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**GETTING STARTED**

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Most of you are fortunate enough to be citizens of this great land, the United States of America. For others, seeking citizenship to the United States is their ultimate goal. In either case, becoming familiar with the basics of how government works is key for participating in the democratic process.

### How well do you know your country?

Citizenship is the common thread that connects all Americans. We are a nation bound by the shared values of freedom, liberty, and equality.

As explained by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), a person who is applying to become a citizen must show a commitment to the United States and loyalty to its Constitution and its people.

One of the requirements for becoming a naturalized citizen is to pass the civics portion of the naturalization test. The USCIS recently revised the naturalization test to make sure it is fair, meaningful, and standardized throughout the country. To pass the test, applicants must correctly answer questions from a selection of U.S. history, government, and other civics topics. The test's emphasis on the fundamental concepts of American democracy and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship is intended to encourage students to learn and identify the basic values we all share as Americans.

Now is a good time to take a pre-test of 20 questions similar to those on the naturalization test. This will measure your current knowledge of United States history and government, along with related topics such as holidays, symbols, and geography. It will demonstrate the progress you have made by the end of your citizenship study. Be sure to compare the results of the pre-test with your end-of-the-unit test.

Here are 20 questions, please take this pre-study test without doing any research or using other reference tools.

### Citizenship Unit Pre-Study Questions

**Multiple Choice** - Circle the letter of the correct answer.

- What is the supreme law of the land?
  - Declaration of Independence
  - The United States Constitution
  - The Articles of Confederation
  - Your State Constitution
- Name one right or freedom from the First Amendment.
  - speech
  - assembly
  - religion
  - all are First Amendment rights
- How many amendments does the Constitution have?
  - 10
  - 12
  - 20
  - 27
- What is the term of a U.S. senator (in years)?
  - 2
  - 4
  - 6
  - 8
- What do we show loyalty to when we say the Pledge of Allegiance?
  - Congress
  - the state where you live
  - the President
  - the United States
- Who is Commander-in-Chief of the military?
  - The President
  - Secretary of State
  - Secretary of Defense
  - Attorney General
- How many justices on the Supreme Court?
  - 5
  - 7
  - 9
  - 11
- What is one power that belongs to the states?
  - coin money
  - provide schools
  - establish post offices
  - grant copyrights
- How old do citizens have to be to vote for president?
  - 16
  - 18
  - 19
  - 21
- The Supreme Court is in which branch of government?
  - Judicial
  - Legislative
  - Executive
  - None of these
- What land did the U.S. buy from France in 1803?
  - Hawaii
  - New Hampshire
  - Louisiana Territory
  - Alaska
- Name one American Indian tribe in the United States.
  - Celts
  - Cherokee
  - Zawi Chemi
  - Slavs
- What does the president's Cabinet do?
  - commands the U.S. Armed Forces
  - advises the president
  - makes laws
  - all of the above
- When was the Constitution written?
  - 1776
  - 1787
  - 1790
  - 1821
- Name one state that borders Canada.
  - South Dakota
  - Maine
  - Oregon
  - Utah
- Name one war fought by the U.S. in the 1900s.
  - Civil War
  - War of 1812
  - Revolutionary War
  - World War I
- Who was president during the Great Depression and World War II?
  - Truman
  - F.D. Roosevelt
  - Hoover
  - Nixon
- When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?
  - July 4, 1776
  - March 4, 1789
  - January 15, 1788
  - None of these
- Which ocean is on the West Coast of the U.S?
  - Arctic
  - Atlantic
  - Pacific
  - Southern
- What was one important thing Abraham Lincoln did?
  - declared war on England
  - saved the Union
  - purchased Alaska
  - created post offices

**Number Correct** \_\_\_\_\_ + **Number Wrong** \_\_\_\_\_ = 20

**% Correct** = \_\_\_\_\_ (Number Correct /20)\*\*

**\*\*Remember this score and compare to your results from the end of unit self-test on Page 56.**

Answers: 1. b 2. d 3. d 4. c 5. d 6. a 7. c 8. b 9. b 10. a  
11. c 12. b 13. b 14. b 15. b 16. d 17. b 18. a 19. c 20. b



Shortly after the Declaration of Independence was signed, the first attempt at a national or federal government was made. This attempt was named the *Articles of Confederation*, and it became the basic law for all the colonies during the Revolutionary War.

