

# 100 Citizenship Questions

You will be asked up to 10 questions. You must answer 6 correctly.

**1. What is the supreme law of the land?**

▪ *the Constitution*

**2. What does the Constitution do?**

▪ *sets up the government* OR ▪ *protects basic rights of Americans*

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

▪ *We the People*

**4. What is an amendment?**

▪ *a change or addition to the Constitution*

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

▪ *the Bill of Rights*

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

▪ *speech* ▪ *religion* ▪ *assembly* ▪ *press* ▪ *petition the government*

**7. How many amendments does the Constitution have?**

▪ *twenty-seven (27)*

**8. What did the Declaration of Independence do?**

▪ *said that the United States is free (from Great Britain)*

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

▪ *life* ▪ *liberty* ▪ *pursuit of happiness*

**10. What is freedom of religion?**

▪ *You can practice any religion, or not practice a religion.*

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

▪ *capitalist economy* OR ▪ *market economy*

**12. What is the “rule of law”?**

▪ *Everyone must follow the law.*

**13. Name one branch or part of the government.**

▪ *Legislative (Congress)* ▪ *Executive (President)* ▪ *Judicial (the courts)*

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

▪ *checks and balances* OR ▪ *separation of powers*

**15. Who is in charge of the executive branch?**

▪ *the President*

**16. Who makes federal laws?**

▪ *Congress*

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

▪ *the Senate and the House of Representatives*

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

▪ *one hundred (100)*

**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?**

- *Amy Klobuchar* ▪ *Al Franken*

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

- *four hundred thirty-five (435)*

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

- *two (2)*

**23. Name your U.S. Representative.**

- *Keith Ellison* (if you live in Minneapolis or its suburbs)
- *Betty McCollum* (if you live in St. Paul or its suburbs)

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

- *all people of the state*

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

- *because they have more people*

**26. We elect a President for how many years?**

- *four (4)*

**27. In what month do we vote for President?**

- *November*

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

- *Barack Obama*

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

- *Joe Biden*

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

- *the Vice President*

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

- *the Speaker of the House*

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

- *the President*

**33. Who signs bills to become laws?**

- *the President*

**34. Who vetoes bills?**

- *the President*

**35. What does the President's Cabinet do?**

- *advises the President*

**36. What are two Cabinet-level positions?**

- *Vice President* ▪ *Attorney General*
- *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*

**37. What does the judicial branch do?**

- *explains laws* OR ▪ *resolves disagreements* OR ▪ *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*

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

- *to print money* ▪ *to declare war* ▪ *to create an army* ▪ *to make treaties*

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

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

**43. Who is the Governor of your state now?**

- *Mark Dayton*

**44. What is the capital of your state?**

- *St. Paul*

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

- *Democratic and Republican*

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

- *Democratic Party*

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

- *John Boehner*

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

- *Citizens eighteen (18) and older can vote.* ▪ *You don't have to pay to vote.*
- *Any citizen, man or woman, can vote.* ▪ *A male citizen of any race can vote.*

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

- *serve on a jury* ▪ *vote in a federal election*

**50. Name one right only for United States citizens.**

- *vote in a federal election* ▪ *run for federal office*

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

- *freedom of expression* ▪ *freedom of speech* ▪ *freedom of assembly*
- *freedom to petition the government* ▪ *freedom of worship* ▪ *the right to bear arms*

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

- *the United States* OR ▪ *the flag*

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

- *be loyal to the United States* ▪ *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*

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

- *eighteen (18) and older*

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

- *vote* ▪ *join a political party* ▪ *help with a campaign* ▪ *join a community group*
- *call or write to an elected official to give your opinion on an issue*
- *run for office* ▪ *write to a newspaper*

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

- *April 15*

**57. When must all men register for the Selective Service?**

- *at age eighteen (18)*

**58. What is one reason colonists came to America?**

- *freedom* ▪ *religious freedom* ▪ *economic opportunity* ▪ *escape persecution*

