



GETTING STARTED

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Welcome Students - Purpose of this Text:

Citizenship is the common thread that connects all Americans. We are a nation bound not by race or religion, but by the shared values of freedom, liberty, and equality. Throughout our history, the United States has welcomed newcomers from around the world. Immigrants have helped shape the country we know today. Their contributions keep our legacy as a land of freedom and opportunity alive. As we approach the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, naturalized citizens remain an important part of our democracy. For those who are becoming U.S. citizens, they will now have a voice in how our nation is governed.

Building faith in our country starts with understanding our constitutional democracy. However, this is just the beginning of active and engaged civic life. It requires participation—developing the knowledge and skills to share ideas with others and contribute effectively to their communities. It may be argued that the USCIS naturalization test emphasizes memorization rather than understanding civic concepts. This worktext helps you learn beyond the 128 updated questions by connecting our history and founding principles with strong civic engagement. To be a good citizen, you vote, get involved in public policy, participate in local government, and pay taxes to support effective government.

Goals of This Worktext

Our Constitution, Your Citizenship worktext has three main goals: 1) to make you a better citizen of this country through basic knowledge of the Constitution and government of the United States, 2) to give you a sampling of the historic events and remarkable people that made our country great, and 3) to prepare you for a test similar to the USCIS naturalization test. This worktext is formatted and written to ensure you meet those goals. Your study of citizenship provides a solid foundation for participation or leadership in our democratic society.

Features That Aid in Your Learning

1. Answer all unit questions. At the end of each lesson in this book, you will find a series of questions about that lesson. Always be sure to fill in all answers and verify they are correct. Final citizenship test questions come from these pages. Your teacher will explain how to check for correct answers. In addition, your teacher can expand on topics that need help understanding.

2. Complete the review questions. The review questions on pages 62-66 are based on the 128 civics questions from the 2025 civics test. The answers to these questions can be found throughout the worktext, as indicated by the page number(s) listed.

3. Complete the self-test. At the end of the worktext, you can evaluate your knowledge of civics by answering the 80-question self-test. This self-test includes questions from the new naturalization exam. The self-test questions are presented in true-false, matching, and multiple-choice formats, with only one correct answer for each question.

4. Create quizzes to help you review or get family or friends to help make practice tests. Use some of the questions from the lessons in the book, self-tests, and study guides, or make up your own. You could trade practice quizzes with other students.

5. Utilize the Constitution Vocabulary. On Pages 86-88, you will find a reference section listing constitution and citizenship terms. The vocabulary supports reading development and increases comprehension of the materials in the worktext. This section provides a quick reference for key terms used throughout this worktext.

Responsible Citizens

As you know, living in this great nation comes with many benefits. The Constitution and laws of the United States grant various rights to both citizens and non-citizens. However, certain rights are reserved exclusively for citizens, such as voting, participating in government, and serving in the military.

Citizenship also entails specific responsibilities, including paying taxes, serving on a jury, respecting the legal authorities and the court system, and giving elected officials your opinion on an issue. Additionally, everyone must adhere to the principle of the rule of law: no one is above the law, and all people, institutions, and entities are accountable to laws that are enforced equally.

America is strong because its citizens respect a variety of opinions, cultures, ethnic groups, and religions. Show your patriotism during national holidays, attend or volunteer at community events, or consider serving your country by joining the military. These actions demonstrate your loyalty to the United States and its Constitution.

How do you become a Citizen?

There are three main ways someone can become a United States citizen:

- 1. By birth** - most common way, a person automatically becomes a citizen if born in the U.S., under conditions set by the 14th Amendment
- 2. By naturalization** - adults immigrating to the U.S. must complete the naturalization process (application, interview, tests, and taking the Oath of Allegiance).
- 3. By derivation** - under conditions set by Congress, a child under 18 becomes a U.S. citizen when their parent naturalizes.

