me, does the flag
still wave,
Over the land of the free,
and the home of the brave?

Revolution and Independence

England had thirteen colonies along the Atlantic, or eastern seacoast, of North America. They were New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. These colonies later became the first thirteen states.

The colonists had to obey the laws of the King of England. Because of these laws, the colonists could not trade with other countries. They had to send the goods they produced to England, and they could buy goods only from England. The colonists had to pay high taxes to England. They did not have any representation—anyone to act or speak for them—in England to control how much tax was charged or how the tax money was used. They had taxation without representation.

Many colonists did not like these laws. When the king put a high tax on tea, the colonists in Boston, Massachusetts, got angry. Some of them dressed like Native Americans to disguise themselves and threw the tea from a ship in Boston Harbor into the water. This event was called the Boston Tea Party.

People from the colonies got angry. Representatives from each colony met in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1774. This meeting was called the First Continental Congress. The representatives decided (1) to ask the king to change some of his laws, (2) to end all trade with England, and (3) to prepare for war. In March 1775, Patrick Henry said, "Give me liberty or give me death" to a group of representatives meeting in Virginia.

Young lawyer Patrick Henry speaks out against laws of the King of England.

Thomas Jefferson was the main author of the Declaration of Independence.

In May 1775, the colonists had a Second Continental Congress at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The representatives decided that they wanted to be independent from England. They asked Thomas Jefferson to write the Declaration of Independence.

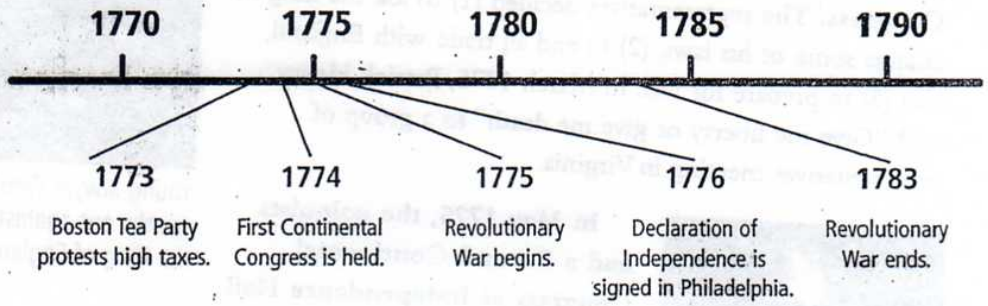
On July 4, 1776, representatives of all thirteen colonies signed the Declaration of Independence. Its basic belief is that "all men are created equal." It states that people also have rights that government cannot take away. These rights are " life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." People tell the government what to do, and the government must do what the people say. The Declaration of Independence says the colonists decided to be "free and independent states." The 4th of July is now called Independence Day, the birthday of the United States.

The Revolutionary War, or the War of Independence, began in 1775 and ended in 1783. George Washington was the commander-in-chief of the colonial army and navy. He won many battles against the English. The colonists won the war, and the United States became an independent country. The thirteen colonies became the 13 original states.

A picture of George Washington appears on every U.S. dollar bill.

In 1789, George Washington became the first president of the United States. He was also the first Commander-in-chief of the U.S. military. Martha Washington was George Washington's wife. She was the first First Lady. When George Washington died, he was known as "the father of his country."

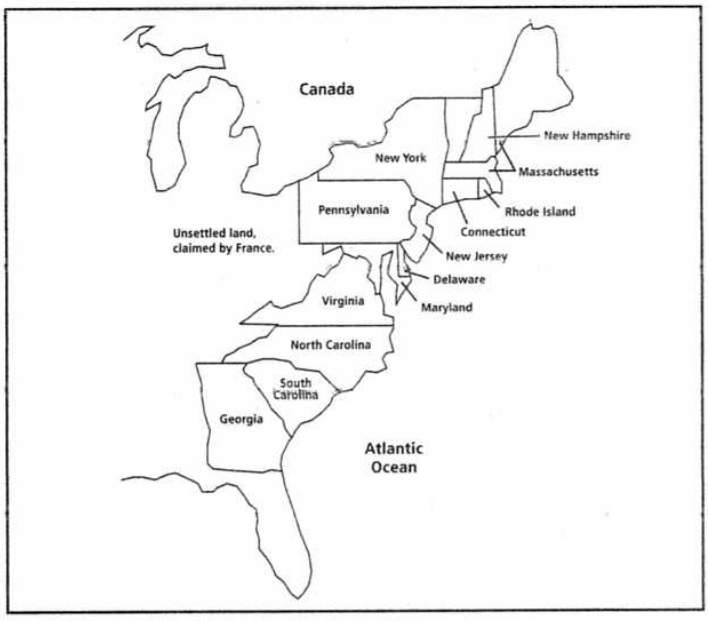
★ Timeline ★



"The Star-Spangled Banner"

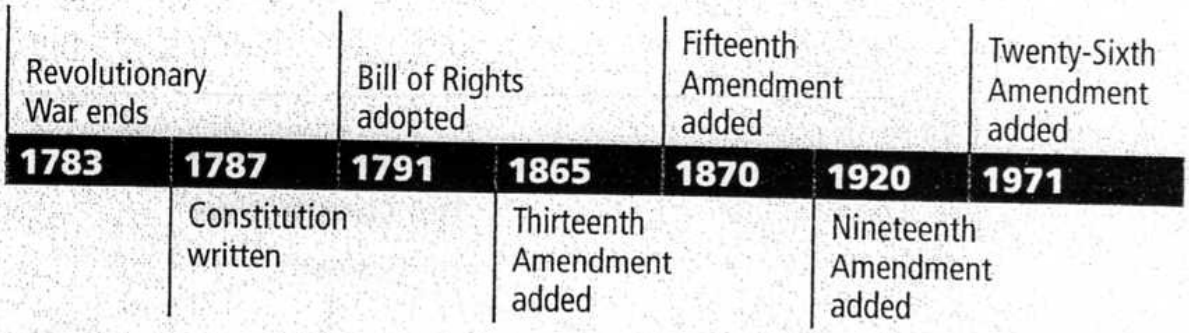
"The Star-Spangled Banner" is our national anthem. The words are from a poem by Francis Scott Key. He wrote the song after watching an attack by the English on a U.S. fort during the War of 1812. The morning after the attack, he saw the American flag still flying. He knew the Americans had won. You can find the words to "The Star-Spangled Banner" on page 132.

R-2A



The 13 American colonies declared their independence from England in 1776.

U.S. History: The Law of the Land



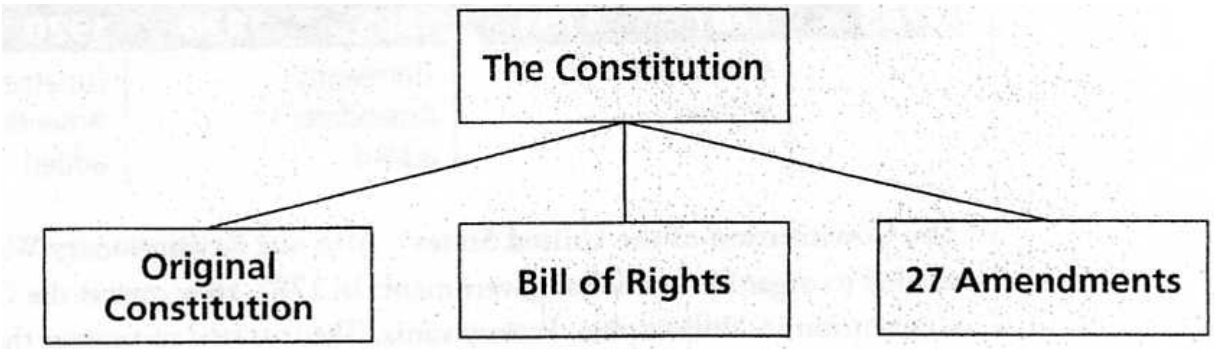
The Constitution of the United States After the Revolutionary War, colonial leaders needed to organize a national government. In 1787, they met at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. They wanted to protect their rights of freedom, liberty, and equality. They wrote the United States Constitution. Benjamin Franklin was the oldest member at the Constitutional Convention.

The Federalist Papers supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution. Written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay, the Federalist Papers discussed the ideas in the Constitution. They spread information about the need for a powerful central government.

The Constitution was passed on September 17, 1787, and it was later ratified by the states. The Preamble (introduction) to the Constitution begins with the words, "We the People of the United States."

The Constitution is the plan of government. It defines the government's responsibilities. It is the supreme law of the land. Everyone must follow the law. The federal government can pass laws, collect taxes, print money, organize an army, declare war, and make treaties. Some powers are given to the national government, and some powers are given to the states.

The Constitution establishes a representative democracy (a republic) as our form of government. The economic system in the United States is a market economy. The Constitution guarantees the rights of all people in the United States, both citizens and noncitizens.



There are three branches of government: the executive branch, the legislative branch, and the judicial branch. The separation of powers, called checks and balances, prevents one branch of government from becoming more powerful than the others.

The Bill of Rights The Constitution can be changed by the people. A change is called an amendment. The first ten amendments are called the Bill of Rights. They were adopted in 1791. The First Amendment guarantees freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of religion, the right to assemble (hold a meeting), and the right to ask for a change of government. Some other amendments in the Bill of Rights guarantee the rights of people accused of crimes. For example, a person accused of a crime has the right to have a lawyer and the right to a trial by jury. The rights of everyone living in the United States, both citizens and noncitizens, include freedom of expression, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of worship, freedom to petition the government, and the right to bear arms.

The Amendments to the Constitution Today, there are twenty-seven amendments to the Constitution. The Thirteenth Amendment freed slaves. It passed in 1865. The Fifteenth Amendment guaranteed former slaves the right to vote. It passed in 1870. The Nineteenth Amendment guaranteed women's right to vote. It passed in 1920. The Twenty-Sixth Amendment to the Constitution established the minimum voting age of 18. It passed in 1971. The right to vote is the most important right of a U.S. citizen. The Fifteenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-Fourth, and Twenty-Sixth Amendments guarantee citizens the right to vote.

Benjamin Franklin
1706–1790

Benjamin Franklin
American diplomat and oldest member of the Constitutional Convention

In 1787, fifty-five delegates met to write the United States Constitution. The meeting was in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The delegates wanted to protect the rights of freedom, liberty, and equality. At that time, Benjamin Franklin was the oldest member at the Constitutional Convention. He was 81years old.

Franklin had an interesting life. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on January 17, 1706. In his family, there were seventeen children. He loved to read and study, but he could only go to school for two years. Instead, he helped his father make soap and candles to support the family. When he was a young man, Franklin worked for his brother James. James was a printer.

