

100 Civics Questions

1. Name one state that borders Canada. (p.27)
Maine ▪ New Hampshire ▪ Vermont ▪ New York ▪ Pennsylvania ▪ Ohio ▪ Michigan ▪ Minnesota ▪ North Dakota ▪ Montana ▪ Idaho ▪ Washington ▪ Alaska
2. Name one state that borders Mexico.
▪ California ▪ Arizona ▪ New Mexico ▪ Texas
3. What ocean is on the East Coast of the United States?
▪ Atlantic (Ocean)
4. What ocean is on the West Coast of the United States?
▪ Pacific (Ocean)
5. Name one of the two longest rivers in the United States.
▪ Missouri (River) ▪ Mississippi (River)
6. **What is the capital of the United States?**
▪ Washington, D.C
7. **Where is the Statue of Liberty?** (p. 30)
▪ New York (Harbor) ▪ Liberty Island [Also acceptable are New Jersey, near New York City, and on the Hudson (River).]
8. Name one U.S. territory. (p. 32)
▪ Puerto Rico ▪ U.S. Virgin Islands ▪ American Samoa ▪ Northern Mariana Islands ▪ Guam
9. **Why does the flag have fifty stars?** (p. 40)
▪ because there is one star for each state ▪ because each star represents a state ▪ because there are 50 states
10. Why does the flag have thirteen stripes?
▪ because there were 13 original colonies ▪ because the stripes represent the original colonies
11. What do we show loyalty to when we say the Pledge of Allegiance? (p. 42)
▪ the United States ▪ the flag
12. **Name one branch or part of the government.**
▪ Congress ▪ legislative ▪ President ▪ executive ▪ the courts ▪ judicial
13. Who is in charge of the executive branch?
▪ the President
14. What stops one branch of government from becoming too powerful?
▪ checks and balances ▪ separation of powers

15. Who makes federal laws? (p. 50)
- Congress ▪ Senate and House (of Representatives) ▪ (U.S. or national) legislature
- 16. What are the two parts of the U.S. Congress?** (p. 58)
- the Senate and House (of Representatives)
17. How many U.S. senators are there?
- one hundred (100)
18. Who does a U.S. senator represent?
- all people of the state
19. We elect a U.S. senator for how many years?
- six (6)
- 20. Who is one of your state's U.S. senators now?**
- JOHN CORNYN TED CRUZ
21. The House of Representatives has how many voting members? (p. 60)
- four hundred thirty-five (435)
22. We elect a U.S. Representative for how many years?
- two (2)
23. Name your U. S. Representative.
- MAC THORNBERRY
24. What is the name of the Speaker of the House of Representatives now?
- Nancy Pelosi
25. Why do some states have more representatives than other states?
- (because of) the state's population ▪ (because) they have more people ▪ (because) some states have more people
26. Who is the Commander-in-Chief of the military?
- the President
27. Who signs bills to become laws?
- the President
28. Who vetoes bills?
- the President
29. We elect a President for how many years? (p. 63)
- four (4)
- 30. In what month do we vote for President?**
- November

31. If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President?
▪ the Vice President
32. If both the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, who becomes President?
▪ the Speaker of the House
- 33. What is the name of the President of the United States now?**
▪ Donald J. Trump ▪ Donald Trump ▪ Trump
34. What is the name of the Vice President of the United States now?
▪ Michael R. Pence ▪ Mike Pence ▪ Pence
35. What does the President's Cabinet do? (p. 66)
▪ advises the President
36. What are two Cabinet-level positions?
▪ Secretary of Agriculture ▪ Secretary of Commerce ▪ Secretary of Defense ▪ Secretary of Education ▪ Secretary of Energy ▪ Secretary of Health and Human Services ▪ Secretary of Homeland Security ▪ Secretary of Housing and Urban Development ▪ Secretary of the Interior ▪ Secretary of Labor ▪ Secretary of State ▪ Secretary of Transportation ▪ Secretary of the Treasury ▪ Secretary of Veterans Affairs ▪ Attorney General ▪ Vice President
37. What does the judicial branch do?
▪ reviews laws ▪ explains laws ▪ resolves disputes (disagreements) ▪ decides if a law goes against the Constitution
38. What is the highest court in the United States?
▪ The Supreme Court
39. How many justices are on the Supreme Court?
▪ nine (9)
40. Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now?
▪ John Roberts (John G. Roberts, Jr.)
41. What is the "rule of law"? (p. 78)
▪ Everyone must follow the law. ▪ Leaders must obey the law. ▪ Government must obey the law.
▪ No one is above the law.
- 42. What is the economic system in the United States?**
▪ capitalist economy ▪ market economy
43. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the federal government. What is one power of the federal government? (p. 80)
▪ to print money ▪ to declare war ▪ to create an army ▪ to make treaties
44. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the states. What is one power of the states?