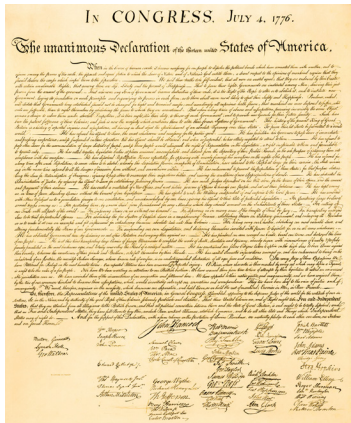

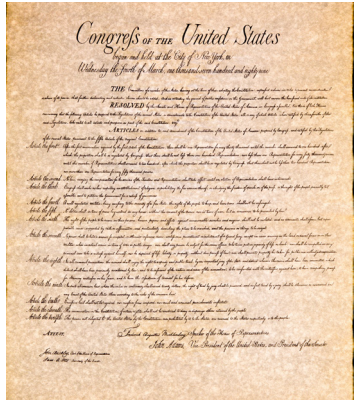
The *Rotunda for the Charters of Freedom* is the permanent home of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights, located in the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C. These historic documents are displayed in a cathedral-like, dimly lit rotunda, which is open to the public. A visit can be both a moving and educational experience, deepening your appreciation for the principles that continue to guide American society.

The nation's Founding Fathers drafted these documents during dramatic, fast-moving events. They form the foundation of the United States and confirm that people are born with certain natural rights, including "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," that does not come from presidents, kings, or charters. This nation's founding documents secure these and other rights of the American people.

Preserving the Documents

On December 13, 1952, the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence were sealed in helium-filled cases, placed in wooden crates, and transported by an armored car to the National Archives Exhibition Hall in Washington, D.C. In 2001, the documents were placed in upgraded, state-of-the-art encasements with the latest preservation technology, replacing the original 1950s encasements.

While the original, signed Declaration is housed in the Charters of Freedom, 26 other copies are known to exist and are referred to as the *Dunlap BroadSides*. Over 200 copies were initially produced by John Dunlap, a printer in Philadelphia, on the night of July 4, 1776, to spread the news of American Independence. This urgent document was sent to colonial leaders, local governments, military officers, and newspapers.

Document Question	Declaration of Independence	U.S. Constitution	Bill of Rights
<p><i>For the exact wording of each document, read the original transcripts or refer to your pocket guide.</i></p>			
What year was it ratified?	1776	1787	1791
Where was it written?	Philadelphia	Philadelphia	New York City
Why was it written?	To formally announce and justify the American colonies' decision to break away from British rule, outlining principles of individual rights and self-governance.	To replace the ineffective Articles of Confederation with a structured, balanced system of government that could govern effectively, unify the states, and protect freedoms.	To protect citizens' freedoms, address government power concerns, fulfill promises made during ratification, and set a precedent for future amendments.
Who wrote it?	Thomas Jefferson	James Madison	James Madison
How many words in the document?	1,458 words (1 page) including signatures	4,543 words (4 pages) including signatures	760 words (1 page)
What is stated in the Preamble of the document?	"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."	"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."	"The Conventions of a number of the States, having at the time of their adopting the Constitution, expressed a desire, in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its powers, that further declaratory and restrictive clauses should be added..."

There have been 27 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, beginning with the Bill of Rights, which comprises the first ten amendments ratified in 1791. The amendments are organized by number and grouped into three periods: the Bill of Rights, the Reconstruction Amendments, and the Progressive Era Amendments. A summary of each additional amendment is preceded by the year it was adopted.

The Bill of Rights - First 10 Amendments

1st Fundamental Rights

Protects five freedoms: religion, speech, the press, the right to assemble, and the right to petition.

1791

2nd Right to Bear Arms

Protects the rights of individual citizens to keep and bear arms. Establishes a militia that is necessary for a free state.

1791

3rd Quarters of Soldiers

Prohibits soldiers from temporarily residing (*quartering*) on private property during peacetime without getting the permission and consent of the owner.

1791

4th Search and Seizure

Protects people's right to privacy, prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures by the government.

1791

5th - Rights of the Accused

Protects people accused of crimes, giving them the right to remain silent, preventing *double jeopardy*, and ensuring due process of law.

1791

6th Fair and Speedy Trial

Gives the accused in criminal cases the right to a speedy and public trial with an impartial jury, and provides legal counsel if needed.

1791

7th Trial by Jury

Guards the right to a jury trial in certain civil cases and prohibits judges in these trials from overruling facts.

1791

8th Cruel Punishment

Prohibits excessive bail, excessive fines, and cruel and unusual punishments, often discussed in cases involving prisons, the death penalty, and bail.