Later, Benjamin Franklin became a printer, a writer, and a publisher. He wrote and published a newspaper. He was the writer of *Poor Richard's Almanac,* which contained weather reports, recipes, and predictions. He was also a scientist and an inventor. He invented a special stove to heat houses, the Franklin stove, and bifocal lenses for glasses. In the 1750s, Franklin experimented with electricity. Franklin started the first free libraries in the United States.

For many years, Franklin lived in Europe. He was a diplomat representing the American colonies. In 1777, he convinced the king of France to send guns, money, and soldiers to America. The money, soldiers, and supplies helped the colonies win the Revolutionary War against England. After returning from France, Franklin freed his slaves.

Franklin died on April 17, 1790. When he died, he was 84. Franklin was one of the Founding Fathers of the United States. Before he died, the colonists won the American Revolution and the U.S. Constitution was written.

The Bill of Rights

The Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution in 1791. These rights and freedoms are guaranteed to all people in the United States.

Amendment 1: Freedom of Speech: People can say what they want.

Freedom of Press: People can print or broadcast what they want.

Freedom of Religion: People can practice any religion they want.

Freedom of Peaceable Assembly: People can gather together peacefully to request changes in the government.

Amendment 2: People can own guns, with some limits on their use.

Amendment 3: The government cannot force people to keep soldiers in their homes when there is no war.

Amendment 4: The government cannot search or take a person's property without a warrant, or order, from a court.

Amendment 5: A person cannot be tried for the same crime twice. A person cannot be forced to testify against her- or himself. People accused of crimes have the right to fair legal treatment.

Amendment 6: A person charged with a crime has the right to a trial by jury and to have a lawyer.

Amendment 7: People in civil lawsuits have the right to a fair trial by a jury in most cases.

Amendment 8: People will not have to post very high bonds, pay very high fines or be given cruel punishment by the government.

Amendment 9: People have other rights in addition to those in the Constitution.

Amendment 10: Any power that does not belong to the federal government belongs to the states or to the people.

Amendment 13: Ended slavery in the United States (1865)
Amendment 14: Guaranteed citizenship to all people born or naturalized in the United States (1868)
Amendment 15: Gave people of all races the right to vote (1870)
Amendment 19: Gave women the right to vote (1920)
Amendment 26: Gave eighteen-year-olds the right to vote (1971)

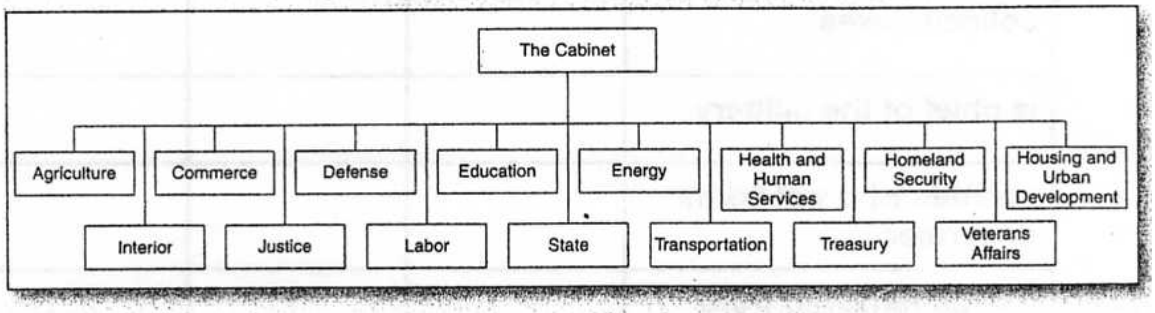
The Executive Branch The executive branch enforces the laws passed by Congress. The president, vice president, and the Cabinet are the executive branch. The president is in charge of the executive branch.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) are some of the agencies in the executive branch.

The President and the Vice President The president is the leader of the country. The president is also the leader of the executive branch. The president signs bills into law, enforces the law, prepares budgets, and is the commander in chief of the military. The president may also veto bills. The president lives and works in the White House. The address of the White House is 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. The vice president helps the president and is the leader of the Senate.

The president and the vice president are each elected for a term of four years and can serve for two terms. We vote for the president and vice president on Election Day. It is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. In January, the president and vice president are inaugurated (sworn into office).

General Information To be president or vice president, a person must be a natural-born citizen of the United States, must be at least 35 years old, and must have lived in the United States for fourteen years. If the president can no longer serve, the vice president becomes the president. If the both the president and the vice president can no longer serve, the Speaker of the House becomes the president. The president and vice president



are not directly elected by the people. The people vote for the members of the electoral college. The electoral college members vote for the president and vice president.

The Cabinet The cabinet advises the president. There are fifteen cabinet members. The cabinet is appointed by the president. Some cabinet members are the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of Labor, and the Secretary of Education.

U.S. Government: The Legislature

The Legislative Branch The legislative branch is the Congress. Congress makes the federal laws. There are two parts of Congress: the House of Representatives and the Senate. Congress meets at the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. All the members of the House of Representatives and Senate are elected by the people. Citizens vote for the U.S. senators and representatives for their state. U.S. senators and representatives represent all the people from their state.

The Senate There are 100 senators in the Senate. Each state has two senators. Each senator is elected for a six-year term. A senator must be at least 30 years old and a U.S. citizen. Senators can be re-elected. The leader of the Senate is the vice president of the United States.

The House of Representatives There are 435 voting members of the House of Representatives. The number of representatives a state has depends on how many people live in that state. A state with a large population has more representatives. A state with a small population has fewer representatives.

Each representative is elected for a two-year term. Representatives must be at least 25 years old and a U.S. citizen. They can be re-elected. The leader of the House of Representatives is called the Speaker of the House.

Powers of Congress Congress has the power to declare war, make laws, collect taxes, borrow money, control immigration, and set up a judicial system and postal system. To become a law, a bill must pass in the House of Representatives and Senate. Then, the president signs the bill into law. If the president vetoes (rejects) the bill, the bill goes back to the Senate and the House to be voted on again. It must pass the Senate and the House with a two-thirds majority vote. Then, the bill becomes a law.

State Government Each of the 50 states has its own government and constitution. Like the federal government, each state government has three branches: the legislative, the executive, and the judicial. The chief executive of the state is the governor. The governor enforces state laws. The state legislature makes the state laws. State laws must agree with the U.S. Constitution. States make laws about work, school, property, and marriage. State senators, state representatives, and state government officials are elected by the people. States raise money from taxes. States provide services in schooling and education, public protection (police) and safety (fire), jails, welfare, roads, public health, and regulation of businesses.

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U.S. Government: The Judicial Branch

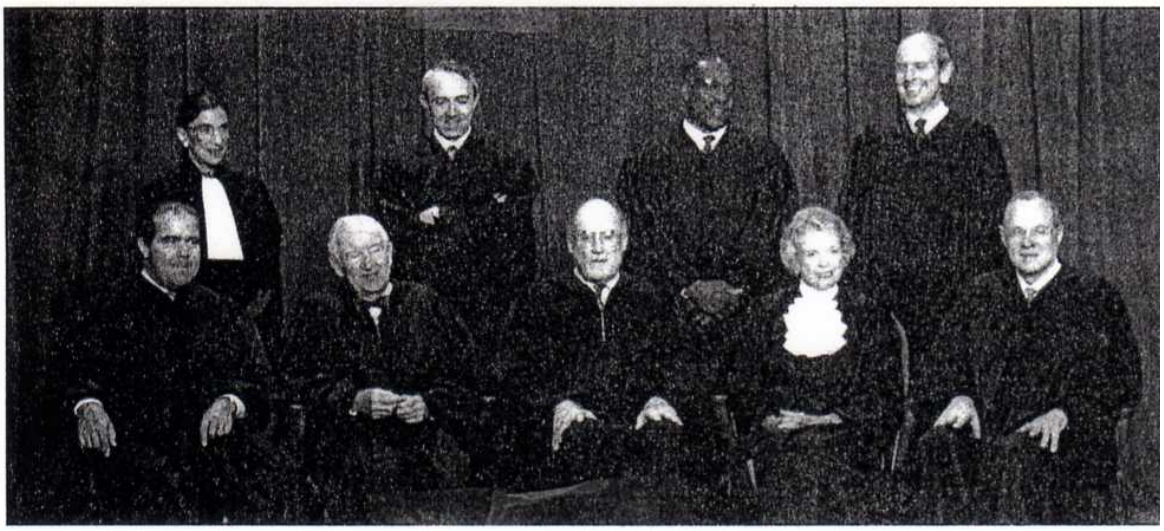
The Federal Government

There are three branches of the U.S. government: the legislative branch, the judicial branch, and the executive branch. All three branches of the U.S. government meet in Washington, D.C. The separation of powers, called checks and balances, prevents one branch of government from becoming more powerful than the others.

The Judicial Branch

The judicial branch of the U.S. government includes the Supreme Court and the federal courts. The courts review and interpret (explain) the laws that the legislative branch makes. The Supreme Court is the highest court in the United States. It has the power to change laws if they are against the Constitution.

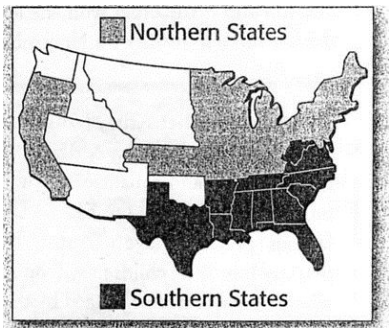
There are nine justices (judges) on the Supreme Court. The nine justices are appointed by the president and ratified (approved) by Congress. The chief justice is the leader of the Supreme Court. The justices listen to the cases brought by the people. They decide the cases based on the Constitution and the laws of the United States. Supreme Court decisions are final.



R-7

Slave or Free? From the 1600s to the 1800s, people from different areas of Africa were forced to come to the United States as slaves. They were brought by slave traders. In Africa, they were free. They were bought and sold in the United States. Many worked on Southern plantations (large farms). Some escaped to freedom in the North on the Underground Railroad. The Underground Railroad was organized by people opposed to slavery.

Separate cultures developed in the North and the South. Most white Southerners believed in slavery. Nearly one-third of all white southerners owned black slaves. The economy of the South depended on farming cotton and slavery. The people in the South believed in the rights of the individual states and in a small federal government. The economy of the North depended on industry and the growth of cities. Factory workers in the north made shoes, clothing, guns, and tools. Many people in the North were against the expansion of slavery into new states and territories.



The Civil War and President Lincoln The northern and southern states were divided on the issue of slavery. Between 1861 and 1865, the North (the Union) and the South (the Confederacy) fought the Civil War. The Civil War began after the South seceded (separated) from the Union. More than 600,000 soldiers died in the Civil War.

Abraham Lincoln was elected the sixteenth president in 1861. Lincoln was president during the Civil War. He wanted to keep the North and South together as one nation. He did not want the Union to be divided. On January 1, 1863, Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. The Emancipation Proclamation freed the slaves in the Confederate states.