The Articles of Confederation acted as the first constitution of the United States. The Articles were drawn up by the Second Continental Congress and were in use until the Constitution was signed in 1787. The Articles were weak because the colonists were reluctant to give much power to a central government. This was because they feared that a new central government might be no better than the English king had been. The states themselves had governments at this time, most with state constitutions.

When it became necessary to have a national or federal government for conducting the Revolutionary War, the states made the government weak. The Articles were so weak that the government could not even pay its bills. It did have limited powers to make war or peace, but other powers were lacking. Robert Morris stated that getting money from the states was like “preaching to the dead.” To raise money, the central government could only ask the states for funds; it could not tax.

At the end of the Revolutionary War, the American government was in serious financial trouble. Soldiers who had served without pay were granted western land certificates instead of money, but most had to sell their certificates for money to live on. Farmers with large debts rebelled against the courts that were taking away their farms. An example of such a rebellion was the *Shays’ Rebellion* by farmers in Massachusetts. Jails were crowded with debtors. States were taxing each other harmfully and arguing about land claims to the West. Tariff laws were needed for business and industry. Prices soared and credit disappeared. It became increasingly evident that the only solution was a stronger central government.

### Weaknesses of the Articles

Listed below are weaknesses identified by the colonists:

- No national courts, only state courts.
- No power to tax.
- No real power to regulate commerce.
- All changes in the Articles had to be approved by all of the states.
- All important laws had to be approved by nine states.
- No real president, only a president of Congress who was like a chairman.

### Civil Rights & the Articles of Confederation

Civil rights are those rights that are considered to be unquestionable; deserved by all people under all circumstances, especially without regard to race, creed, color, or gender. These personal rights are guaranteed and protected by the Constitution.

The fight for civil rights didn’t wait until the 1950s to happen. Some started as early as the Articles of Confederation! Paul Cuffee was a free black from Massachusetts. When he discovered he did not have the same property rights as whites, he refused to pay his taxes and was jailed. Cuffee later became a successful trader with his own fleet of ships and continued to fight for equal rights throughout his lifetime.

### QUESTIONS

**MATCH THE STATEMENT IN SECTION A WITH THE TERM IN SECTION B.**

#### A

- \_\_\_ 1. Started by farmers in Massachusetts who were losing their farms.
- \_\_\_ 2. Form of government during the American Revolution.
- \_\_\_ 3. Had to approve important acts under the Articles.
- \_\_\_ 4. Fear of this was in the minds of many American colonists in the 1780s.
- \_\_\_ 5. This power was lacking in the Articles of Confederation.

#### B

- a. states
- b. Shays’ Rebellion
- c. taxation
- d. strong central government
- e. Articles of Confederation

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

- \_\_\_ 1. The Articles of Confederation acted as the first U.S. Constitution.
- \_\_\_ 2. The Articles were weak because of the fear of a strong central government.
- \_\_\_ 3. Shays’ Rebellion was carried out to support a weak central government.
- \_\_\_ 4. The Declaration of Independence was signed before the Articles of Confederation were written.
- \_\_\_ 5. The Articles were drawn up by the Second Continental Congress.
- \_\_\_ 6. Freedom from discrimination is considered an example of a civil right.

### SHORT ANSWER

Explain what Morris meant by his statement “preaching to the dead.” \_\_\_\_\_

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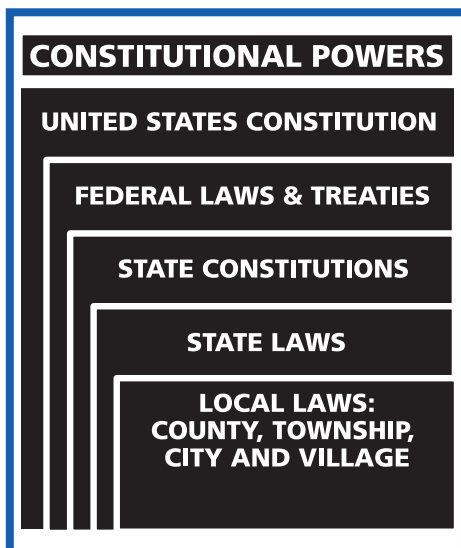
A *constitution* is a set of laws and principles that provides guidelines for the way a nation is to be governed, making it the **Supreme Law of the Land**. These fundamental principles may be written in a document, as in the United State Constitution. However, some nations have unwritten constitutions. In Great Britain, for example, the government operates effectively, although there is no written constitution.

