

100

Civics Questions

for the United States Citizenship Test

100 Civics Questions

During the U.S. Citizenship Test:

- The USCIS Officer will ask you ten of the 100 Civics Questions.
- You need to listen to the question and say the answer.
- You need to answer six questions correctly to pass.

The 100 Civics Questions are about:

- U.S. Geography
- U.S. Flag and Holidays
- The Declaration of Independence
- The Constitution
- Three Branches of Government:
 - Judicial Branch
 - Executive Branch
 - Legislative Branch
- Federal Government vs. State Government
- Two Political Parties
- Economy and Taxes
- Responsibilities of Citizenship
- American History
 - History in the 1600s and 1700s
 - History in the 1800s
 - History in the 1900s

The questions in this packet are ordered to match the slideshow lessons at abceng.org/usa.

For more information about the U.S. Citizenship Test, see uscis.gov, and the [USCIS List of 100 Civics Questions](#).

U.S. Geography

1. Name <u>one</u> state that borders Canada.	Washington
2. Name <u>one</u> state that borders Mexico.	California
3. What ocean is on the West Coast of the United States?	Pacific
4. What ocean is on the East Coast of the United States?	Atlantic
5. Name <u>one</u> of the two longest rivers in the United States.	Mississippi
6. What is the capital of the United States?	Washington, D.C.
7. Where is the Statue of Liberty?	New York
8. Name <u>one</u> U.S. territory.	Puerto Rico

U.S. Geography

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5. Name <u>one</u> of the two longest rivers in the United States.	
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7. Where is the Statue of Liberty?	
8. Name <u>one</u> U.S. territory.	

U.S. Flag and Holidays

1. Why does the flag have 50 stars?	50 states
2. Why does the flag have 13 stripes?	13 original colonies
3. What do we show loyalty to when we say the Pledge of Allegiance?	the flag
4. What is the name of the National Anthem?	The Star Spangled Banner
5. When do we celebrate Independence Day?	July 4
6. Name <u>two</u> national U.S. holidays.	Independence Day, Thanksgiving

The Declaration of Independence

1. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?	July 4, 1776
2. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?	Thomas Jefferson
3. What did the Declaration of Independence do?	said that the United States is free
4. What are <u>two</u> rights in the Declaration of Independence?	life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness

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The Constitution

1. When was the Constitution written?	1787
2. What happened at the Constitutional Convention?	the Founding Fathers wrote the Constitution
3. What does the Constitution do?	sets up the government
4. The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words?	We the People
5. What is an amendment?	a change to the Constitution
6. How many amendments does the Constitution have?	27
7. What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution?	the Bill of Rights
8. What is freedom of religion?	it's OK to be part of any religion, or no religion
9. What is <u>one</u> right or freedom from the First Amendment?	freedom of speech
10. What is the supreme law of the land?	the Constitution
11. What is the "rule of law"?	everyone must follow the law

The Constitution

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Three Branches of Government

1. Name <u>one</u> branch or part of the government.	the President
2. What stops <u>one</u> branch of government from becoming too powerful?	checks and balances

The Judicial Branch

1. How many justices are on the Supreme Court?	9
2. Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now?	
3. What is the highest court in the United States?	the Supreme Court
4. What does the judicial branch do?	explains laws

Three Branches of Government

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The Judicial Branch

1. How many justices are on the Supreme Court?	
2. Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now?	
3. What is the highest court in the United States?	
4. What does the judicial branch do?	

The Executive Branch

1. Who is in charge of the executive branch?	the President
2. What is the name of the President of the United States now?	
3. What is the name of the Vice President of the United States now?	
4. We elect a President for how many years?	4 years
5. In what month do we vote for President?	November
6. If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President?	Vice President
7. If both the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, who becomes President?	Speaker of the House
8. Who is Commander in Chief of the military?	the President
9. Who signs bills to become laws?	the President
10. Who vetoes bills?	the President
11. What does the President's cabinet do?	advises the President
12. What are <u>two</u> Cabinet-level positions?	Secretary of Education Secretary of State

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The Legislative Branch

1. What are the two parts of the U.S. Congress?	Senate and House
2. How many U.S. Senators are there?	100
3. The House of Representatives has how many voting members?	435
4. We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years?	6 years
5. We elect a U.S. Representative for how many years?	2 years
6. Who is <u>one</u> of your state's U.S. Senators now?	
7. Name your U.S. Representative.	
8. Why do some states have more Representatives than other states?	because some states have more people
9. Who does a U.S. Senator represent?	all people of the state
10. What is the name of the Speaker of the House of Representatives now?	
11. Who makes federal laws?	Congress

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Federal Government vs. State Government

Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the federal government. What is <u>one</u> power of the federal government?	print money
Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the state government. What is <u>one</u> power of the state government?	give a driver's license
3. Who is the Governor of your state?	
4. What is the capital of your state?	
5. What is the capital of the United States?	Washington, D.C.

Two Political Parties

1. What are the two major political parties in the United States?	Democratic and Republican
2. What is the political party of the president now?	

Federal Government vs. State Government

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Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the state government. What is <u>one</u> power of the state government?	
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4. What is the capital of your state?	
5. What is the capital of the United States?	

Two Political Parties

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Economy and Taxes

1. What is the economic system of the United States?	market economy
2. When is the last day you can send in your federal tax forms?	April 15

Responsibilities of Citizenship

1. What is <u>one</u> promise you make when you become a United States citizen?	obey the laws of the United States
2. What is <u>one</u> responsibility that is only for U.S. citizens?	vote in a federal election
3. When must all men register for the Selective Service?	between 18 to 26
4. Name <u>one</u> right only for U.S. citizens.	vote in a federal election
5. What are <u>two</u> rights of everyone living in the United States?	freedom of religion freedom of speech
6. What are <u>two</u> ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?	vote; run for office
7. There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. Describe <u>one</u> of them.	citizens 18 and older can vote
8. How old do citizens have to be to vote for President?	18

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American History in the 1600s and 1700s

1. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?	Native Americans
2. Name <u>one</u> American Indian tribe in the United States.	Hopi
3. What is one reason colonists came to America?	freedom
4. What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves?	people from Africa
5. Why did the colonists fight the British?	because of high taxes
6. There were 13 original states. Name <u>three</u> .	New York, Delaware, Pennsylvania
7. The Federalist Papers supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution. Name one of the writers.	Hamilton
8. What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for?	first free libraries
9. Who is the "Father of our Country"?	George Washington
10. Who was the first President?	George Washington

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American History in the 1800s

1. What territory did the United States buy from France in 1803?	Louisiana Territory
2. Name the U.S. war between the North and the South.	Civil War
3. Name <u>one</u> problem that led to the Civil War.	slavery
4. What is one important thing Abraham Lincoln did?	freed the slaves
5. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?	freed the slaves
6. Name <u>one</u> war fought by the United States in the 1800s.	Civil War
7. What did Susan B. Anthony do?	fought for women's rights

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American History in the 1900s

1. Name <u>one</u> war fought by the United States in the 1900s.	World War I
2. Who was President during World War I?	Woodrow Wilson
3. Who was President during the Great Depression and World War II?	Franklin Roosevelt
4. Who did the United States fight in World War II?	Japan, Germany, and Italy
5. Before he was President, Eisenhower was a general. What war was he in?	World War II
6. During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the United States?	Communism
7. What movement tried to end racial discrimination?	Civil Rights movement
8. What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?	fought for civil rights
9. What major event happened on September 11, 2001 in the United States?	terrorists attacked the United States

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