On April 9, 1865, the North won the Civil War. The Thirteenth Amendment was passed in 1865. It ended slavery. Lincoln was assassinated on April 14, 1865. Americans remember Lincoln because he united the country and freed slaves. His birthday, February 12, is a national holiday.

R-7A

Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906), *Women's Suffrage Leader*

Susan B. Anthony was born in 1820 in Massachusetts. She was the daughter of a Quaker factory owner and reformer. In her lifetime, Susan was a teacher, a reformer, and a women's activist. Her first experience of discrimination was as a teacher in 1846. She discovered a male teacher was making $10 a month, but she was getting only $2.50 for the same work.

In July 1848, the first women's rights convention met in Seneca Falls, New York. One of its leaders was Elizabeth Cady Stanton. The Declaration of Rights and Sentiments was passed. It demanded women have the same rights as men. It demanded women have the right to vote.

In 1851, Susan B. Anthony met Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Both women believed that the idea that men were superior to women was false. They believed that women should own property and be able to vote. Susan B. Anthony organized many women's meetings and conventions. She talked about women's equality. Stanton was the writer; Anthony was the organizer.

During the Civil War, Anthony and Stanton organized the Women's Loyal National League to guarantee the freedom of African Americans. After the Civil War ended, Stanton and Anthony worked for universal suffrage (voting rights for all women and men, both black and white). In 1869, they founded the National Woman Suffrage Association. They wanted women to have equality with men and the right to vote.

The Nineteenth Amendment passed in 1920. Because of the work of Anthony and Stanton and many other women's leaders, over eight million American women voted for the first time in history on November 2, 1920.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Civil Rights

Since the time of slavery, African Americans have fought for civil rights and equal treatment. One Civil Rights movement leader was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In his famous speech "I Have a Dream", he said, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character". He was assassinated in 1968. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday is national holiday and is celebrated on the third Monday in January.

Asian Americans, Native Americans, and people of other nationalities have fought for their civil rights. Women, homosexuals, senior citizens, and disabled groups have fought to be treated equally to all Americans.

World War I World War I, or the Great War, began in 1914. Woodrow Wilson was the president. The United States tried to stay out of the war. It did not want to be involved in the problems of other countries. In 1917, after Germany bombed U.S. ships, the United States entered the war. England, France, Russia, and the United States were the Allies. The Central Powers: Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey were the enemy. The war was fought over land, power, and money. World War I ended in 1918. The war helped the United States become a world power.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt

The Great Depression and the New Deal
In the 1930s, the United States had many economic problems. Businesses and banks were forced to close. People lost their jobs and their savings. Many people lost their homes, had no money, and were hungry. People organized and demanded help from the government.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt was president from 1932 to 1945, during the Great Depression and World War II. His plan to rebuild the country was called the New Deal. The New Deal created new jobs. People built roads, dams, post offices, and theaters. The government helped some small businesses to get loans. Roosevelt wanted to keep the economy going. Congress passed the Social Security Act and welfare programs. The minimum wage was established for some workers.

World War II World War II began in 1939. After the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the United States entered the war. England, France, Russia, and the United States were the Allies, as in World War I. Dwight D. Eisenhower was general of the army during World War II. The Axis Powers of Germany, Italy, and Japan were the enemy. Hitler, the dictator of Germany, wanted to control all of Europe. More than ten million Jews, Catholics, homosexuals, and gypsies were killed by Hitler and the Nazis during the Holocaust.

In August 1945, the United States dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The war ended in August 1945. The Allies won World War II.

The United Nations After World War II, world leaders came together to form the United Nations. They wanted to avoid further conflict. The United Nations (UN) met for the first time in 1946. In the UN, representatives from countries discuss and try to resolve world problems. The UN also gives economic aid to many countries for medical and educational needs.

The Cold War and the Vietnam War The United States and Russia were allies in World War II. After the war, the United States had a strong economy and powerful weapons. The Russians (the Soviet Union, the Soviets) lost more than twenty million people during the war, but they had a very large military. Both countries were superpowers.

The Soviets wanted to control Eastern Europe. They wanted to spread Communism in Eastern Europe and throughout the world. The United States wanted to stop the spread of Communism. The conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union was called the Cold War. The Cold War was a war of words and military power. It was never a war with actual fighting. In the 1970s, the Soviet Union and the United States built nuclear weapons for protection. The Cold War continued from the middle of the 1940s until the early 1990s when the Soviet Union collapsed.

U.S. soldiers fought in the Vietnam War. The United States sent troops to Vietnam in 1961. Many Americans opposed the war because they didn't think the United States had a good reason to be in Vietnam. Many other Americans supported the war. Finally, in 1973, a peace treaty was signed. Most U.S. soldiers left Vietnam in 1973.

Terrorist Attack On September 11, 2001, terrorists attacked the United States. They hijacked four planes and destroyed the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. They crashed a plane into the Pentagon. Another plane crashed in Pennsylvania. Over 3,000 people died.

Citizens' Rights and Responsibilities

All people living in the United States have certain rights and protections, whether they are citizens or not. These rights include freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom to assemble in a group, freedom to petition the government, and the right to own weapons for self protection.

Rights

However, when you become a citizen of the United States you have more rights and responsibilities. As a U.S. citizen you have the right to run for federal office. You could be a representative in the government! You also have the right to vote in a federal election. Voting is one of the most important parts of being a citizen because when you vote you choose someone to represent you in the government. You must be 18 years old to vote.

Voting

In most states you must register, or sign up, to vote before an election. You should learn as much as you can about the candidates and the issues before you choose who to vote for. You can learn about the candidates by watching them on TV, listening to them on the radio, and reading about them in the newspaper or on the internet. One good website is www.votesmart.org.

When you go to vote you must show a photo ID. Your vote is a secret and you do not have to tell anyone who you voted for, but you can ask for help or bring a friend to help you if you want to. Voting is very important, so it is a right AND a responsibility.

Responsibilities

Another responsibility of U.S. citizens is to serve on a jury if you are asked. That means that you might be part of a team that makes decisions in a court case. Also, all people must pay taxes. April 15th is the last day to mail federal income tax forms every year. Also, all men who are between the ages of 18 and 26 must sign up for Selective Service with the military. If there is a war, they might be asked to fight for the U.S.

Participating in Your Democracy

It is important to be an active citizen. Here are some ways that you can participate in your democracy: 1) vote in elections, 2) join a political party, 3) help with a political campaign, 4) join a civic or community group, 5) call Senators and Representatives or write to a newspaper to tell them your opinion on an issue, and 6) run for a political office to be a government representative.

Pledge of Allegiance and Oath of Allegiance

All American citizens learn the Pledge of Allegiance when they are children. It is a promise to be loyal and faithful to the United States and to respect the U.S. flag. In most schools, children say the Pledge of Allegiance every morning. They stand up and put their right hands on their hearts, then say the pledge.

Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance	I promise to be faithful
to the flag	to the flag
of the United States of America	of the United States of America
and to the Republic	and to the country
for which it stands,	that the flag represents,
one Nation under God,	one country under God,
indivisible,	which cannot be divided,
with liberty and justice for all.	with freedom and justice for all people.

When you become an American citizen you will agree to the Oath of Allegiance. You will promise to be faithful to the United States and be a responsible citizen.

Oath of Allegiance

I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that	I promise that: I do not have any loyalty to any other country.
I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that	I believe in the Constitution and will defend it. I will be loyal to the United States.
I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by law; that I will perform noncombatant service in the armed forces of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by the law; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; so help me God.	I will fight in the U.S. military in a national emergency when the law says I must. I will do non-fighting work for the U.S. military when the law says I must. I will do other important work for the country when the law says I must. I agree to this freely and without any doubts or lies.

R-10

How to Become a Citizen

***To become a U.S. citizen you must follow three steps:**

1. Complete and send in an application with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS).
2. Go to an interview with a USCIS officer.
3. Take an oath (promise) of allegiance (loyalty) to the United States.

***There are nine requirements that you must meet before you apply to become a citizen of the United States.**

You must:

1. **be a legal permanent resident**-You must have a legal visa or green card in order to apply to become a citizen.
2. **be at least 18 years old**
3. **have had a home in the United States for at least five years**-You must live in the United States for five years before you can apply for citizenship. The date that you became a resident will be on your visa or green card. If you are married to a U.S. citizen, you can apply for citizenship after three years.
4. **have been physically present in the United States for at least half of the five years before your application**-You must not be out of the country for more than half of the five years before your application (30 months). When you send in your application, you must not leave the country until after your application, interview, and ceremony are finished.
5. **not have lived outside of the United States during the last five years before your application**-If you lived outside of the United States for part of the time in the last five years then you may not be able to apply for citizenship.
6. **be able to speak, read, and write words in everyday English**-You must be able to read at least one sentence out of three in English correctly and you must be able to write at least one sentence out of three in English correctly in a dictation. If you are age 50 or older and have lived in the U.S. for 20 years or more, or if you are age 55 or older and have lived in the U.S. for 15 years or more, you will not need to take this part of the test. You can have an interpreter to help you answer questions. You must bring your own interpreter.

How to Become a Citizen

7. **be able to pass a test of U.S. history and government**-You must be able to answer at least six out of ten questions about U.S. history and government. All applicants must take this part of the test, but older applicants may have an interpreter. If you are age 65 or older and have lived in the U.S. for 20 years or more you will have "special consideration" for this part of the test. That means that they might give you more help or more chances when they test you.
8. **have a good moral character (not break the law)**-You must obey the law during the five years before your application. If you have committed a crime or been arrested in the past five years, you might not be able to apply for citizenship.
9. **take an oath of loyalty to the United States**-You must promise to be loyal to the United States and say that you believe in the U.S. constitution.

***Documents to bring to your interview:**

- Appointment notice
- Permanent Resident card
- Passports
- State identification card
- Marriage certificate, divorce certificate, death certificate of former spouse
- Certificate for name change
- Divorce certificate for spouse's previous marriage
- Paperwork from criminal cases
- Selective Service registration

***You can get more information and study materials at the USCIS website:**

http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/citizenship

Click on these links for study materials:

Home > Learners > Study for the Test > Study Materials for the Civics Test

R-10A

Practice Citizenship Interview

Part 1: Your name. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. What is your current legal name?
2. Have you used any other name since you became a lawful permanent resident?
3. Would you like to change your name when you become a citizen?

Part 2: How long in the U.S. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. How long have you been a lawful permanent resident?
2. When and where did you first enter the United States?

Part 3: Personal information. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. Of what country are you a citizen?
2. What is your social security number?
3. What is your date of birth?
4. Are you single, married, divorced, or widowed?
5. Do you need help on the citizenship test because of a disability?
6. What is your USCIS "A" number?

Part 4: Address and telephone number. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. What is your home address?
2. What is your telephone number?