A constitution indicates who makes the laws, enforces, and interprets them when disagreements arise. It outlines many other aspects concerning how a nation is organized. A constitution is important in establishing procedures of government and maintaining order in a nation.

### What is the U.S. Constitution?

- The Supreme Law of the Land.
- A system of fundamental principles to which our country is governed.
- It provides the framework for the organization of the United States Government.
- Gives and protects fundamental rights to all citizens and people living in the United States.
- Oldest constitution in the world.

The United States Constitution is a living document. It is as important to citizens today as it was to Americans when it was adopted. It is not just historically interesting, but is of practical concern in our daily lives. Its language is not ancient and dead, but can be understood and appreciated by ordinary people living in the twentieth century. There are many parts of the Constitution that you can easily read and understand. There are other parts whose meanings will be clear as you study and discuss the material in this book.



The chart shows where the state constitution fits regarding authority and power. While each of the 50 states has its own constitution, all provisions of state constitutions must comply with the United States Constitution. The 10th Amendment recognizes the powers of state governments.

## The Bill of Rights

The authors of the Constitution trusted Congress would make good and just laws, and the court system would see that every person was treated fairly. However, many people feared the new government would be too strong and, perhaps, take away individual freedom, just as the British government had done.

Therefore, during the fight to ratify the Constitution, the Federalists were obliged to propose a bill of rights that would safeguard the rights of the people. The Federalists promised this bill of rights would be added to the Constitution as soon as the new Congress met.

As the delegates gathered in May 1787 to revise the Articles of Confederation, a Virginia delegate, George Mason, voiced his disappointment with the new constitutional proposals because "... there is no declaration of individual rights." Mason had earlier written the Virginia Declaration of Rights and that declaration had influenced Thomas Jefferson when he wrote the first part of the Declaration of Independence. Ultimately, Mason's views were accepted by James Madison. Madison would come to be called the "Father of the Constitution" because of his negotiating power and suggestions of compromise.

In 1789, the new Congress took action when Madison proposed 15 amendments. In 1791, 10 of them were approved. They make up what we call the **Bill of Rights**, or the first 10 amendments.

These amendments provide certain guarantees that had not been written into the Constitution. Their purpose was to protect the rights of the people against any misuse of governmental powers. These first 10 amendments guaranteed fundamental freedoms, including:

- freedom of religion, speech, and the press
- the right to assemble and petition the government
- the right to keep and bear arms
- freedom from unreasonable search and seizure
- that no person be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law
- the right to a fair and speedy trial
- the right to a trial by jury
- protection against excessive bail or unusual punishment

People are guaranteed these freedoms as long as they do not take away the freedom of others. Even today these important freedoms can be threatened. Controversial subjects are under the protection of the Bill of Rights, such as religion, unpopular ideas, censorship, membership and activity in unpopular organizations, and expressions of minority opinions. It is the job of the courts to interpret the Constitution and decide the rights of individuals.





The authors of the Constitution could not have imagined that, in 200 years, people would be exploring outer space or going from coast to coast in a few hours. Nor could they have imagined all the changes in daily living that would occur. Today, we claim the protection of the Constitution, written when there were only a few million people in the United States. The Constitution now protects more than 300 million Americans. Almost everything about the United States has changed, except the Constitution. It is truly an outstanding document that has withstood the test of time.

Yet, the Constitution changes in some very important ways. In upcoming units, you will see how the Constitution is officially amended. Officials, who operate the government under the rules of the Constitution, constantly interpret its meaning. The Constitution allows a great deal of freedom to do this (and is referred to as a living document). It's a basic guide for government and safeguards our freedom. It's flexible and brief enough to allow for adjustments. For example, the Constitution sets up strict rules for making laws to ensure they are just and democratic. But, the Constitution also gives Congress the power to make laws. This provides our Congress with the ability to make laws in areas that did not even exist when the Constitution was written. Space exploration and the internet are two examples. Can you think of others?

### Quotes on the Constitution

Two centuries of growth and unrivaled prosperity have proven the foresight of the 55 men who worked through the summer of 1787 to lay the foundation of American government. In the words of Archibald Cox, former solicitor general of the United States, "The original Constitution still serves us well despite the tremendous changes in every aspect of American life because the framers had the genius to say enough but not too much.... As the plan outlined in the Constitutional Convention succeeded, as the country grew and prospered both materially and in the realization of its ideals, the Constitution gained majesty and authority far greater than that of any individual or body of men."