1791

9th Protects Unlisted Rights

People retain rights not listed in the U.S. Constitution. Because they are not specified, they are often referred to as "unenumerated rights."

1791

10th State & People Powers

Power not given to the federal government is given to the people or states (very important for state government).

1791

Reconstruction Amendments

11th Lawsuits Against States

Preserves state sovereignty and emphasizes that states have specific legal protections. Individuals cannot file lawsuits against a state in federal courts.

1795

12th Presidential Elections

Repeals part of Article 2, Section 1, of the Constitution, establishing an improved process for electing the President and Vice President.

1804

13th Ends Slavery

Abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, part of the trio of Civil War amendments that expanded civil rights for Americans.

1865

14th Equal Protection

It was designed to protect the rights of formerly enslaved people and to define citizenship and equal protection under the law.

1868

15th Right to Vote

Protects Americans' right to vote in elections. States cannot prevent a person from voting because of race, creed, or color.

1870

Progressive Era Amendments

16th Federal Income Tax

Establishes Congress's right to impose a federal income tax requiring Americans to file tax returns every year.

1913

17th Election of Senators

Provides for popular election of United States Senators. Repeals part of Article 1, Section 3. In the past, senators were elected by state legislatures.

1913

18th Prohibition of Alcohol

No alcoholic beverages to be manufactured, bought, or sold in the United States, referred to as *prohibition* (to be later repealed).

1919

19th Women's Right to Vote

Some states had already granted women the right to vote. This amendment provides all women who are U.S. citizens the right to vote in all elections.

1920

20th Lame Ducks

Shortened the "lame duck" period by changing the start dates for presidential and congressional terms to January 20 and January 3, respectively.

1933

21st Repeals Prohibition

The only Amendment that repeals a previous one, namely, the 18th Amendment, ratified in 1919 banning alcoholic beverages.

1933

22nd Presidential Term Limit

No person shall be elected to the office of president more than twice (two terms).

1951

23rd Electoral Votes for DC

Grants the residents of the District of Columbia the right to vote in presidential elections, receiving three electoral votes.

1961

24th Prohibits Poll Tax

The "anti-poll" tax amendment forbids taxing voters before they cast their ballots in national elections.

1964

25th Presidential Succession

If the President is unable to serve, the Vice President takes over. The President nominates a new VP if there is a vacancy, subject to Congressional approval.

1967

26th Vote at Age 18

Lowered the voting age from 21 to 18 for federal and state elections.

1971

27th Congressional Pay

Prohibits Congress from granting itself pay raises mid-term. Any changes to congressional salaries will not take effect until after the next election.

1992

What is the U.S. Constitution?

- Forms the government and is "The Supreme Law of the Land."
- A system of fundamental principles to which our country is governed.
- It defines the powers and parts of government.
- Gives and protects fundamental rights to all citizens and people living in the United States.
- Oldest constitution in the world.

The legislative branch of government is described in Article 1 of the Constitution. The legislative branch is the first branch mentioned in the Constitution. Its primary duty is to make our country's laws.

How Congress is Organized

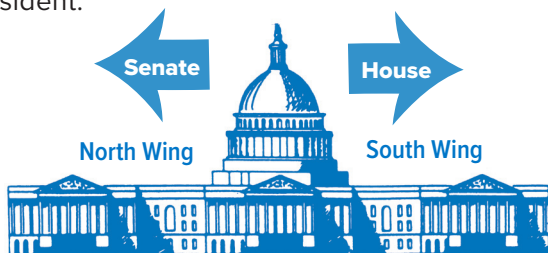
The legislative branch of our federal government is called *Congress*. It consists of the *Senate* and the *House of Representatives*. Every citizen is represented in Congress by two U.S. senators from their particular state and one U.S. representative from their congressional district. That is why our form of government is called a *representative government*. The citizens of our great country delegate authority to elected representatives. Although we have more direct representation by our senators and representatives, the same principle is adopted by many executive and judicial offices.

Agencies that provide support services for Congress are also considered part of the legislative branch. They include the Library of Congress, the Congressional Budget Office, the Government Printing Office, and the General Accounting Office.