Part 5: Physical description. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. How tall are you?
2. How much do you weigh?
3. What is your race?
4. What color is your hair?
5. What color are your eyes?

Practice Citizenship Interview

Part 6: Residence and Employment. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. How long have you lived at your present address?
2. Where did you live before?
3. Are you working now?
4. How long have you worked at your present job?
5. What is your position?
6. What did you do at your last job?
7. Why did you leave your last job?
8. What school did you attend in the last five years?
9. What do or did you study in school?

Part 7: Time outside the U.S. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. Have you ever been absent from the United States since you became a lawful permanent resident?
2. How many times have you left the country?
3. When and why were you out of the country?
4. Were you out of the country for more than six months at any time?

Part 8: Marriage History. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. Are you married now?
2. How many times have you been married?
3. What is the name of your husband or wife?
4. What is his or her date of birth?
5. Where was h or she born?
6. What is his or her citizenship?
7. What is his or her Social Security Number?
8. Is your wife or husband a naturalized citizen?
9. What was the name of your previous spouse?
10. How long were you married?

Practice Citizenship Interview

Part 9: Your children. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. What is the name and age of your child or children?
2. What is the birth date of your child?
3. Where was your child born?
4. What country is your child a citizen of?
5. What is your child's USCIS "A" number?
6. Where does your child live?
7. Who supports your child?

Part 10: General questions. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. Have you ever said you were a U.S. citizen when you are not?
2. Have you ever registered to vote in the United States?
3. Have you ever voted in the United States?
4. Have you ever failed to pay taxes when you earned money?
5. Do you owe any taxes now?
6. Have you been sent to a mental hospital in the last five years?

Part 10 continued: Organizations. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. Have you ever been a member of any organization in the United States or in another country?
2. Have you ever been part of a Communist or totalitarian party? Have you ever been part of a terrorist organization?
3. Have you ever been part of a group that made a revolution against the government?
4. Have you ever discriminated against someone because of race, religion, nationality, or social/political group?
5. Were you ever part of the Nazi organization in Germany?

Practice Citizenship Interview

Part 10 continued: Moral character. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. Have you ever committed a crime for which you were not arrested?
2. Have you ever been arrested or cited by a police officer?
3. Have you ever been charged with any crime?
4. Have you ever been convicted of any crime?
5. Have you ever been in jail or prison?
6. Have you ever had a problem with drinking too much alcohol?
7. Have you ever been a prostitute or hired a prostitute?
8. Have you ever sold or smuggled illegal drugs?
9. Have you ever been married to more than one person at the same time?
10. Have you ever helped anyone try to come to the U.S. illegally?
11. Have you ever done illegal gambling?
12. Have you ever lied to the U.S. government?

Part 10 continued: Military. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. Have you ever been asked to leave the U.S. by the government?
2. Have you ever served in the U.S. military?
3. What is your Selective Service number?
4. When did you register with the Selective Service?

Part 10 continued: Oath of allegiance. Ask your partner, then let them ask you.

1. Do you support the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. government?
2. Are you willing to take the full Oath of Allegiance to the United States?
3. Are you willing to fight for the U.S.?
4. Are you willing to perform non-combative services in the U.S. military?
5. Are you willing to help the U.S. government in an emergency?

The Swearing-In Ceremony

Before the Ceremony

The last step in the naturalization process is the hearing or swearing-in ceremony. You will get a piece of paper with the date, time, and location for your swearing-in either at the end of your INS interview or in the mail after your interview. The paper will also give you ideas about what to wear to the ceremony.

You should arrive on time with your green card and your completed Notice of Naturalization Oath Ceremony (the N-445). You will need to talk with an INS worker to turn in your papers.

At the Ceremony

The people at the ceremony might include the judge, the court clerk (a court worker), INS workers, candidates for naturalization, and families of the candidates. Here is an abbreviated version of what might happen at a typical swearing-in ceremony.

INS Worker: May I have your green card and N-445?

Candidate: Sure. Here they are.

INS Worker: Have there been any changes since your interview?

Candidate: No.

INS Worker: OK. Thank you. Please find a seat in the front. Your family can sit over there.

Court Clerk: The ceremony will begin in a moment. please stand up. (The clerk bangs the gavel.) This court is now in session.

(The judge comes in and sits. Everyone sits.)

INS Worker: There are 235 people who are applying for naturalization here. They all meet the requirements. I recommend that the oath be given so that they can become citizens.

The Judge: Will the candidates please stand while I read the oath? (The judge reads the entire oath.) Say "I do" and you will become U.S. citizens.

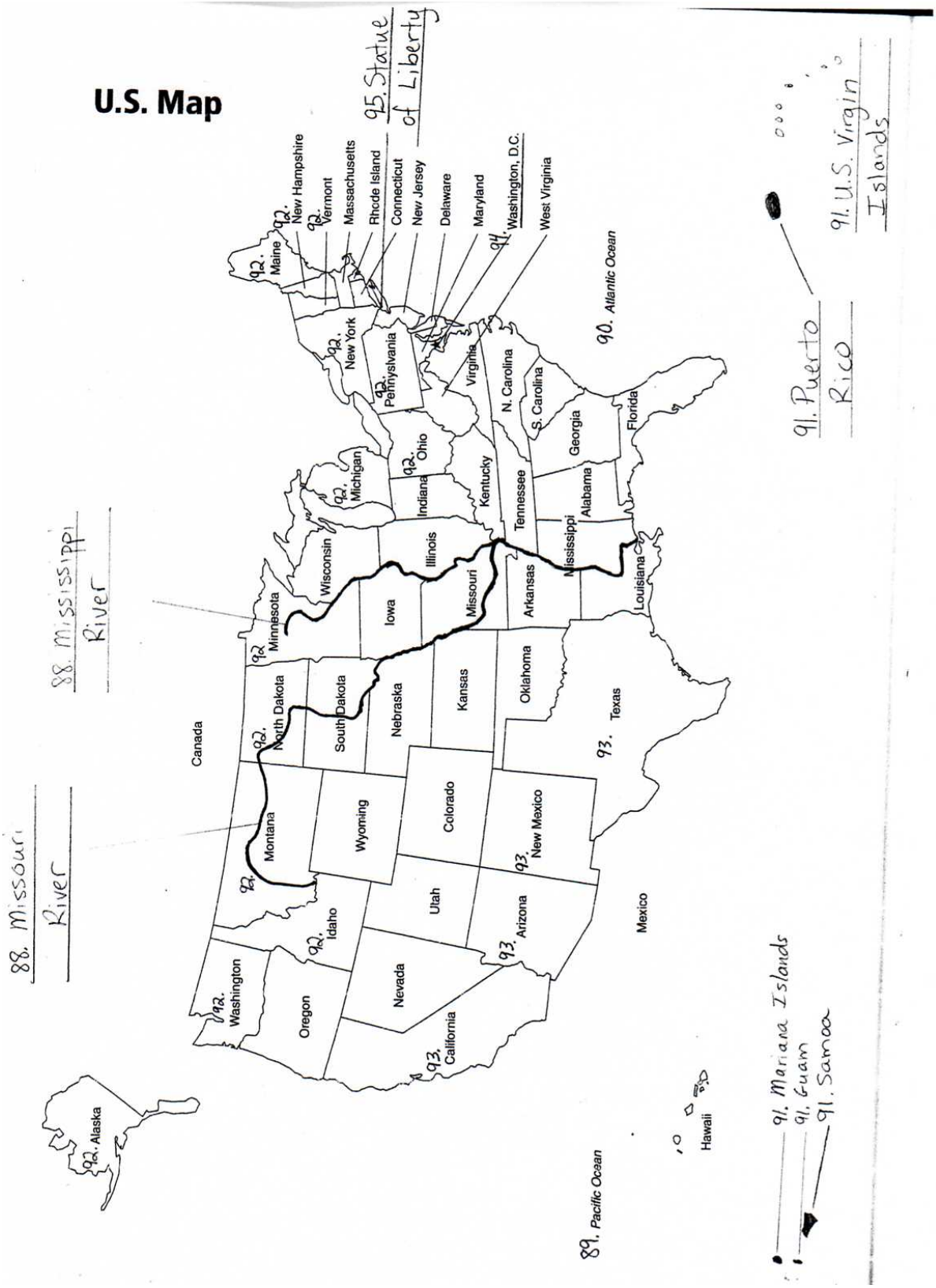
Candidates: I do.

The Judge: Now shake hands. You are now in this together as U.S. citizens!

(The candidates shake hands. Families applaud.)

The Judge: Congratulations! This day is important for you but also for our country. This nation was founded by immigrants and is based on the rights of individuals. It is your responsibility to vote and to be informed citizens. Do not give up your past and your heritage. Make it a part of our nation. This country is now your country. I congratulate each one of you and wish you happiness. God bless you. God bless America.

Court Clerk: All rise. (The clerk bangs the gavel.) This court is adjourned. When I say your name, please come and get your certificate. If there is a mistake on it, please tell us before you leave today.


U.S. Map
88. Missouri River
88. Mississippi River
95. Statue of Liberty
91. Puerto Rico
91. U.S. Virgin Islands
91. Mariana Islands
91. Guam
91. Samoa
Canada
Mexico
90. Atlantic Ocean
89. Pacific Ocean
92. Alaska
Hawaii
92. Washington
92. Oregon
92. California
92. Idaho
92. Nevada
92. Montana
92. Wyoming
92. Utah
92. Colorado
92. Arizona
93. New Mexico
92. North Dakota
92. South Dakota
92. Nebraska
92. Kansas
92. Oklahoma
93. Texas
92. Minnesota
92. Iowa
92. Missouri
92. Arkansas
92. Louisiana
92. Wisconsin
92. Illinois
92. Michigan
92. Indiana
92. Ohio
92. Kentucky
92. Tennessee
92. Mississippi
92. Alabama
92. Georgia
92. Florida
92. South Carolina
92. North Carolina
92. Virginia
92. West Virginia
92. Pennsylvania
92. New York
92. Maine
92. Vermont
92. New Hampshire
92. Massachusetts
92. Rhode Island
92. Connecticut
92. New Jersey
92. Delaware
92. Maryland
94. Washington, D.C.

WS-4

	King		President	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
must be an adult				
has advisors				
writes laws				
signs laws				
punishes criminals				
decides the country's religion				
makes agreements with other countries				
collects taxes				
is chief of the military				
decides who will be the next ruler				
can be removed from job				

WS-5

Federal Power or State Power?