Quotes from the Founding Father's give insight into the attitude and mindset of the time:

*"Let our government be like that of the solar system. Let the general government be like the sun and the states the planets, repelled yet attracted, and the whole moving regularly and harmoniously in several orbits."*  
— John Dickinson

*"The happy Union of these States is a wonder; their Constitution a miracle; their example of Liberty throughout the world."*  
— James Madison

*"Our new Constitution is now established, and has an appearance that promises permanency; but in this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes."*  
— Ben Franklin

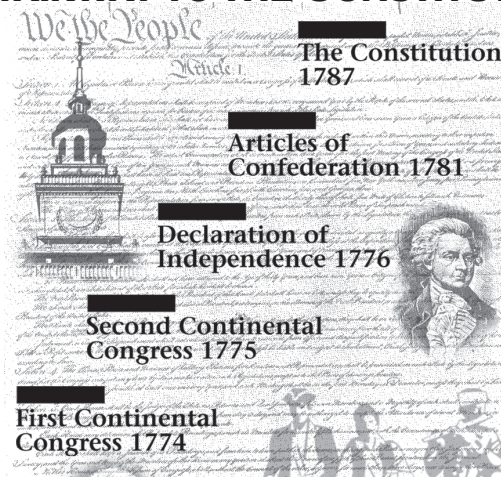
*"The Constitution is the guide which I will never abandon."*  
— George Washington

Within the framework of the Constitution, as interpreted by the courts, we are governed by laws, treaties, and customs. Later, you will study judicial review and the amending process, helping you better understand how the Constitution is changed.

### The Constitution has lasted because it:

- provides for a government by the people;
- provides for a government that can act when in danger;
- provides for a federal union where people retain certain rights and powers in their own states;
- guarantees individual rights even when the individual's views are unpopular or in the minority;
- has preserved the Union;
- provides the leaders of our government an opportunity to interpret the Constitution and apply it to changing times;
- has provisions for orderly changes.

### STAIRWAY TO THE CONSTITUTION



The chart above shows the documents and events leading up to the signing of the Constitution in 1787.

### QUESTIONS

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

1. Changing the interpretation of the Constitution is what makes our Constitution weak.
2. The Constitution allows laws to be made for subjects that did not exist in 1787.
3. The Constitution can be changed only through rebellion and revolution.
4. The Articles of Confederation were written after the Declaration of Independence.
5. The first 10 amendments make up the Bill of Rights.

**MATCH THE PERSON.** Write the letter from **Section B** in the space that matches the person in **Section A**.

#### A

1. Benjamin Franklin \_\_\_\_\_
2. George Washington \_\_\_\_\_
3. Thomas Jefferson \_\_\_\_\_
4. Alexander Hamilton \_\_\_\_\_
5. James Madison \_\_\_\_\_

#### B

- a. First President of the U.S.
- b. Father of the Constitution
- c. Oldest Delegate at the Convention
- d. Strong Federalist & \$10 bill
- e. Wrote the Declaration of Independence



America started with a war to win independence and has evolved into more complex conflicts. The nation expanded boundaries, insured continued freedoms, and defined their interests around the globe.

The chart on the right gives a summary of the major conflicts in United States history. Also, it shows the president who was in office at the time of the war. A more detailed discussion is below (the Revolutionary War was covered in earlier units).

### War of 1812

Some consider the War of 1812 to be the second war for independence. While the American Revolution granted America its political independence, the War of 1812 secured America's commercial independence and helped propel the nation's westward expansion.

The War of 1812 lasted from 1812 through 1815. The British stopped and seized American ships, disrupting the new nation's trade. They also armed American Indians to fight against the Americans. These actions forced President James Madison to ask Congress to declare war on Great Britain.

During a battle at Fort McHenry near Baltimore, Maryland, an American named Francis Scott Key watched the bombing and thought the fort would fall. The next morning Key saw the American flag above the fort still flying, meaning the British were defeated. He then wrote the words to a poem he called the "Defence of Fort M'Henry" that eventually became the "The Star-Spangled Banner."

The Americans ended up winning the War of 1812, although all the trade issues were not resolved. The British gave up claims to some of its land in North America.

### Mexican-American War

Between 1846 and 1848, the United States and Mexico, went to war. The war began in Texas in 1846 with President James Polk ordering forces to occupy land claimed by both the United States and Mexico. Polk wanted to continue the westward expansion and grow the United States. Mexico was angered by these actions and attacked the United States.