- provide schooling and education ▪ provide protection (police) ▪ provide safety (fire departments) ▪ give a driver's license ▪ approve zoning and land use

45. Who is the Governor of your state now?
GREG ABBOTT

46. What is the capital of your state?
AUSTIN

47. What is the supreme law of the land? (p. 82)
▪ the Constitution

48. What does the Constitution do?
▪ sets up the government ▪ defines the government ▪ protects basic rights of Americans

49. What is an amendment? (p. 83)
▪ a change (to the Constitution) ▪ an addition (to the Constitution)

50. What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution?
▪ the Bill of Rights

51. What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment?
▪ speech ▪ religion ▪ assembly ▪ press ▪ petition the government

52. How many amendments does the Constitution have?
▪ twenty-seven (27)

53. What is freedom of religion?
▪ You can practice any religion, or not practice a religion

54. The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words? (p. 86)
▪ We the People

55. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived? (p. 92)
▪ American Indians ▪ Native Americans

56. Name one American Indian tribe in the United States. (p. 93)
▪ Cherokee ▪ Navajo ▪ Sioux ▪ Chippewa ▪ Choctaw ▪ Pueblo ▪ Apache ▪ Iroquois ▪ Creek ▪ Blackfeet ▪ Seminole ▪ Cheyenne ▪ Arawak ▪ Shawnee ▪ Mohegan ▪ Huron ▪ Oneida ▪ Lakota ▪ Crow ▪ Teton ▪ Hopi ▪ Inuit

57. What is one reason colonists came to America? (p. 96 – 97)
▪ freedom ▪ political liberty ▪ religious freedom ▪ economic opportunity ▪ practice their religion ▪ escape persecution

58. Why did the colonists fight the British? (p. 110)

- because of high taxes (taxation without representation) ▪ because the British army stayed in their houses (boarding, quartering) ▪ because they didn't have self-government

59. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence? (p. 114)

- (Thomas) Jefferson

60. What did the Declaration of Independence do?

- announced our independence (from Great Britain) ▪ declared our independence (from Great Britain) ▪ said that the United States is free (from Great Britain)

61. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?

- July 4, 1776

62. What are two rights in the Declaration of Independence? (p. 118)

- life ▪ liberty ▪ pursuit of happiness

63. **When do we celebrate Independence Day?** (p. 119)

- July 4

64. What happened at the Constitutional Convention? (p. 126)

- The Constitution was written. ▪ The Founding Fathers wrote the Constitution.

65. When was the Constitution written?

- 1787

66. There were thirteen original states. Name three. (p. 128)

- New Hampshire ▪ Massachusetts ▪ Rhode Island ▪ Connecticut ▪ New York ▪ New Jersey ▪ Pennsylvania ▪ Delaware ▪ Maryland ▪ Virginia ▪ North Carolina ▪ South Carolina ▪ Georgia

67. The Federalist Papers supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution. Name one of the writers. (p. 130)

- (James) Madison ▪ (Alexander) Hamilton ▪ (John) Jay ▪ Publius

68. What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for? (p. 132)

- U.S. diplomat ▪ oldest member of the Constitutional Convention ▪ first Postmaster General of the United States ▪ writer of "Poor Richard's Almanac" ▪ started the first free libraries