	Federal Power	State Power
Declare war		
Collect taxes		
Make laws		
Make marriage laws		
Print money		
Give driver's licenses		
Create police and fire protection		
Create an army		
Make treaties with other countries		
Provide education		

WS-6

Executive Branch Roles-President, Vice-President, Advisors

Legislative Branch Roles-Speaker of the House, Vice President/Senate Leader, Representatives, Senators

Judicial Branch Roles-Chief Justice, Supreme Court Justices

Instructions

Executive Branch:

1. Discuss with your advisors a problem in the country that you want to fix. (Example: Some people in the U.S. do not have access to health care.)
2. Go to Congress (the Legislative Branch) and explain the problem that you want them to fix. Ask them to make a law and bring it to you for your approval.
3. When Congress brings you a law, either sign it and pass it to the Judicial Branch or veto it and ask them to change it.

Legislative Branch:

1. Listen to the problem that the Executive Branch wants you to fix.
2. Work with your house members to write a law to solve this problem. Make sure you decide how programs will be paid for (taxes, privately, etc.).
3. Vote in the Senate and the House to make sure you agree on the law.
4. Present your law to the Executive Branch. If the President vetoes it, write a new law and present it.

Judicial Branch:

1. Listen to the problem that the Executive Branch wants Congress to solve.
2. Study the parts of the Constitution that are relevant to this issue.
3. When the President gives you the new law that Congress has passed, decide if it agrees with the Constitution or not.

*You should provide a topic for students and choose relevant passages from the Constitution for students to focus on.

* Students can use a plain language version of the Constitution such as this: http://elizabethclaire.com/store/media/general/free-download/US-Constitution-in-Simple-English-updated.pdf

WS-9

Democratic Nominees

1. **Name**: _____

Age: 57 **Religion:** Presbyterian **State Represented:** New Jersey

Education: Princeton; University of Virginia Law; Johns Hopkins University, PhD.

Jobs: Lawyer; author; professor

Accomplishments: Governor of New Jersey; signed the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote; won a Nobel Peace Prize for creating the League of Nations.

2. **Name**: _____

Age: 58 **Religion:** Episcopalian/Deist **State Represented:** Virginia

Education: College of William and Mary

Jobs: Farmer; lawyer

Accomplishments: Governor of Virginia; believes in the freedom of American people; got new land for the U.S.; created the University of Virginia.

3. **Name**: _____

Age: 51 **Religion:** Episcopalian **State Represented:** New York

Education: Harvard University; Columbia Law School

Jobs: Lawyer; banker

Accomplishments: Governor of New York; led the country through depression and war; created social security.

4. **Name**: _____

Age: 48 **Religion:** United Church of Christ **State Represented:** Illinois

Education: Columbia University; Harvard Law School

Jobs: Community organizer; attorney; author

Accomplishments: President of Harvard Law Review; U.S. Senator from Illinois; won awards for two books; won Nobel Peace Prize for international diplomacy.

WS-9

Republican Nominees

1. **Name**: _____

Age: 52 **Religion:** Raised Baptist **State Represented:** Illinois

Education: Self-taught in law

Job: Lawyer

Accomplishments: Worked to keep the states united; believes in freedom for all people; supports new colleges to teach job skills.

2. **Name**: _____

Age: 63 **Religion:** Presbyterian **State Represented:** Pennsylvania

Education: U.S. Military Academy at West Point

Job: Soldier (General)

Accomplishments: President of Columbia University; Supreme Commander of the U.S. military during war time; Commander of NATO military forces in Europe.

3. **Name**: _____

Age: 56 **Religion:** Anglican/Episcopal **State Represented:** Virginia

Education: Home schooled

Jobs: Land surveyor; planter; soldier (General)

Accomplishments: Commander in Chief of the U.S. army; led U.S. troops to win a war; President of the Constitutional Convention.

4. **Name**: _____

Age: 58 **Religion:** Episcopalian/Deist **State Represented:** Virginia

Education: Princeton

Jobs: Farmer; politician

Accomplishments: U.S. Representative from Virginia; led the country during war time.

WS-9 Answer Key

Democratic Nominees

1. **Name**: Woodrow Wilson
Age: 57 **Religion:** Presbyterian **State Represented:** New Jersey
Education: Princeton; University of Virginia Law; Johns Hopkins University, PhD.
Jobs: Lawyer; author; professor
Accomplishments: Governor of New Jersey; signed the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote; won a Nobel Peace Prize for creating the League of Nations.

2. **Name**: Thomas Jefferson
Age: 58 **Religion:** Episcopalian/Deist **State Represented:** Virginia
Education: College of William and Mary
Jobs: Farmer; lawyer
Accomplishments: Governor of Virginia; believes in the freedom of American people; got new land for the U.S.; created the University of Virginia.

3. **Name**: Franklin Delano Roosevelt
Age: 51 **Religion:** Episcopalian **State Represented:** New York
Education: Harvard University; Columbia Law School
Jobs: Lawyer; banker
Accomplishments: Governor of New York; led the country through depression and war; created social security.

4. **Name**: Barack Obama
Age: 48 **Religion:** United Church of Christ **State Represented:** Illinois
Education: Columbia University; Harvard Law School
Jobs: Community organizer; attorney; author
Accomplishments: President of Harvard Law Review; U.S. Senator from Illinois; won awards for two books; won Nobel Peace Prize for international diplomacy.

WS-9 Answer Key

Republican Nominees

1. **Name**: Abraham Lincoln
Age: 52 **Religion:** Raised Baptist **State Represented:** Illinois
Education: Self-taught in law
Job: Lawyer
Accomplishments: Worked to keep the states united; believes in freedom for all people; supports new colleges to teach job skills.

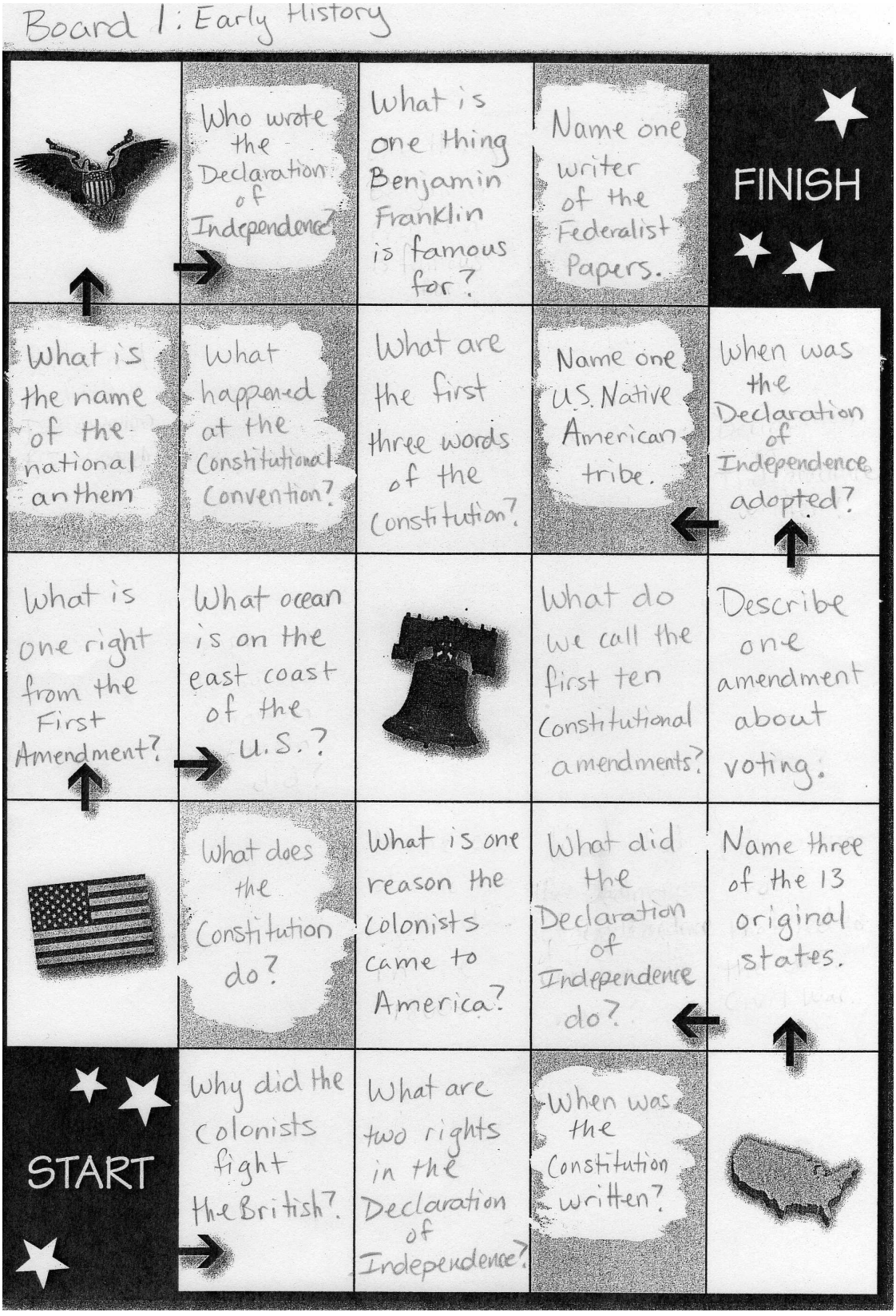
2. **Name**: Dwight D. Eisenhower
Age: 63 **Religion:** Presbyterian **State Represented:** Pennsylvania
Education: U.S. Military Academy at West Point
Job: Soldier (General)
Accomplishments: President of Columbia University; Supreme Commander of the U.S. military during war time; Commander of NATO military forces in Europe.

3. **Name**: George Washington
Age: 56 **Religion:** Anglican/Episcopal **State Represented:** Virginia
Education: Home schooled
Jobs: Land surveyor; planter; soldier (General)
Accomplishments: Commander in Chief of the U.S. army; led U.S. troops to win a war; President of the Constitutional Convention.

4. **Name**: James Madison
Age: 58 **Religion:** Episcopalian/Deist **State Represented:** Virginia
Education: Princeton
Jobs: Farmer; politician
Accomplishments: U.S. Representative from Virginia; led the country during war time.

