

US Civics Test

Graduation Requirement

Answers to questions are highlighted in yellow.

1. What are two rights of everyone living in the United States? **Freedom of speech and freedom of worship.**
2. What is freedom of religion? **You can practice any religion, or not practice a religion.**
3. Who is in charge of the executive branch? **The President**
4. Name one branch or part of the government. **Legislative**
5. What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution? **The Bill of Rights**
6. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the states. What is one power of the states? **Provide schooling and education**
7. Who is the Commander in Chief of the military? **The President**
8. What is one reason colonists came to America? **Freedom**
9. Who is the “Father of Our Country”? **George Washington**
10. What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves? **Africans**
11. We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years? **Six (6)**
12. What stops one branch of government from becoming too powerful? **Checks and balances**
13. We elect a President for how many years? **Four (4)**
14. The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words? **We the People**
15. Who makes federal laws? **Congress**
16. What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do? **Fought for civil rights**
17. What is the “rule of law”? **Everyone must follow the law.**
18. What does the Constitution do? Choose one:
 - a. defines the government
 - b. sets up the government
 - c. protects basic rights of Americans
 - d. **All of these answers.**

19. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived? **American Indians**
20. What did Susan B. Anthony do? **Fought for women's rights**
21. What are the two major political parties in the United States today? **Democratic and Republican**
22. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the federal government. What is one power of the federal government? **To make treaties**
23. Who does a U.S. Senator represent? **All people of the state in which (s)he was elected**
24. How old do citizens have to be to vote for President? **Eighteen (18) or older**
25. What happened at the Constitutional Convention? **The Constitution was written**
26. What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for? **U.S. diplomat**
27. What major event happened on September 11, 2001, in the United States? **Terrorists attacked the United States**
28. What does the judicial branch do?
- Decides if a law goes against the Constitution
 - Reviews laws
 - Resolves disputes
 - All of the above.**
29. What do we show loyalty to when we say the Pledge of Allegiance? **The United States**
30. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence? **Thomas Jefferson**
31. What are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy? Choose one:
- Write to a newspaper and call Senators and Representatives.
 - Give an elected official your opinion on an issue and join a community group.
 - Vote and join a civic group.
 - All of these answers.**
32. There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. Select the response that accurately describes one of them: **Citizens eighteen (18) and older can vote.**
33. Who signs bills to become laws? **The President**
34. The House of Representatives has how many voting members? **Four hundred thirty-five (435)**
35. Why do some states have more Representatives than other states? **Because of the state's population.**
36. What is an amendment? **An addition (to the Constitution)**
37. What is one responsibility that is only for United States citizens? **Serve on a jury**
38. Why does the flag have 13 stripes? **Because the stripes represent the original colonies.**
39. What is the economic system in the United States? **Capitalist economy**

40. When do we celebrate Independence Day? July 4
41. Name one right belonging only to United States citizens. Run for federal office
42. What are the two parts of the U.S. Congress? The Senate and House of Representatives
43. What is the supreme law of the land? The Constitution
44. We elect a U.S. Representative for how many years? Two (2)
45. What are two rights in the Declaration of Independence? Life and pursuit of happiness
46. What did the Declaration of Independence do? Declared our independence from Great Britain
47. What is one right or freedom granted by the First Amendment? Speech
48. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do? Freed slaves in most Southern states
49. How many U.S. senators are there? One hundred (100)
50. Who was the first President? Choose one: George Washington