



## CIVICS & LITERACY

SUPPLEMENT FOR PREPARING  
STUDENTS FOR THE 2025 TEST

# A Supplement for Preparing Students for the 2025 Test

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## Includes a page-by-page listing of content and question changes

USCIS has instituted a new version of the civics test. The 2025 test is more difficult (in terms of language complexity and cognitive level), and there are more questions, but they generally follow the same set of concepts as the 2008 test. Until a new edition of *Citizenship: Passing the Test Civics & Literacy* becomes available, the current third or fourth editions can still be used effectively if you supplement instruction using the information below.

Continue using the literacy features in the *Civics & Literacy* book because the literacy test has not changed (as of this writing). These include spelling features, holiday boxes, read and write sections, and writing cards. The test hints at the end of each chapter are also still valid.

If you are also using the *Citizenship: Passing the Test Literacy Workbook*, you can continue to use the current edition of this book as well.

## How to Use this Supplement

As you teach the civics concepts in the *Civics & Literacy* book, you can build in new vocabulary/concepts from the 2025 set of questions. To help you do this, you will find a page-by-page listing of content and questions that have changed in the new test.

- Test questions with ~~strike-through marks~~ do not appear on the new test.
- Test questions in **blue** have been carried over into the new test.
- Test questions in **red** are new questions. Many of the new questions have multiple acceptable answer choices. The answers provided in parentheses are the choice(s) that students will likely find easiest to remember/say.
- Page numbers in **green** indicate that content on the page no longer relates to any questions on the new test.

Page features such as “What Does It Mean” (vocabulary) and “Say It” (pronunciation) and items in the chapter/section review exercises are useful to the degree that they correspond to current questions on the test.

# 1. Welcome to America

- p. 7: Why does the flag have 50 stars?
- p. 9: What is the name of the national anthem?
- p. 10: What do we show loyalty to when we say the Pledge of Allegiance?
- p. 11: What is the capital of the United States?  
What is the capital of your state?
- p. 12: What is the name of the president of the United States now?
- p. 13: Who is the governor of your state now?
- p. 14: What is the form of government of the United States? (republic)
- p. 15: ~~What are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?~~  
What are two examples of civic participation in the United States? (vote, write to a newspaper)
- p. 16: ~~What are the two major political parties in the United States?~~  
~~What is the political party of the president now?~~
- p. 17: What is the economic system of the United States? ~~(market economy)~~ (capitalism)  
Name one example of an American innovation. (cars)

# 2. American Places

- p. 24: ~~Name one state that borders Mexico.~~
- p. 25: ~~Name one state that borders Canada.~~
- p. 26: Where is the Statue of Liberty?
- p. 27: ~~Name one of the two longest rivers in the United States.~~
- p. 28: ~~What ocean is on the East Coast of the United States?~~  
~~What ocean is on the West Coast of the United States?~~
- p. 29: ~~Name one U.S. territory.~~
- p. 30: Name one American Indian tribe in the United States.
- p. 31: Content no longer on the test.

### 3. 13 Colonies

- p. 38: Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?
- p. 40: Why does the flag have 13 stripes?
- p. 41: ~~What is one reason colonists came to America?~~  
The colonists came to America for many reasons. Name one. (freedom)
- p. 43: What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves?

### 4. The New United States

- p. 50: What war did the Americans fight to win independence from Britain?  
(The American Revolutionary War)  
The American Revolution had many important events. Name one. (Battle of Bunker Hill)
- p. 51: ~~Why did the colonists fight the British?~~  
Name one reason why the Americans declared independence from Britain. (high taxes)
- p. 52: ~~What did the Declaration of Independence do?~~  
What founding document said the American colonies were free from Britain?  
(Declaration of Independence)
- p. 53: ~~What are two rights in the Declaration of Independence?~~  
The words "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness" are in what founding document?  
(Declaration of Independence)  
Why is the Declaration of Independence important? (It says all people are created equal.)  
The Nation's first motto was "E Pluribus Unum." What does that mean? (out of many, one)
- p. 54: When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?  
~~When do we celebrate Independence Day?~~  
What is Independence Day? (the country's birthday)
- p. 55: ~~There were 13 original states. Name three.~~  
There were 13 original states. Name five.  
(New York, New Jersey, New Hampshire, North Carolina, and South Carolina)
- p. 56: ~~What does the Constitution do?~~  
Name one thing the U.S. Constitution does. (forms the government)  
~~When was the Constitution written?~~  
What founding document was written in 1787? (U.S. Constitution)

p. 57: ~~What happened at the Constitutional Convention?~~

Name two important ideas from the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.  
(self-government, liberty)