The term of Congress begins on the third day of January every odd-numbered year and lasts two years. The Constitution says that during this two-year term, "Congress shall assemble (meet) at least once in every year..." There is so much business before Congress these days that the meetings or sessions last almost yearly. The President of the United States may call *special sessions* of Congress.

Congress meets in the *Capitol Building* in Washington, D.C. Both the Senate and the House meet there, but in different chambers. A picture or drawing of the Capitol Building is often seen in our newspapers, online media, and television broadcasts because the work done in this building is vital to every American. The Capitol is the only place senators and representatives meet to make laws. Senators and representatives have offices nearby. If you visit Washington, D.C., find time to attend a session of Congress.

Beginning with the Continental Congress in 1774, America's legislative bodies have kept records of their proceedings. After each day that Congress is in session, the procedures are printed in the *Congressional Record*. This official daily record of the debates and actions of Congress are usually available the following morning on congress.gov. The records may include legislative activity by the chambers and their committees, member remarks and speeches, and communications from the president.



The Capitol Building - The Meeting Place of Congress

Salary and Qualifications

Both senators and representatives receive a salary of \$174,000 and an expense allowance. However, a senator must be at least 30 years old, a United States citizen for at least nine years, and a resident of the state he/she represents in the Senate. Whereas a representative must be at least 25 years of age, a U.S. citizen for at least seven years, and a resident of the state he/she represents.

If a Senate vacancy occurs, the governor of the state affected makes a temporary appointment until the next election. If there is a vacancy in an office of a representative, a special election called by the governor of the state affected fills the post.

Role in Congress in Everyday Life

Everyday life is influenced by the decisions of Congress, whose role is to improve the quality of our lives and strengthen the nation. Here are a few of the acts of Congress:

- **air safety** – created the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA), which assures commercial air safety;
- **banking** – established insurance policies, which guarantee deposits made in banks;
- **clean air** – passed national pollution-control laws;
- **family leave** – granted unpaid leave to workers for up to 12 weeks to deal with family issues;
- **labor wages** – created the concept of a federal minimum wage and votes for periodic raises;
- **automobile safety** – passed laws to promote safety by requiring manufacturers to meet minimum safety standards;
- **access for people with disabilities** – expanded employment opportunities for people with disabilities by passing laws requiring access to the workplace and public spaces.

Congressional Oversight

Congress oversees the executive branch and monitors its actions through various means, including formal committee hearings, informal interactions, staff studies, and general reviews by agencies and inspectors. Congress conducts investigations and hearings to gather information and scrutinize executive actions. While not explicitly outlined in the Constitution, oversight is implied through Congress's enumerated powers, such as taxation, budgeting, and impeachment.

The Senate

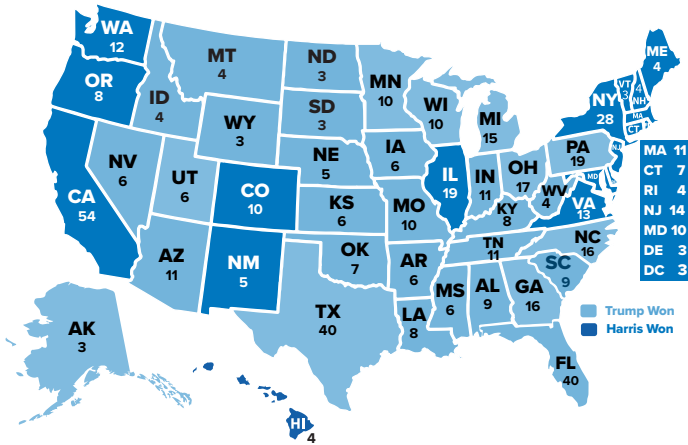
The Senate has 100 members: two from each of the 50 states. As you recall, there was a dispute between the small states and the large states at the Constitutional Convention. The Senate was designed to calm that debate by making all states equal.

Of the 100 senators, one-third are elected every two years for six-year terms. Terms are staggered this way, so only one-third of the Senate goes out of office at any one time. This assures the Senate will have experienced members at all times. Each one-third of the Senate is called a *class*. All senators serve six-year terms.