69. **Who was the first President?** (p. 140)

- (George) Washington

70. Who is the *Father of Our Country*? (p. 146)

- (George) Washington

71. What is the name of the national anthem?

- The Star-Spangled Banner

72. What territory did the United States buy from France in 1803? (p. 148)

- the Louisiana Territory ▪ Louisiana

73. Name one war fought by the United States in the 1800's.
▪ War of 1812 ▪ Mexican-American War ▪ Civil War ▪ Spanish-American War
74. Name the U.S. war between the North and the South. (p. 150)
▪ the Civil War ▪ the War between the States
75. Name one problem that led to the Civil War.
▪ slavery ▪ economic reasons ▪ states' rights
76. What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves?
▪ Africans ▪ people from Africa
- 77. What was one important thing that Abraham Lincoln did?** (p. 152)
▪ freed the slaves (Emancipation Proclamation) ▪ saved (or preserved) the Union ▪ led the United States during the Civil War
78. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?
▪ freed the slaves ▪ freed slaves in the Confederacy ▪ freed slaves in the Confederate states ▪ freed slaves in most Southern states
79. There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. Describe one of them. (p. 157)
▪ Citizens eighteen (18) and older (can vote). ▪ You don't have to pay (a poll tax) to vote. ▪ Any citizen can vote. (Women and men can vote.) ▪ A male citizen of any race (can vote).
- 80. How old do citizens have to be to vote for President?**
▪ eighteen (18) and older
81. What did Susan B. Anthony do?
▪ fought for women's rights ▪ fought for civil rights
82. Who was President during World War I? (p. 170)
▪ (Woodrow) Wilson
83. Who was President during the Great Depression and World War II? (p. 171)
▪ (Franklin) Roosevelt
84. Who did the United States fight during World War II?
▪ Japan, Germany, and Italy
85. Before he was President, Eisenhower was a general. What war was he in?
▪ World War II
86. During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the United States? (p. 172)
▪ Communism
- 87. Name one war fought by the United States in the 1900's.** (p. 175)

- World War I ▪ World War II ▪ Korean War ▪ Vietnam War ▪ (Persian) Gulf War
88. What movement tried to end racial discrimination? (p. 176)
- civil rights (movement)
- 89. What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?**
- fought for civil rights ▪ worked for equality for all Americans
90. What major event happened on September 11th, 2001, in the United States? (p. 178)
- Terrorists attacked the United States.
91. Name two national U. S. holidays. (p. 186)
- New Year's Day ▪ Martin Luther King, Jr. Day ▪ Presidents' Day ▪ Memorial Day ▪ Independence Day ▪ Labor Day ▪ Columbus Day ▪ Veterans Day ▪ Thanksgiving ▪ Christmas
92. What is the political party of the President now? (p. 194)
- Republican (Party)
- 93. What are the two major political parties in the United States?**
- Democratic and Republican
94. What are two rights of everyone living in the United States? (p. 200)
- freedom of expression ▪ freedom of speech ▪ freedom of assembly ▪ freedom to petition the government ▪ freedom of religion ▪ the right to bear arms
95. Name one right only for United States citizens.
- vote in a federal election ▪ run for federal office
- 96. When is the last day you can send in federal income tax forms?** (p. 202)
- April 15
- 97. What is one responsibility that is only for United States citizens?**
- serve on a jury ▪ vote in a federal election
98. When must all men register for the Selective Service?
- at age eighteen (18) ▪ between eighteen (18) and twenty-six (26)
99. What are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy? (p. 204)
- vote ▪ join a political party ▪ help with a campaign ▪ join a civic group ▪ join a community group
 - give an elected official your opinion on an issue ▪ call Senators and Representatives ▪ publicly support or oppose an issue or policy ▪ run for office ▪ write to a newspaper
100. What is one promise you make when you become a United States citizen? (p. 207)
- give up loyalty to other countries ▪ defend the Constitution and laws of the United States ▪ obey the laws of the United States ▪ serve in the U.S. military (if needed) ▪ serve (do important work for) the nation (if needed) ▪ be loyal to the United States