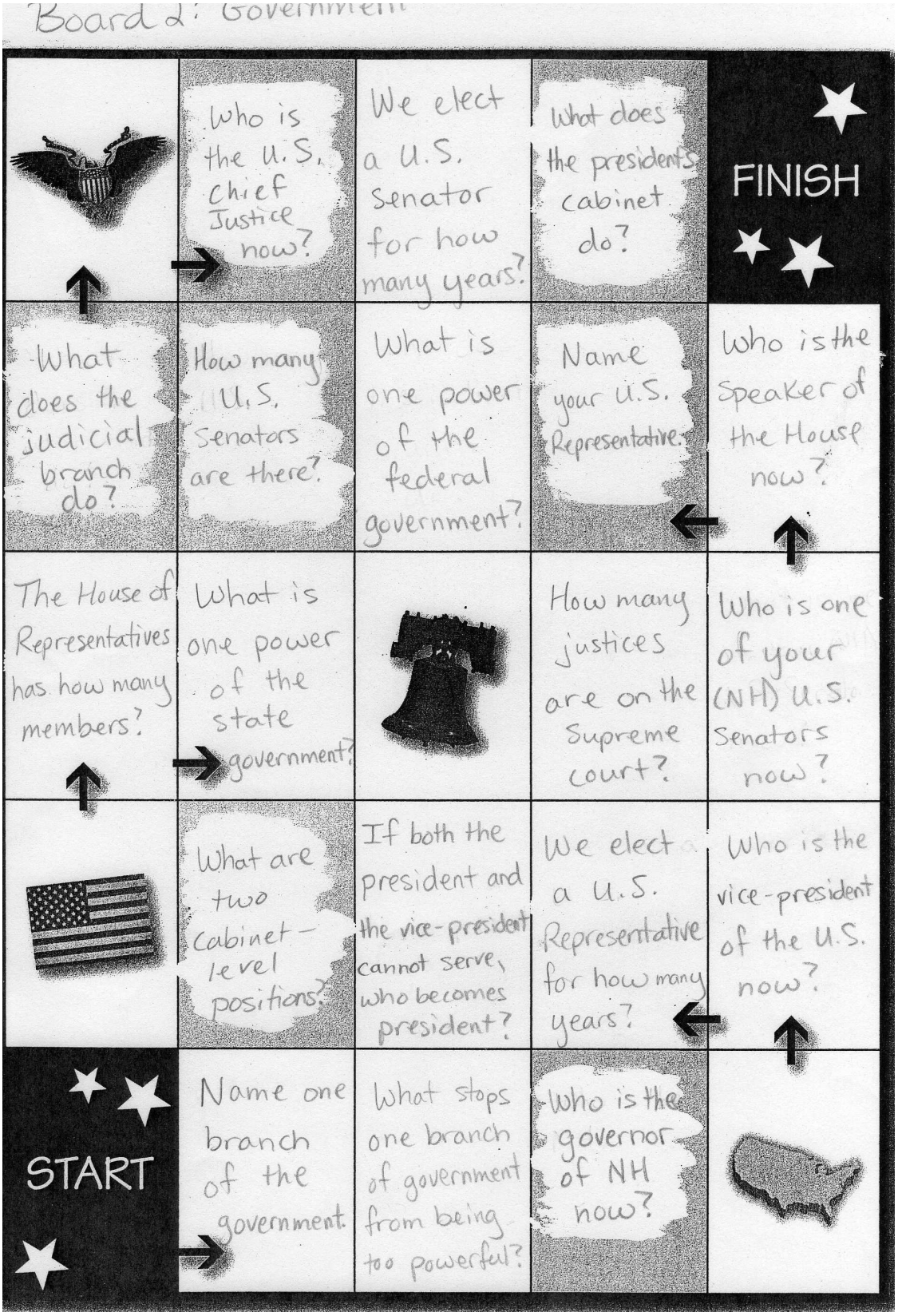
GB-1

Board 1: Early History

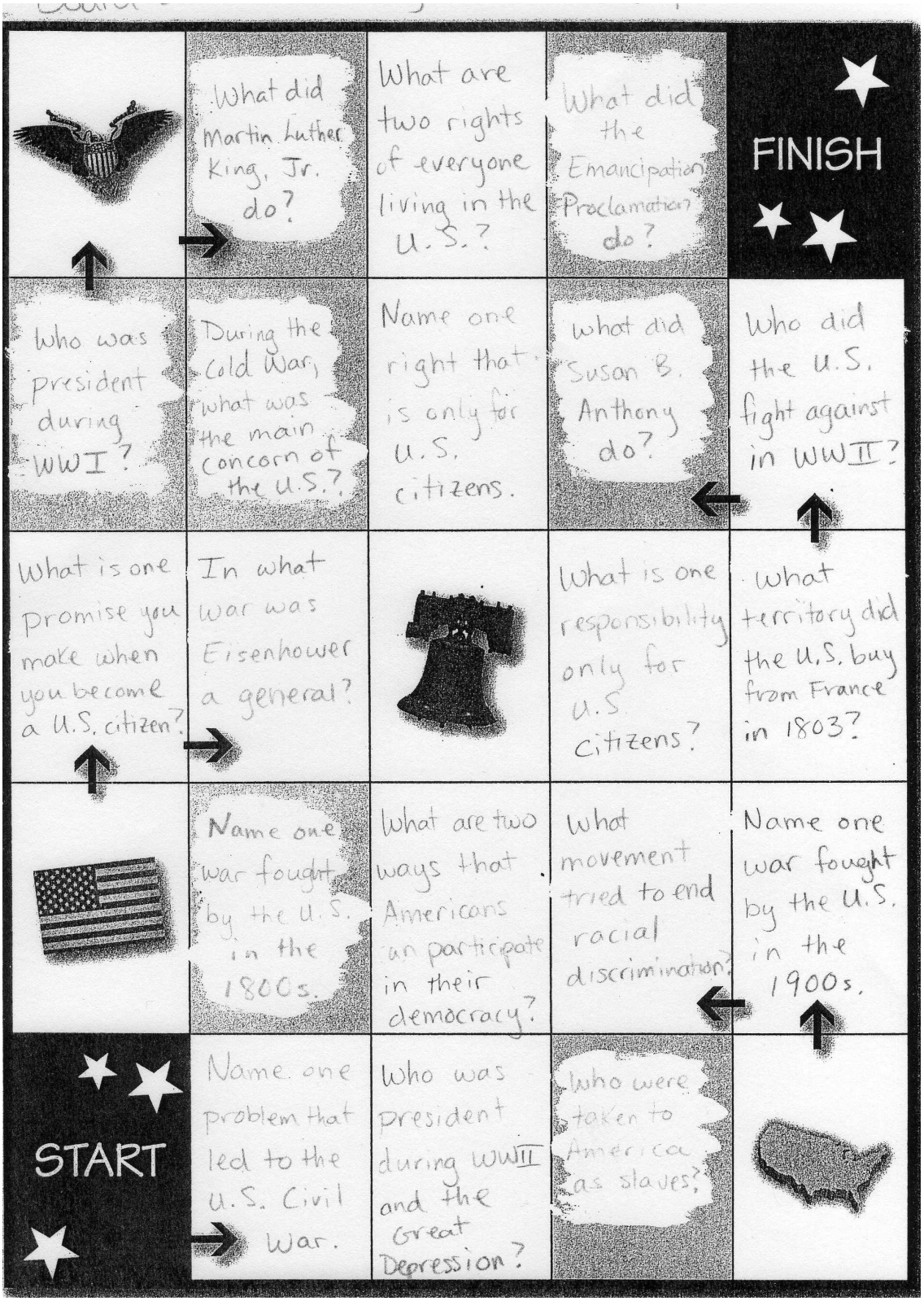


GB-2

Board 2: Government



GB-3


FINISH
What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?
What are two rights of everyone living in the U.S.?
What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?
Who was president during WWI?
During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the U.S.?
Name one right that is only for U.S. citizens.
What did Susan B. Anthony do?
Who did the U.S. fight against in WWII?
What is one promise you make when you become a U.S. citizen?
In what war was Eisenhower a general?
What is one responsibility only for U.S. citizens?
What territory did the U.S. buy from France in 1803?
Name one war fought by the U.S. in the 1800s.
What are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?
What movement tried to end racial discrimination?
Name one war fought by the U.S. in the 1900s.
START
Name one problem that led to the U.S. Civil War.
Who was president during WWII and the Great Depression?
Who were taken to America as slaves?

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

M-477

Document Checklist

All applicants must send the following 3 items with their N-400 application:

1. ☐ A photocopy of both sides of your Permanent Resident Card (formerly known as the Alien Registration Card or "Green Card"). If you have lost the card, submit a photocopy of the receipt of your Form I-90, Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card; **and**
2. ☐ 2 identical color photographs, with your name and Alien Registration Number (A-Number) written lightly in pencil on the back of each photo. For details about the photo requirements, see **Part 5** of Form M-476, A Guide to Naturalization, and the Form N-400, Application for Naturalization instructions. If your religion requires you to wear a head covering, your facial features must still be exposed in the photo for purposes of identification; **and**
3. ☐ A check or money order for the application fee and the biometrics services fee for fingerprinting, as stated in the M-479, Current Naturalization Fees, enclosure in the *Guide*. (Applicants 75 years of age or older are exempted from fingerprinting and the biometrics services fee). Write your A-Number on the back of the check or money order.

Send copies of the following documents, unless we ask for an original.

If an attorney or accredited representative is acting on your behalf, send:

☐ A completed original Form G-28, Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative.

If your current legal name is different from the name on your Permanent Resident Card, send:

☐ The document(s) that legally changed your name (marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court document).

If you are applying for naturalization on the basis of marriage to a U.S. citizen, send the following 4 items:

1. ☐ Evidence that your spouse has been a U.S. citizen for the last 3 years:
   - **a.** Birth certificate (if your spouse never lost citizenship since birth); **or**
   - **b.** Certificate of Naturalization; **or**
   - **c.** Certificate of Citizenship; **or**
   - **d.** The inside of the front cover and signature page of your spouse's current U.S. passport; **or**
   - **e.** Form FS-240, Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America; **and**
2. ☐ Your current marriage certificate; **and**
3. ☐ Proof of termination of all prior marriages of your spouse (divorce decree(s), annulment(s), or death certificate(s)); **and**
4. ☐ Documents referring to you and your spouse:
   - **a.** Tax returns, bank accounts, leases, mortgages, or birth certificates of children; **or**
   - **b.** Internal Revenue Service (IRS)-certified copies of the income tax forms that you both filed for the past 3 years; **or**
   - **c.** An IRS tax return transcript for the last 3 years.

If you were married before, send:

☐ Proof that **all** earlier marriages ended (divorce decree(s), annulment(s), or death certificates(s)).

If you are currently in the U.S. military service and are seeking citizenship based on that service, send:

☐ A completed original Form N-426, Request for Certification of Military or Naval Service.

If you have taken any trip outside the United States that lasted 6 months or more since becoming a Lawful Permanent Resident, send evidence that you (and your family) continued to live, work and/or keep ties to the United States, such as:

☐ An IRS tax return "transcript" or an IRS-certified tax return listing tax information for the last 5 years (or for the last 3 years if you are applying on the basis of marriage to a U.S. citizen).

☐ Rent or mortgage payments and pay stubs.

Form M-477 (Rev. 02/10/2011 N)

If you have a dependent spouse or child(ren) who do not live with you, send:

☐ Any court or government order to provide financial support; **and**

☐ Evidence of your financial support (including evidence that you have complied with any court or government order), such as:

a. Cancelled checks;

b. Money and receipts;

c. A court or agency printout of child support payments;

d. Evidence of wage garnishments;

e. A letter from the parent or guardian who cares for your child(ren).