Presidential Election 2024

The voters elected Donald Trump as the 47th president of the United States. Trump's victory over Kamala Harris in the 2024 presidential election marks a historic comeback for the former president, who left office in 2021 after losing the 2020 election to Joe Biden. Trump's message on the economy and immigration ultimately resonated with enough Americans. Trump swept to a decisive victory by winning several crucial battleground states. Trump's 2024 win marks the third straight presidential election in which voters have thrown out the *incumbent* party. Trump will not be eligible for reelection in 2028 because of the 22nd Amendment.

Candidate	Popular Vote	States Won	Electoral Votes
Trump	77,193,105	31	312
Harris	74,898,009	19 + DC	226



Election Integrity

In every state, ensuring *election integrity* means preventing illegal voting and maintaining transparent and secure election procedures. The office of Secretary of State (may vary by state) manages elections at the state level, while county clerks and election boards run local elections. State officials collaborate with federal authorities to maintain a strong and trustworthy democratic process for all. The voting process can be complex, which may confuse some voters. This confusion can be exploited by individuals with malicious intentions. Thanks to strong state practices, careful oversight, and cooperation with federal agencies, our elections stay safe and secure.

Every Vote Counts

In recent years, we have noticed election results often come down to razor-thin margins. Despite long lines at polling places, it was encouraging to see so many Americans determined to exercise their constitutional right to vote. The record-breaking turnout confirmed that voting is a right that Americans no longer take for granted.

The United States lacks a national election system by design, resulting in varying rules and regulations across approximately 10,000 election jurisdictions. Our representatives should consider implementing more uniform federal election standards to simplify the voting process for citizens, particularly in areas such as voter registration, early voting, and access to mail-in voting. However, the challenge lies in doing this without infringing on the 10th Amendment or the states' rights to manage their own elections.

The Constitution and Elections

The Constitution is filled with hidden techniques and ideas. An example is the election chart prescribed by the Constitution. It uses different ways to choose some officers, various lengths of term, and other age requirements. While the president is elected like the Senate and House members, the Electoral College, not the people, actually elects the president. While the Senate and House are both elected by the people, senators are elected by the vote of all people in the state. Representatives are elected by people from one area of the state. Federal judges are not to be elected by the people at all. These are just some examples.

How do we elect government officials?

	CONGRESS		PRESIDENT	SUPREME COURT
	HOUSE	SENATE		
<i>How Chosen</i>	Elected	Elected	Elected	Appointed by President
<i>Term of Office</i>	2 Years	6 Years	4 Years	Life or Retirement
<i>Age Req't.</i>	25 Years old	30 Years old	35 Years old	None

This chart shows that the Constitution affects elected officials' selection, the terms they serve, and the minimum age requirements.

QUESTIONS

TRUE OR FALSE? Write a **T** or **F** in the space provided.

1. The federal government sets strict standards on how each state conducts elections.
2. Each state receives ten electoral votes.
3. The Constitution states that all government officials must be elected.
4. Donald Trump won both the electoral and popular votes in 2024.
5. All election races must be declared within three days after Election Day.
6. You can still become president even if you do not win the most electoral votes.
7. Trump will be able to run for reelection in 2028.
8. "Swing states" are those that can vote for candidates from either political party, rather than consistently favoring one side.

Supreme Court Justices Required (of the 9)

Action	No. of justices required	Explanation
Granting a review of a case (for a writ of certiorari)	4	It only takes 4 justice (Rule of Four) to agree to hear a case. This protects minority viewpoints.
Deciding a case	5	A simple majority decides the case
Quorum, minimum number to do business	6	A minimum of six justices needed to conduct business, hear arguments, issue ruling

The current court has a 6-3 advantage for conservatives based on presidential nominations. Six justices, including the chief justice, were nominated by Republican presidents, including three by President Donald Trump. Democratic presidents appointed three justices (including the newest, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson).

These nine Justices have views and beliefs that may align with the Democratic (liberal) or Republican (conservative) parties. The Supreme Court Justices interpret and apply the law through fair and impartial judgments to resolve disputes.

The Constitution requires that all federal judges, including Supreme Court justices, serve for life, but they may retire. Justices make decisions based only on the Constitution, without outside political influence. Life tenure protects this independence, stability, and fairness in the nation's highest court. Thomas, appointed in 1991, is the court's longest-serving justice.