When the war ended in February 1848, Mexico was forced to give up nearly half of its territory. This land eventually became the states of California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah. The boundaries of the United States now extended west to the Pacific Ocean.

### Civil War

From 1861 to 1865, the American union was broken as brother fought brother in a civil war that remains a defining moment in our nation's history. Its causes and consequences included the continuing struggle for civil rights for all Americans.

The northern states (the *Union*) and the southern states (the *Confederacy*) fought over slavery, support for the federal government, and states' rights. The

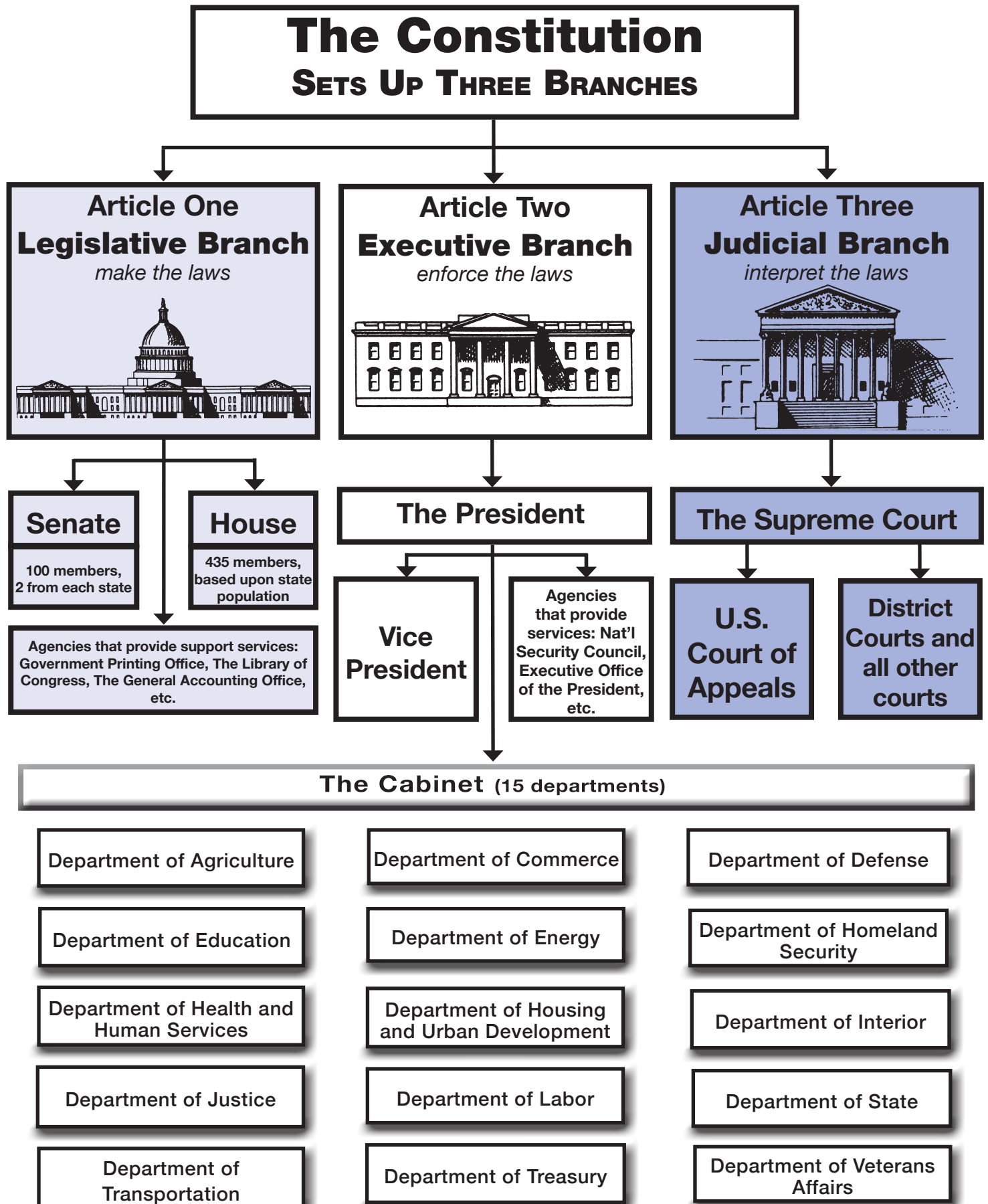
*continued on next page*

## War and Presidents Timeline

War	Year and Duration of Conflict	President(s) in Office During Conflict
Revolutionary War (1775—1783)	1770 1780 1790	Our <i>Declaration of Independence</i> was signed in 1776, with our first Constitution being adopted in 1789. Our first president, <b>George Washington</b> took office in 1789.
	1800	
War of 1812 (1812—1815)	1810 1820	<b>James Madison</b> (1809—1817)
	1830	
Mexican — American War (1846—1848)	1840 1850	<b>James Polk</b> (1845—1849)
Civil War (1861—1865)	1860 1870	<b>Abraham Lincoln</b> (1861—1865)
	1880	
Spanish — American War (1898—1899)	1890 1900	<b>William McKinley</b> (1897—1901)
World War I (1917—1919)	1910 1920	<b>Woodrow Wilson</b> (1913—1921)
World War II (1941—1945)	1930 1940	<b>Franklin Roosevelt</b> (1933—1945)
Korean War (1950—1953)	1950 1960	<b>Harry Truman</b> (1945—1953)
Vietnam War (1959—1975)	1970	<b>Lyndon Johnson</b> (1963—1969) <b>Richard Nixon</b> (1969—1974)
	1980	
Persian Gulf War (1990—1991)	1990 2000	<b>George H. Bush</b> (1989—1993)
Post — 9/11 (2001—present)	2010 2020	<b>George W. Bush</b> (2001—2009) <b>Barack Obama</b> (2009—2017)



Students: You are now ready to study the three branches of government as outlined below.