If you have ever been arrested or detained by any law enforcement officer for any reason, and no charges were filed, send:

☐ An original official statement by the arresting agency or applicant court confirming that no charges were filed.

If you have ever been arrested or detained by any law enforcement officer for any reason, and charges were filed, send:

☐ An original or court-certified copy of the complete arrest record and disposition for each incident (dismissal order, conviction record or acquittal order).

If you have ever been convicted or placed in an alternative sentencing program or rehabilitative program (such as a drug treatment or community service program), send:

☐ An original or court-certified copy of the sentencing record for each incident; **and**

☐ Evidence that you completed your sentence:

a. An original or certified copy of your probation or parole record; **or**

b. Evidence that you completed an alternative sentencing program or rehabilitative program.

If you have ever had any arrest or conviction vacated, set aside, sealed, expunged or otherwise removed from your record, send:

☐ An original or court-certified copy of the court order vacating, setting aside, sealing, expunging or otherwise removing the arrest or conviction, **or** an original statement from the court that no record exists of your arrest or conviction.

NOTE: If you have been arrested or convicted of a crime, you may send any countervailing evidence or evidence in your favor concerning the circumstances of your arrest and/or conviction that you would like U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to consider.

If you have ever failed to file an income tax return since you became a Lawful Permanent Resident, send:

☐ All correspondence with the IRS regarding your failure to file.

If you have any Federal, state or local taxes that are overdue, send:

☐ A signed agreement from the IRS or state or local tax office showing that you have filed a tax return and arranged to pay the taxes you owe; **and**

☐ Documentation from the IRS or state or local tax office showing the current status of your repayment program.

NOTE: You may obtain copies of tax documents and tax information by contacting your local IRS offices, using the Blue Pages of your telephone directory, or through its Web site at **www.irs.gov**.

If you are applying for a disability exception to the testing requirement, send:

☐ An original Form N-648, Medical Certification for Disability Exceptions, completed less than 6 months ago by a licensed medical or osteopathic doctor or licensed clinical psychologist.

If you did not register with the Selective Service and you (1) are male, (2) are 26 years old or older, and (3) lived in the United States in a status other than as a lawful nonimmigrant between the ages of 18 and 26, send:

☐ A "Status Information Letter" from the Selective Service (Call **1-847-688-6888** for more information).

OMB No. 1615-0052; Expires 03/31/2013

Department of Homeland Security
U.S Citizenship and Immigration Services

N-400 Application for Naturalization

Print clearly or type your answers using CAPITAL letters. Failure to print clearly may delay your application. Use black ink.

Part 1. Your Name (*Person applying for naturalization*)

Write your USCIS A-Number here:
A

A. Your current legal name.

Family Name *(Last Name)*

Given Name *(First Name)* | Full Middle Name *(If applicable)*

B. Your name **exactly** as it appears on your Permanent Resident Card.

Family Name *(Last Name)*

Given Name *(First Name)* | Full Middle Name *(If applicable)*

C. If you have ever used other names, provide them below.

Family Name *(Last Name)*	Given Name *(First Name)*	Middle Name

D. Name change *(optional)*

Read the Instructions before you decide whether to change your name.

1. Would you like to legally change your name? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. If "Yes," print the new name you would like to use. Do not use initials or abbreviations when writing your new name.

Family Name *(Last Name)*

Given Name *(First Name)* | Full Middle Name

For USCIS Use Only

Bar Code	Date Stamp
	Remarks
Action Block	

Part 2. Information About Your Eligibility *(Check only one)*

I am at least 18 years old **AND**

A. ☐ I have been a lawful permanent resident of the United States for at least five years.

B. ☐ I have been a lawful permanent resident of the United States for at least three years, **and** I have been married to and living with the same U.S. citizen for the last three years, **and** my spouse has been a U.S. citizen for the last three years.

C. ☐ I am applying on the basis of qualifying military service.

D. ☐ Other *(Explain)* _____

Part 3. Information About You

Write your USCIS A-Number here:
A

A. U.S. Social Security Number

B. Date of Birth *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

C. Date You Became a Permanent Resident *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

D. Country of Birth

E. Country of Nationality

F. Are either of your parents U.S. citizens? *(If yes, see instructions)* ☐ Yes ☐ No

G. What is your current marital status? ☐ Single, Never Married ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Widowed

☐ Marriage Annulled or Other *(Explain)* _____

H. Are you requesting a waiver of the English and/or U.S. History and Government requirements based on a disability or impairment and attaching Form N-648 with your application? ☐ Yes ☐ No

I. Are you requesting an accommodation to the naturalization process because of a disability or impairment? *(See instructions for some examples of accommodations.)* ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you answered "Yes," check the box below that applies:

☐ I am deaf or hearing impaired and need a sign language interpreter who uses the following language: _____

☐ I use a wheelchair.

☐ I am blind or sight impaired.

☐ I will need another type of accommodation. Explain: _____

Part 4. Addresses and Telephone Numbers

A. Home Address - Street Number and Name *(Do **not** write a P.O. Box in this space.)* Apartment Number

City County State ZIP Code Country

B. Care of Mailing Address - Street Number and Name *(If different from home address)* Apartment Number

City State ZIP Code Country

C. Daytime Phone Number *(If any)* Evening Phone Number *(If any)* E-Mail Address *(If any)*

( ) ( )

Part 5. Information for Criminal Records Search

Write your USCIS A-Number here:
A

NOTE: The categories below are those required by the FBI. See instructions for more information.

A. Gender

☐ Male ☐ Female

B. Height

Feet Inches

C. Weight

Pounds

D. Are you Hispanic or Latino? ☐ Yes ☐ No

E. Race *(Select one or more)*

☐ White ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

F. Hair color

☐ Black ☐ Brown ☐ Blonde ☐ Gray ☐ White ☐ Red ☐ Sandy ☐ Bald (No Hair)

G. Eye color

☐ Brown ☐ Blue ☐ Green ☐ Hazel ☐ Gray ☐ Black ☐ Pink ☐ Maroon ☐ Other

Part 6. Information About Your Residence and Employment

A. Where have you lived during the last five years? Begin with where you live now and then list every place you lived for the last five years. If you need more space, use a separate sheet of paper.

Street Number and Name, Apartment Number, City, State, Zip Code, and Country	Dates *(mm/dd/yyyy)*	
	From	To
Current Home Address - Same as Part 4.A		Present

B. Where have you worked (or, if you were a student, what schools did you attend) during the last five years? Include military service. Begin with your current or latest employer and then list every place you have worked or studied for the last five years. If you need more space, use a separate sheet of paper.

Employer or School Name	Employer or School Address *(Street, City, and State)*	Dates *(mm/dd/yyyy)*		Your Occupation
		From	To	

Part 8. Information About Your Marital History *(Continued)*

Write your USCIS A-Number here:
A

C. Is your spouse a U.S. citizen? ☐ Yes ☐ No

D. If your spouse is a U.S. citizen, give the following information:

1. When did your spouse become a U.S. citizen? ☐ At Birth ☐ Other

If "Other," give the following information:

2. Date your spouse became a U.S. citizen

3. Place your spouse became a U.S. citizen (*See instructions*)

City and State

E. If your spouse is **not** a U.S. citizen, give the following information :

1. Spouse's Country of Citizenship

2. Spouse's USCIS A- Number *(If applicable)*
A

3. Spouse's Immigration Status

☐ Lawful Permanent Resident ☐ Other _____

F. If you were married before, provide the following information about your prior spouse. If you have more than one previous marriage, use a separate sheet of paper to provide the information requested in Questions 1-5 below.

1. Prior Spouse's Family Name *(Last Name)* Given Name *(First Name)* Full Middle Name *(If applicable)*

2. Prior Spouse's Immigration Status
☐ U.S. Citizen
☐ Lawful Permanent Resident
☐ Other _____

3. Date of Marriage *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

4. Date Marriage Ended *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

5. How Marriage Ended
☐ Divorce ☐ Spouse Died ☐ Other _____

G. How many times has your current spouse been married (including annulled marriages)?

If your spouse has **ever** been married before, give the following information about **your spouse's** prior marriage.
If your spouse has more than one previous marriage, use a separate sheet(s) of paper to provide the information requested in Questions 1 - 5 below.

1. Prior Spouse's Family Name *(Last Name)* Given Name *(First Name)* Full Middle Name *(If applicable)*

2. Prior Spouse's Immigration Status
☐ U.S. Citizen
☐ Lawful Permanent Resident
☐ Other _____

3. Date of Marriage *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

4. Date Marriage Ended *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

5. How Marriage Ended
☐ Divorce ☐ Spouse Died ☐ Other _____

Part 9. Information About Your Children

Write your USCIS A-Number here:
A

A. How many sons and daughters have you had? For more information on which sons and daughters you should include and how to complete this section, see the Instructions.

B. Provide the following information about all of your sons and daughters. If you need more space, use a separate sheet of paper.

Full Name of Son or Daughter	Date of Birth *(mm/dd/yyyy)*	USCIS A- number *(if child has one)*	Country of Birth	Current Address *(Street, City, State and Country)*
		A		
		A		
		A		
		A		
		A		
		A		
		A		
		A		

Add Children

Go to continuation page

Part 10. Additional Questions

Answer Questions 1 through 14. If you answer "Yes" to any of these questions, include a written explanation with this form. Your written explanation should (1) explain why your answer was "Yes" and (2) provide any additional information that helps to explain your answer.

A. General Questions.

1. Have you **ever** claimed to be a U.S. citizen *(in writing or any other way)*? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Have you **ever** registered to vote in any Federal, State, or local election in the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Have you **ever** voted in any Federal,State, or local election in the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Since becoming a lawful permanent resident, have you **ever** failed to file a required Federal, State, or local tax return? ☐ Yes ☐ No
5. Do you owe any Federal, State, or local taxes that are overdue? ☐ Yes ☐ No
6. Do you have any title of nobility in any foreign country? ☐ Yes ☐ No
7. Have you ever been declared legally incompetent or been confined to a mental institution within the last five years? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Part 10. Additional Questions *(Continued)*

Write your USCIS A-Number here:
A

B. Affiliations.

8. a Have you **ever** been a member of or associated with any organization, association, fund foundation, party, club, society, or similar group in the United States or in any other place? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b. If you answered "Yes," list the name of each group below. If you need more space, attach the names of the other group(s) on a separate sheet of paper.

Name of Group	Name of Group
1.	6.
2.	7.
3.	8.
4.	9.
5.	10.