**59. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?**

- *American Indians (Native Americans)*

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

- *people from Africa*

**61. Why did the colonists fight the British?**

- *because they didn't have self-government* OR ▪ *because of high taxes (taxation without representation)*

**62. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?**

- *Thomas Jefferson*

**63. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?**

- *July 4, 1776*

**64. There were 13 original states. Name three.**

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

**65. What happened at the Constitutional Convention?**

- *The Constitution was written.*

**66. When was the Constitution written?**

- *1787*

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

- *James Madison* ▪ *Alexander Hamilton* ▪ *John Jay* ▪ *Publius*

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

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

**69. Who is the "Father of Our Country"?**

- *George Washington*

**70. Who was the first President?**

- *George Washington*

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

- *Louisiana*

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

- *War of 1812* ▪ *Mexican-American War* ▪ *Civil War* ▪ *Spanish-American War*

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

- *the Civil War*

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

- *slavery* ▪ *economic reasons* ▪ *states' rights*

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

- *freed the slaves (Emancipation Proclamation)* ▪ *saved the Union* ▪ *led the United States during the Civil War*

**76. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?**

- *freed the slaves*

**77. What did Susan B. Anthony do?**

- *fought for women's rights*

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

- *World War I* ▪ *World War II* ▪ *Korean War* ▪ *Vietnam War* ▪ *Persian Gulf War*

**79. Who was President during World War I?**

- *Woodrow Wilson*

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

- *Franklin Roosevelt*

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

- *Japan, Germany, and Italy*

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

- *World War II*

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

- *Communism*

**84. What movement tried to end racial discrimination?**

- *civil rights*

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

- *fought for civil rights* OR ▪ *worked for equality for all Americans*

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

- *Terrorists attacked the United States.*

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

- *Cherokee* ▪ *Navajo* ▪ *Sioux* ▪ *Chippewa* ▪ *Choctaw* ▪ *Pueblo* ▪ *Apache* ▪ *Iroquois* ▪ *Creek*  
▪ *Blackfeet* ▪ *Seminole* ▪ *Cheyenne* ▪ *Arawak* ▪ *Shawnee* ▪ *Mohegan* ▪ *Huron* ▪ *Oneida*  
▪ *Lakota* ▪ *Crow* ▪ *Teton* ▪ *Hopi* ▪ *Inuit*

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

- *Missouri River* ▪ *Mississippi River*

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

- *Pacific*

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

- *Atlantic*

**91. Name one U.S. territory.**

- *Puerto Rico* ▪ *U.S. Virgin Islands* ▪ *American Samoa* ▪ *Northern Mariana Islands* ▪ *Guam*

**92. Name one state that borders Canada.**

- *Maine* ▪ *New Hampshire* ▪ *Vermont* ▪ *New York* ▪ *Pennsylvania* ▪ *Ohio* ▪ *Michigan* ▪ *Minnesota*  
▪ *North Dakota* ▪ *Montana* ▪ *Idaho* ▪ *Washington* ▪ *Alaska*

**93. Name one state that borders Mexico.**

- *California* ▪ *Arizona* ▪ *New Mexico* ▪ *Texas*

**94. What is the capital of the United States?**

- *Washington, D.C.*

**95. Where is the Statue of Liberty?**

- *New York Harbor*

**96. Why does the flag have 13 stripes?**

- *because there were 13 original colonies*

**97. Why does the flag have 50 stars?**

- *because there is one star for each state*

**98. What is the name of the national anthem?**

- *The Star-Spangled Banner*

**99. When do we celebrate Independence Day?**

- *July 4*

**100. Name two national U.S. holidays.**

- *New Year's Day* ▪ *Martin Luther King, Jr. Day* ▪ *Presidents' Day* ▪ *Memorial Day*
- *Independence Day* ▪ *Labor Day* ▪ *Columbus Day* ▪ *Veterans Day* ▪ *Thanksgiving* ▪ *Christmas*