Perhaps the longest debate at the Constitutional Convention concerned the method of selecting the president. An early suggestion was to give this power to Congress. But that would have destroyed the idea of the separation of powers. How could we have three branches of government, each checking the other, if the legislative branch (the Congress) picked the head of the executive branch (the president)?

The writers of the Constitution also weren't ready to give the selection of the president to the people or the "common man." So they wrote a compromise into Article 2 of the Constitution. The compromise set up a system of electors to select the president. These electors came to be known as the Electoral College, but the Constitution itself does not mention the term "Electoral College."

Each state would get as many "electors" as there were senators and representatives from that state. And, in the 23rd Amendment to the Constitution in 1961, three additional electoral votes were added for the voters of Washington, D.C. That made a total of 538 electors (electoral votes for each state equals the number of representatives plus two for the senators), and a vote of 270 or more would be necessary to select the president. The map below shows the distribution of electoral votes based on the 2010 reapportionment.

Before 1961, the voters in Washington, D.C., didn't get to vote for the president at all. This was not considered fair in the capital of our country.

To summarize, if a candidate gets the most popular

(people) votes in the state, the "electors" will then cast their votes the same way. Thus all the electoral votes for the state will (except for Maine and Nebraska) go to the winner of the state.

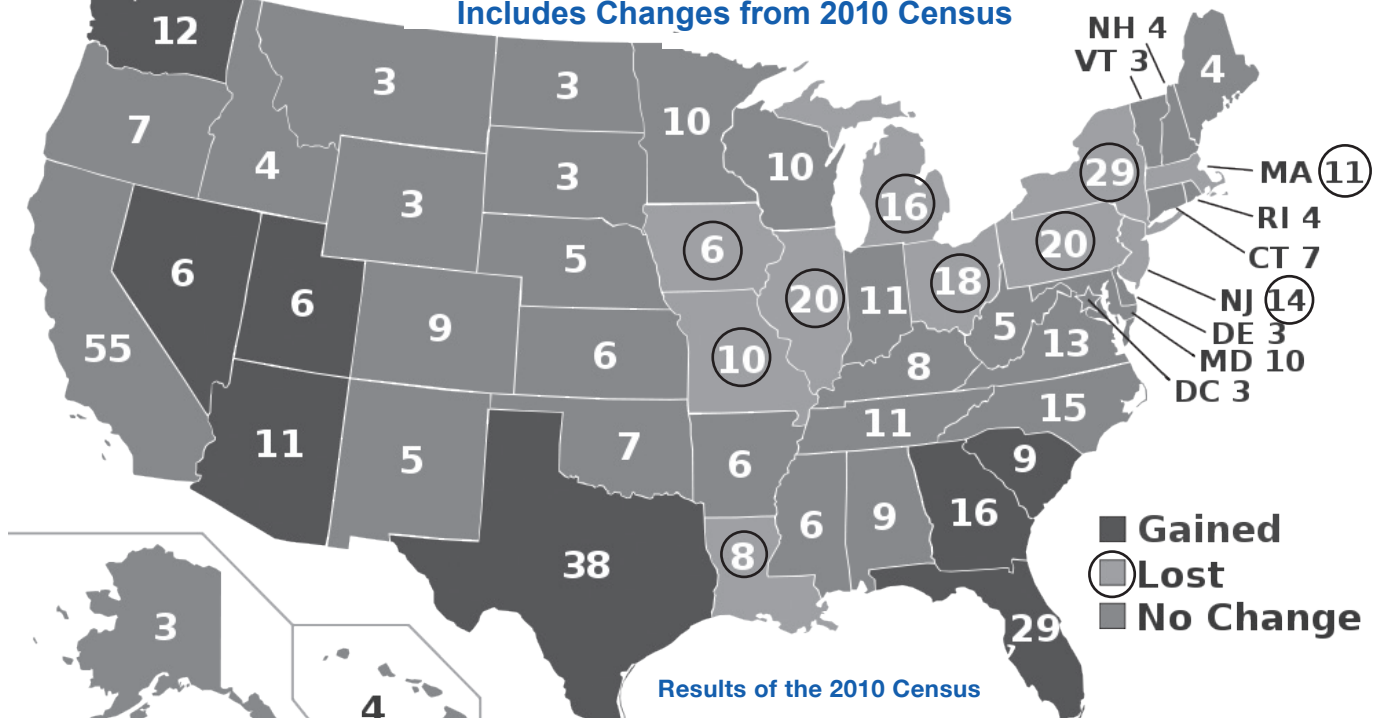
The writers of the Constitution also thought that the Electoral College gave states with a small population more of equal weight in the presidential election.