9. Have you **ever** been a member of or in any way associated *(either directly or indirectly)* with:

a. The Communist Party? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b. Any other totalitarian party? ☐ Yes ☐ No

c. A terrorist organization? ☐ Yes ☐ No

10. Have you **ever** advocated *(either directly or indirectly)* the overthrow of any government by force or violence? ☐ Yes ☐ No

11. Have you **ever** persecuted *(either directly or indirectly)* any person because of race, religion, national origin, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion? ☐ Yes ☐ No

12. Between March 23, 1933, and May 8, 1945, did you work for or associate in any way *(either directly or indirectly)* with:

a. The Nazi government of Germany? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b. Any government in any area (1) occupied by, (2) allied with, or (3) established with the help of the Nazi government of Germany? ☐ Yes ☐ No

c. Any German, Nazi, or S.S. military unit, paramilitary unit, self-defense unit, vigilante unit, citizen unit, police unit, government agency or office, extermination camp, concentration camp, prisoner of war camp, prison, labor camp, or transit camp? ☐ Yes ☐ No

C. Continuous Residence.

Since becoming a lawful permanent resident of the United States:

13. Have you **ever** called yourself a "nonresident" on a Federal, State, or local tax return? ☐ Yes ☐ No

14. Have you **ever** failed to file a Federal, State, or local tax return because you considered yourself to be a "nonresident"? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Part 10. Additional Questions *(continued)*

Write your USCIS A-Number here:
A

D. Good Moral Character.

For the purposes of this application, you must answer "Yes" to the following questions, if applicable, even if your records were sealed or otherwise cleared or if anyone, including a judge, law enforcement officer, or attorney, told you that you no longer have a record.

15. Have you **ever** committed a crime or offense for which you were **not** arrested? ☐ Yes ☐ No

16. Have you **ever** been arrested, cited, or detained by any law enforcement officer (including USCIS or former INS and military officers) for any reason? ☐ Yes ☐ No

17. Have you **ever** been charged with committing any crime or offense? ☐ Yes ☐ No

18. Have you **ever** been convicted of a crime or offense? ☐ Yes ☐ No

19. Have you **ever** been placed in an alternative sentencing or a rehabilitative program (for example: diversion, deferred prosecution, withheld adjudication, deferred adjudication)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

20. Have you **ever** received a suspended sentence, been placed on probation, or been paroled? ☐ Yes ☐ No

21. Have you **ever** been in jail or prison? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you answered "Yes" to any of Questions 15 through 21, complete the following table. If you need more space, use a separate sheet of paper to give the same information.

Why were you arrested, cited, detained, or charged?	Date arrested, cited, detained, or charged? *(mm/dd/yyyy)*	Where were you arrested, cited, detained, or charged? *(City, State, Country)*	Outcome or disposition of the arrest, citation, detention, or charge *(No charges filed, charges dismissed, jail, probation, etc.)*

Answer Questions 22 through 33. If you answer "Yes" to any of these questions, attach (1) your written explanation why your answer was "Yes" and (2) any additional information or documentation that helps explain your answer.

22. Have you **ever:**

a. Been a habitual drunkard? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b. Been a prostitute, or procured anyone for prostitution? ☐ Yes ☐ No

c. Sold or smuggled controlled substances, illegal drugs, or narcotics? ☐ Yes ☐ No

d. Been married to more than one person at the same time? ☐ Yes ☐ No

e. Helped anyone enter or try to enter the United States illegally? ☐ Yes ☐ No

f. Gambled illegally or received income from illegal gambling? ☐ Yes ☐ No

g. Failed to support your dependents or to pay alimony? ☐ Yes ☐ No

23. Have you **ever** given false or misleading information to any U.S. Government official while applying for any immigration benefit or to prevent deportation, exclusion, or removal? ☐ Yes ☐ No

24. Have you **ever** lied to any U.S. Government official to gain entry or admission into the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Part 10. Additional Questions *(Continued)*

Write your USCIS A-Number here:
A

E. Removal, Exclusion, and Deportation Proceedings.

25. Are removal, exclusion, rescission, or deportation proceedings pending against you? ☐ Yes ☐ No

26. Have you **ever** been removed, excluded, or deported from the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

27. Have you **ever** been ordered to be removed, excluded, or deported from the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

28. Have you **ever** applied for any kind of relief from removal, exclusion, or deportation? ☐ Yes ☐ No

F. Military Service.

29. Have you **ever** served in the U.S. Armed Forces? ☐ Yes ☐ No

30. Have you **ever** left the United States to avoid being drafted into the U.S. Armed Forces? ☐ Yes ☐ No

31. Have you **ever** applied for any kind of exemption from military service in the U.S. Armed Forces? ☐ Yes ☐ No

32. Have you **ever** deserted from the U.S. Armed Forces? ☐ Yes ☐ No

G. Selective Service Registration.

33. Are you a male who lived in the United States at any time between your 18th and 26th birthdays in any status except as a lawful nonimmigrant? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you answered "NO," go on to question 34.

If you answered "YES," provide the information below.

If you answered "YES," but you did not register with the Selective Service System and are still under 26 years of age, you must register before you apply for naturalization, so that you can complete the information below:

Date Registered (mm/dd/yyyy) _____ Selective Service Number _____

If you answered "YES," but you did not register with the Selective Service and you are now 26 years old or older, attach a statement explaining why you did not register.

H. Oath Requirements. *(See Part 14 for the text of the oath)*

Answer Questions 34 through 39. If you answer "No" to any of these questions, attach (1) your written explanation why the answer was "No" and (2) any additional information or documentation that helps to explain your answer.

34. Do you support the Constitution and form of government of the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

35. Do you understand the full Oath of Allegiance to the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

36. Are you willing to take the full Oath of Allegiance to the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

37. If the law requires it, are you willing to bear arms on behalf of the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

38. If the law requires it, are you willing to perform noncombatant services in the U.S. Armed Forces? ☐ Yes ☐ No

39. If the law requires it, are you willing to perform work of national importance under civilian direction? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Part 11. Your Signature

Write your USCIS A-Number here:
A

I certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America, that this application, and the evidence submitted with it, are all true and correct. I authorize the release of any information that the USCIS needs to determine my eligibility for naturalization.

Your Signature | Date *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

Part 12. Signature of Person Who Prepared This Application for You *(If applicable)*

I declare under penalty of perjury that I prepared this application at the request of the above person. The answers provided are based on information of which I have personal knowledge and/or were provided to me by the above named person in response to the *exact questions* contained on this form.

Preparer's Printed Name | Preparer's Signature

Date *(mm/dd/yyyy)* | Preparer's Firm or Organization Name *(If applicable)* | Preparer's Daytime Phone Number

Preparer's Address - Street Number and Name | City | State | Zip Code

NOTE: Do not complete Parts 13 and 14 until a USCIS Officer instructs you to do so.

Part 13. Signature at Interview

I swear (affirm) and certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that I know that the contents of this application for naturalization subscribed by me, including corrections numbered 1 through _____ and the evidence submitted by me numbered pages 1 through _____ , are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Subscribed to and sworn to (affirmed) before me

Officer's Printed Name or Stamp | Date *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

Complete Signature of Applicant | Officer's Signature

Part 14. Oath of Allegiance

If your application is approved, you will be scheduled for a public oath ceremony at which time you will be required to take the following Oath of Allegiance immediately prior to becoming a naturalized citizen. By signing, you acknowledge your willingness and ability to take this oath:

I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen;

that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic;

that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same;

that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law;

that I will perform noncombatant service in the Armed Forces of the United States when required by the law;

that I will perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by the law; and

that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, so help me God.

Printed Name of Applicant | Complete Signature of Applicant

Sample Sentences for Written English Testing

Civics/History

A Senator is elected for 6 years.
_____ is the Vice President of the United States.
All people want to be free.
America is the land of freedom.
All United States citizens have the right to vote.
America is the home of the brave.
America is the land of the free.
_____ is the President of the United States.
Citizens have the right to vote.
Congress is part of the American government.
Congress meets in Washington, D.C.
Congress passes laws in the United States.
George Washington was the first president.
I want to be a citizen of the United States.
I want to be an American citizen.
I want to become an American so I can vote.
It is important for all citizens to vote.
Many people come to America for freedom.
Many people have died for freedom.
Martha Washington was the first first lady.
Only Congress can declare war.
Our government is divided into three branches.
People in America have the right to freedom.
People vote for the President in November.
The American flag has stars and stripes.
The American flag has 13 stripes.
The capitol of the United States is Washington, D.C.
The colors of the flag are red, white, and blue.
The Constitution is the supreme law of our land.
The flag of the United States has 50 stars.
The House and Senate are parts of Congress.
The people have a voice in Government.
The people in the class took a citizenship test.
The President enforces the laws.
The President has the power of veto.
The President is elected every 4 years.
The President lives in the White House.
The President lives in Washington, D.C.
The President must be an American citizen.
The President must be born in the United States.
The President signs bills into law.
The stars of the American flag are white.
The Statue of Liberty was a gift from France.
The stripes of the American flag are red and white.
The White House is in Washington, D.C.
The United States flag is red, white, and blue.
The United States of America has 50 states.
There are 50 states in the Union.
There are three branches of Government.

Everyday Life

He came to live with his brother.
He has a very big dog.
He knows how to ride a bike.
He wanted to find a job.
He wanted to talk to his boss.
He went to the post office.
His wife is at work right now.
His wife worked in the house.
I am too busy to talk today.
I bought a blue car today.
I came to _____ (city) today for my interview.
I count the cars as they pass by the office.
I drive a blue car to work.
I go to work everyday.
I have three children.
I know how to speak English.
I live in the State of _____.
I want to be a United States citizen.
It is a good job to start with.
My car does not work.
She can speak English very well.
She cooks for her friends.
She is my daughter, and he is my son.
She needs to buy some new clothes.
She wanted to live near her brother.
She was happy with her house.
The boy threw a ball.
The children bought a newspaper.
The children play at school.
The children wanted a television.
The man wanted to get a job.
The teacher was proud of her class.
The white house has a big tree.
They are a very happy family.
They are very happy with their car.
They buy many things at the store.
They came to live in the United States.
They go to the grocery store.
They have horses on their farm.
They live together in a big house.
They work well together.
Today I am going to the store.
Today is a sunny day.
Warm clothing was on sale in the store.
We are very smart to learn this.
We have a very clean house.
You cook very well.
You drink too much coffee.
You work very hard at your job.

Writing Cards

1. We vote for president in November.

2. The president lives in the White House.

3. The White House is in Washington, D.C.

4. Presidents' Day is in February.

5. Labor Day is in September.

Writing Cards

1. Citizens can vote.

2. Freedom of speech is a right.

3. They want to vote.

4. New York City was the first capital.

5. California has the most people.

Writing Cards

1. Memorial Day is in May.

2. The flag has red and white stripes.

3. Washington, D.C. is the capital.

4. The flag is red, white, and blue.

5. Flag Day is in June.

Writing Cards

1. Washington is the father of our country.

2. Washington was the first president.

3. Washington is on the dollar bill.

4. Adams was the second president.

5. Lincoln was the president during the Civil War.