Court of Appeals

The United States has 13 courts of appeal, one court in each of the 12 federal circuits that divide the country, and one Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, which has nationwide jurisdiction to hear appeals in specialized cases.

Their primary job is to hear cases of appeal from lower courts and determine whether the law was applied correctly. The appellate courts do not retry cases or hear new evidence. They do not hear witnesses testify. Appeals courts consist of three or more judges and do not use a jury. These judges are appointed for life by the president and confirmed by the Senate.

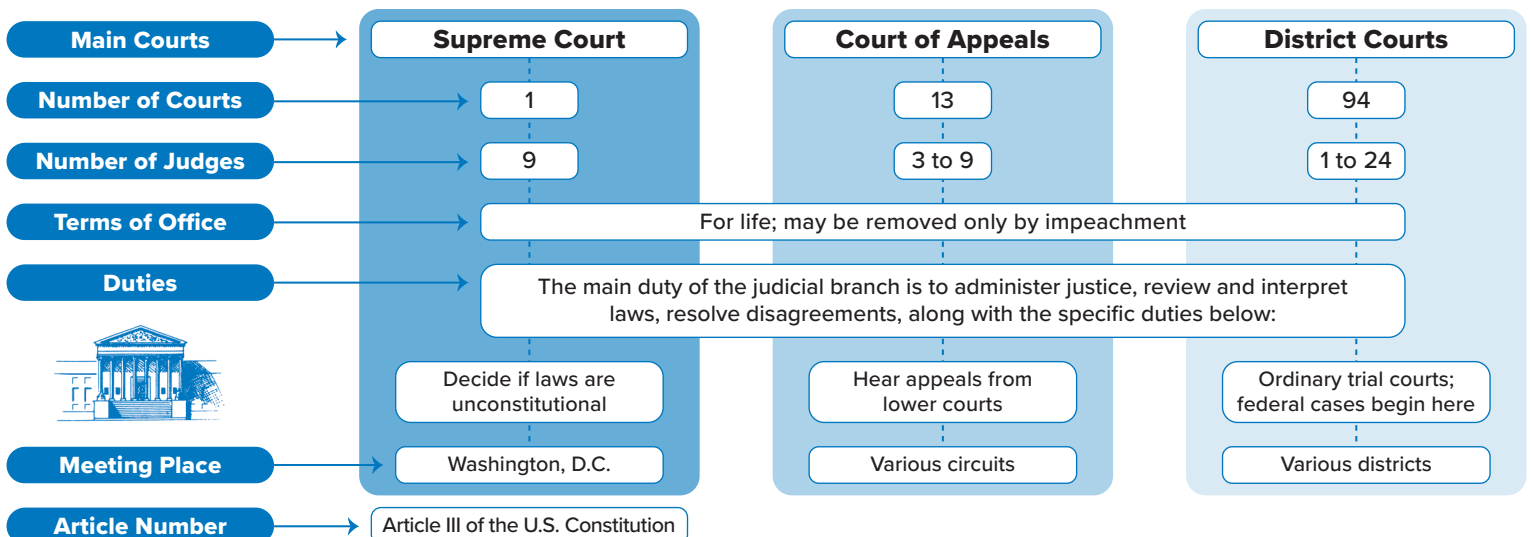
These courts were created in 1891 to relieve the Supreme Court of the significant burden of cases appealed from the district courts. As we previously learned, the Supreme Court hears only a small number of cases. That means the decisions made by the 12 Circuit Courts of Appeals across the country and the Federal Circuit Court are the last word in thousands of cases.

District Courts

There are 94 district courts in the United States. Most people would contact a U.S. District Court if involved in a federal legal issue. The district courts are the ordinary trial courts in the federal system. Almost all cases heard in the federal system begin here.

Each court has one to 24 judges. Trial courts include the district judge who tries the case and a jury that decides the case. Each district court judge is appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate for a life term.

Judicial Branch Fact Sheet



Great Seal of the United States

Below is a copy of the front and reverse sides of the *Great Seal of the United States*. Visit your school or local library to see if you can discover what the various symbols pictured in the seal represent. Do you see a pattern of 13 in the Great Seal? Hint: there are five areas that represent the number 13. Why 13?