One of the problems political scientists see in the Electoral College is that it allows a person to be selected president who has not won the popular vote in the country. In our growing beliefs in the power and rights of democracy in our country, that could be a problem. Because all the electoral votes of a state go to the candidate who wins the vote in that state, whether the candidate wins by a single vote or a million votes, it is possible to be elected president without having the most votes.

That has not happened very often, but it did occur in 2000 when George W. Bush became president and again recently in the 2016 election. President Trump became president even though Hillary Clinton won a majority of the popular votes. And, because this has happened so recently, Americans are debating the pros and cons of the Electoral College. Since a change in the electoral vote would require a constitutional amendment, change will not come easily. Supporters of the current system say that it has served the nation well and forces candidates to gain broad geographic support rather than concentrating only on large metropolitan areas.

*continued*

### Electoral College Membership Includes Changes from 2010 Census



Electors by State = U.S. Representatives + U.S. Senators





In a democracy, a citizen has the responsibility for the government under which he or she lives. By voting and staying informed on the issues he or she takes part in the business of government. With every freedom we enjoy, there are also corresponding duties. We must perform these duties, such as voting, if we expect to enjoy our freedom.

Voting is a constitutional right. Early in American history, only white men over the age of 21 could vote. Then it took two constitutional amendments — one in 1870 and the other in 1920 — to give black people and women, respectively, the right to vote. Then, when Americans 18 and older were in the military fighting in wars, people began to think that if young people were old enough to die for their country, they were surely old enough to vote. So in 1971, the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gave 18-year-olds the right to vote.

### Primary Elections

Primaries are elections held before the general election in which party members select the candidates of their party, mainly the Republican Party and the Democratic Party. The winners of these primaries then face each other in the upcoming general election. Primaries are usually held in the spring before the fall general election.

#### Registering for the Selective Service

Virtually all male U.S. citizens, regardless of where they live, and male immigrants, whether documented or undocumented, residing in the United States, who are 18 through 25, are required to register with Selective Service.

In a crisis requiring a draft, men would be called in a sequence determined by random lottery number and year of birth. Then, they would be examined for mental, physical, and moral fitness by the military before being deferred or exempted from military service or inducted into the Armed Forces.

### General Elections

The most publicized elections in the United States are the general elections. They are biennial elections. That is, they are held every two years in even-numbered years. Citizens also vote for the President of the United States in every other general election. The next presidential election will be 2020. President Trump will be eligible to run, as he will have served only one of the two allowable terms.

### Election Day Voting

States offer three ways for voters to cast a ballot before Election Day:

**Early Voting:** In 37 states (including three that mail ballots

to all voters) and the District of Columbia, any qualified voter may cast a ballot in person during a designated period prior to Election Day. No excuse or justification is required.