Many documents influenced the U.S. Constitution. Name one. (Declaration of Independence)

p. 58: ~~Why were the Federalist Papers important?~~

(They helped people understand the U.S. Constitution.)

p. 59: ~~Who is the "Father of Our Country"?~~

~~Who was the first President?~~

George Washington is famous for many things. Name one. (first president of the United States)

p. 60: ~~What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for?~~

Benjamin Franklin is famous for many things. Name one. (founded the first free public libraries)

Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?

Thomas Jefferson is famous for many things. Name one. (third president of the United States)

James Madison is famous for many things. Name one. (fourth president of the United States)

p. 61: The Federalist Papers supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution. Name one of the writers.

Alexander Hamilton is famous for many things. Name one.

(one of the writers of the Federalist Papers)

## 5. The Civil War

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

p. 73: Name one war fought by the United States in the 1800s.

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

p. 74: Name the U.S. war between the North and the South.

What U.S. war ended slavery? (the Civil War)

The Civil War had many important events. Name one. (Battle of Gettysburg)

p. 76: ~~What was one important thing that Abraham Lincoln did?~~

Abraham Lincoln is famous for many things. Name one. (freed the slaves)

What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?

What amendment says all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are U.S. citizens? (14th amendment)

When did all men get the right to vote? (with the 15th amendment)

p. 78: ~~Name 2 national U.S. holidays.~~

Name three national U.S. holidays. (Presidents Day, New Year's Day, and Independence Day)

p. 79: ~~What did Susan B. Anthony do?~~

Name one leader of the women's rights movement in the 1800s. (Susan B. Anthony)

When did all women get the right to vote? (with the 19th amendment)

## 6. Later History

p. 85: ~~Who was President during World War I?~~

Why did the United States enter World War I? (because Germany attacked U.S. civilian ships)

p. 86: ~~Name one war fought by the United States in the 1900s.~~

~~Who did the United States fight in World War 2?~~

Why did the United States enter World War II? (bombing of Pearl Harbor)

p. 87: ~~Who was president during the Great Depression and World War II?~~

What was the Great Depression? (longest economic recession in modern history)

When did the Great Depression start? (the Great Crash of 1929)

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

Dwight Eisenhower is famous for many things. Name one. (34th president of the United States)

p. 88: ~~During the Cold War, what was one main concern of the United States? (communism)~~

Who was the United States' main rival during the Cold War? (Russia)

Why did the United States enter the Korean War? (to stop the spread of communism)

Why did the United States enter the Vietnam War? (to stop the spread of communism)

p. 89: ~~What is Memorial Day? (a holiday to honor soldiers who died in military service)~~

What is Veterans Day? (a holiday to honor people in the U.S. military)

p. 90: ~~What movement tried to end racial discrimination?~~

What did the civil rights movement do? (fought to end racial discrimination)

p. 91: ~~What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?~~

Martin Luther King, Jr. is famous for many things. Name one. (fought for civil rights)

p. 92: ~~What major event happened on September 11, 2001, in the United States?~~

Name one U.S. military conflict after the September 11, 2001, attacks. (war in Iraq)

Why did the United States enter the Persian Gulf War? (to force the Iraqi military from Kuwait)

## 7. The Constitution

p. 106: What is the supreme law of the land?

p. 107: ~~The idea of self government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words?~~

The U.S. Constitution starts with the words "We the People." What does "We the People" mean? (self-government)

p. 108: Name the three branches of government. (Congress, president, and the courts)

p. 109: ~~What stops one branch of government from becoming too powerful?~~

There are three branches of government. Why? (separation of powers)

p. 110: ~~Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the states. What is one power of the states?~~

Name one power that is only for the states. (give a driver's license)

p. 111: ~~Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the federal government. What is one power of the federal government?~~

Name one power that is only for the federal government. (print paper money)

What is the purpose of the 10th Amendment? (It states that the powers not given to the federal government belong to the states or to the people.)

p. 112: ~~What is an amendment?~~

How are changes made to the U.S. Constitution? (amendments)

p. 113: ~~What do we call the first 10 amendments to the Constitution?~~

p. 114: What does the Bill of Rights protect? (the basic rights of Americans)

p. 115: ~~What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment?~~

p. 116: ~~What are two rights of everyone living in the United States?~~

What are three rights of everyone living in the United States?

(freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of assembly)

~~What is freedom of religion?~~

p. 117: There are four amendments to the U.S. Constitution about who can vote. Describe one of them.

~~How old do citizens have to be to vote for President?~~

p. 118: How many amendments does the U.S. Constitution have?

## 8. Congress

p. 125: What are the two parts of the U.S. Congress?

p. 126: ~~We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years?~~

How long is a term for a U.S. senator? (six years)

p. 127: How many U.S. senators are there?

Who is one of your state's U.S. senators now?

How many senators does each state have? (two)

Why does each state have two senators? (equal representation for small states)

p. 128: Who does a U.S. senator represent?

Who elects U.S. senators? (citizens from their state)

p. 129: ~~We elect a U.S. representative for how many years?~~

How long is a term for a member of the House of Representatives? (two years)

Why do U.S. representatives serve shorter terms than U.S. senators?

(to more closely follow public opinion)

p. 130: Name your U.S. representative.

~~The House of Representatives has how many voting members?~~

How many voting members are in the House of Representatives? (435)

Who does a member of the House of Representatives represent? (people in their district)

Who elects members of the House of Representatives? (citizens from their congressional district)

p. 131: ~~Why do some states have more representatives than other states?~~

Some states have more representatives than other states. Why?

(because they have more people)

p. 132: What is the name of the Speaker of the House of Representatives now?



## 9. The President

p. 138: ~~Name one branch or part of the government.~~

~~Who is in charge of the executive branch?~~

The President of the United States is in charge of which branch of government?  
(executive branch)

The executive branch has many parts. Name one. (president of the United States)

p. 140: ~~We elect a president for how many years?~~

The President of the United States is elected for how many years? (four)

Why is the Electoral College important? (It decides who is elected president.)

The President of the United States can serve only two terms. Why?  
(because of the 22nd amendment)

p. 141: ~~In what month do we vote for President?~~

p. 142: What is the name of the vice president of the United States now?

If the president can no longer serve, who becomes president?

p. 143: ~~If both the president and the vice president can no longer serve, who becomes President?~~

p. 144: Who is the Commander in Chief of the military?

Name one power of the president. (Commander in Chief of the military)

p. 145: What does the president's cabinet do?

p. 147: What are two Cabinet-level positions?

## 10. A Country of Laws

p. 153: ~~What is one promise you make when you become a United States citizen?~~

Name two promises that new citizens make in the Oath of Allegiance.

(obey the laws of the United States, be loyal to the United States)

How can people become United States citizens?

(be born in the U.S. — 14th Amendment)

p. 154: What is the rule of law?

p. 155: ~~When is the last day you can send in federal income tax forms?~~

Why is it important to pay federal taxes? (required by law)

p. 156: ~~When must all males register for the Selective Service?~~

It is important for all men age 18 through 25 to register for the Selective Service. Name one reason why. (required by law)

p. 157: ~~Name one right only for United States citizens.~~

Who can vote in federal elections, run for federal office, and serve on a jury in the United States? (citizens)

~~What is one responsibility that is only for United States citizens?~~

What is one way Americans can serve their country? (vote)

p. 158: ~~Who makes federal laws?~~

What part of the federal government writes laws? (U.S. Congress)

Name one power of the U.S. Congress. (writes laws)

p. 159: Who signs bills to become laws?

p. 160: Who vetoes bills?

p. 161: What does the judicial branch do?

What is one part of the judicial branch? (Supreme Court)

p. 162: What is the highest court in the United States?

Who appoints federal judges? (the President of the United States)

p. 163: ~~How many justices are on the Supreme Court?~~

How many seats are on the Supreme Court? (nine)

Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now?

How many Supreme Court justices are usually needed to decide a case? (five)

How long do Supreme Court justices serve? (for life)

Supreme Court justices serve for life. Why? (to be independent of politics)