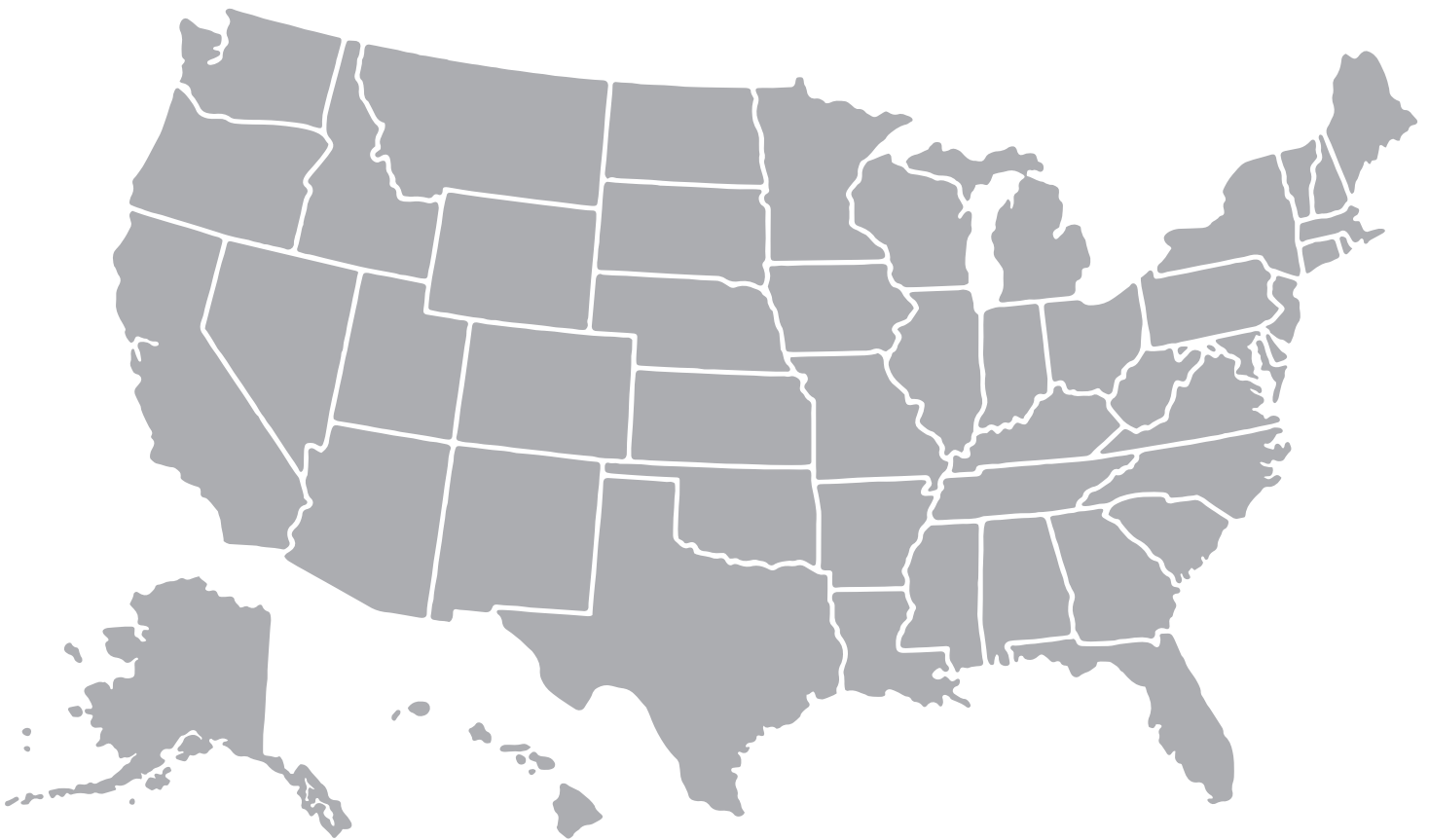
Front Side



Reverse Side

E pluribus unum

The *E pluribus unum* is a motto of the United States, Latin for "Out of many, one." It refers to the Union formed by separate states and was adopted as a national motto in 1776. You can find this phrase inside the *Great Seal of the United States* and on United States currency.



United States Geography and Map Exercise

On the map, mark the following:

1. Identify your state, using the state's two-letter abbreviation.
2. Identify the three largest cities (in terms of population) in the United States.
3. Locate and name all your bordering states.
4. Identify the state with the largest population.
5. Identify the state with the most land area.
6. Locate one of the "Great Lakes."

The *numbers in parentheses* gives the page number where the answer or additional information may be found.

American History

Colonial Period and Independence

1. The colonist came to America for many reasons. Name one. (6) _____
2. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived? (6) _____
3. What group of people was taken to America and sold as enslaved individuals? (6) _____

4. What war did the Americans fight to gain independence from Britain? (7) _____
5. Name one reason why Americans declared independence from Britain. (7,8,13) _____

6. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence? (8) _____
7. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted? (8) _____
8. The American Revolution had many important events. Name one. (7,8,13) _____

9. Name five of the original 13 colonies. (6) _____

10. What founding document was written in 1787? (11-12) _____
11. Name one of the writers of the Federalist Papers who supported the Constitution. (12) _____

12. Why were the Federalist Papers important? (12) _____

13. Identify one of Benjamin Franklin's notable achievements. (8,27) _____

14. Identify one of George Washington's notable achievements. (7,12) _____

15. Identify one of Thomas Jefferson's notable achievements. (8) _____

16. Identify one of James Madison's notable achievements. (11,22) _____

17. Identify one of Alexander Hamilton's notable achievements. (12,27) _____

1800s History

18. What territory did the United States purchase from France in 1803? (25) _____
19. Name one war fought by the United States in the 1800s. (22-23) _____
20. What is the name of the U.S. war fought between the North and the South? (23) _____
21. Name one significant event during the Civil War. (23) _____

22. Identify one of Abraham Lincoln's notable achievements. (23,27) _____

23. What was the purpose of the Emancipation Proclamation? (11,22) _____

MATCHING - The three branches of government

Write the letter of the correct answer in the space provided.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| _____ 21. Has two houses | a. Executive Branch |
| _____ 22. Is the court system of our country | b. Legislative Branch |
| _____ 23. Makes the laws | c. Judicial Branch |
| _____ 24. Enforces the laws | |
| _____ 25. President is in charge of this branch | |
| _____ 26. Review and explain laws | |

MATCHING - The United States Congress

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| _____ 27. Has a six-year term | a. Senate |
| _____ 28. Meet in the Capitol Building | b. House of Representatives |
| _____ 29. Elected every two years | c. Both the Senate and House |
| _____ 30. Has the vice president as presiding officer | d. Neither the Senate nor the House |
| _____ 31. Has 435 members | |
| _____ 32. Approves or rejects treaties | |
| _____ 33. Pass bills they hope will become laws | |
| _____ 34. Has 100 members | |

MATCHING - Cabinet Responsibilities

Write the letter of the correct answer in the space provided.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| _____ 35. Chief legal officer | a. Secretary of State |
| _____ 36. Manages Social Security | b. Secretary of Defense |
| _____ 37. Carries out a war plan | c. Secretary of Human Services |
| _____ 38. Settling a strike | d. Attorney General |
| _____ 39. Foreign affairs | e. Secretary of Labor |
| _____ 40. Secret Service | f. Secretary of Homeland Security |

TRUE or FALSE?

Write a T or F in the space provided.

- _____ 41. Martin Luther King Jr. was one of the leaders of the civil rights movement.
- _____ 42. The simple definition of democracy is government by the people, directly or through representation.
- _____ 43. U.S. senators are elected by the vote of the people in their states and represent their states.
- _____ 44. The Declaration of Independence was adopted on January 1, 1787.
- _____ 45. Voting and running for public office are examples of Americans participating in their democracy.
- _____ 46. The Constitution allows for laws to be made on subjects that did not even exist in 1787.
- _____ 47. The original 13 colonies included Kentucky.
- _____ 48. Before he was president, Dwight D. Eisenhower was a general in World War II.
- _____ 49. Colonists came to America mainly to fight the Native Americans.
- _____ 50. The president's group of advisors is called the "Cabinet."
- _____ 51. Ben Franklin was president of the Constitutional Convention in 1787.
- _____ 52. Independence Hall is the building in which the Constitutional Convention met.
- _____ 53. The Declaration of Independence announced our country's independence from Great Britain.