**Absentee Voting:** All states will mail an absentee ballot to certain voters who request one. The voter may return the ballot by mail or in person. In 20 states, an excuse is required, while 27 states and the District of Columbia permit any qualified voter to vote absentee without offering an excuse.

**Mail Voting:** A ballot is automatically mailed to every eligible voter (no request or application is necessary). In-person voting sites may also be available for voters who would like to vote in-person and to provide additional services to voters. Three states mail ballots to all eligible voters for every election. Other states may provide this option for some types of elections.

### Voting Requirements

In every state, a citizen must obey the election laws. They also must meet the requirements that have been set up by those laws. Federal and state elections in the United States are run by the states themselves. No two states run their elections the same, so contacting your state or local election office is the best way to find out about your state's unique election rules.

General voting requirements include:

1. A voter must be at least 18 years old on Election Day for general elections.
2. Meet your state's residency requirements.
3. A voter must be a United States citizen.
4. Must be registered to vote (except for residents of North Dakota, which doesn't have voter registration).



### The Two-Party System

Our political party system is called the *two-party* system because most elections are won by a candidate from either the Democratic or Republican Party. The much smaller or special interest parties in the country may also try to elect a candidate. These smaller parties are called *third parties* and may include the Constitution, Libertarian, and Green parties.

### QUESTIONS

#### SHORT ANSWER

1. When is the next general election? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How often is a general election held? \_\_\_\_\_
3. If you are going to be absent on Election Day, how can you still vote? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What are the requirements for voters? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Who needs to register for the Selective Service and what age? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Describe our two-party system. \_\_\_\_\_



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

## American History

1. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived? (4) \_\_\_\_\_
2. What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves? (4) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name three of the original 13 colonies. (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What are some of the reasons colonists came to America? (5) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Give some of the reasons colonists fought the British (5) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence? (6) \_\_\_\_\_ When adopted? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What was the reason for the Declaration of Independence? (6) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What are two rights included in the Declaration of Independence? (6) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. When and where did the Constitutional Convention meet? (8) \_\_\_\_\_
10. What was the result of the work at the Constitutional Convention? (9) \_\_\_\_\_
11. What year was the Constitution signed and ratified? (9) \_\_\_\_\_
12. Name one of the Federalist Paper writers that supported the Constitution. (9) \_\_\_\_\_
13. Who was our first president and the "Father of our Country"? (9) \_\_\_\_\_
14. What is the "Supreme Law of the Land"? (10) \_\_\_\_\_
15. What does the Constitution do? (10) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. What are the Bill of Rights and what was the purpose? (10) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
17. Name two powers that the Constitution grants to the federal government and two powers granted to the states. (13) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
18. What was the purpose of the Preamble to the Constitution? (14) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
19. In the Preamble, what words describe the idea of self-government? (14) \_\_\_\_\_
20. How many articles does the Constitution have? (14) \_\_\_\_\_
21. How many amendments have been made to the Constitution? (14-15) \_\_\_\_\_
22. What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment? (14) \_\_\_\_\_
23. Name one war fought by the United States in the 1800s. (16-17) \_\_\_\_\_
24. Name the U.S. war between the North and the South, and what triggered this fight. (16-17) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
25. Name the presidents who were in office for World War I and World War II. (16-17) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
26. Who did the United States fight in World War II? (17) \_\_\_\_\_
27. What happened on September 11, 2001? (18) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
28. What territory did the United States buy from France in 1803? (19) \_\_\_\_\_
29. What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is known for? (20) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
30. When was Abraham Lincoln president? (20) \_\_\_\_\_ What was one of his notable accomplishments? (20) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
31. For what movement was Susan B. Anthony a strong activist? (21) \_\_\_\_\_



The following self-test will help you prepare for your final Citizenship test. It has questions similar to ones you will find on your final. It is suggested you write your answers on a piece of paper so you can take the test a number of times. You will find the correct answers at the bottom of Page 56.

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The president may serve how many terms?    A. 1    B. 2    C. 3    D. 4
2. \_\_\_\_\_ What rights are granted to everyone living in the United States?  
                            A. freedom of religion                      C. freedom of assembly  
                            B. the right to bear arms                  D. all of the previous are rights
3. \_\_\_\_\_ How many amendments have been added to the Constitution?    A. 10    B. 21    C. 27    D. 41
4. \_\_\_\_\_ How many years is the president's term of office?                  A. 2    B. 4    C. 6    D. 9
5. \_\_\_\_\_ What is the age requirement to become president?    A. 18    B. 21    C. 35    D. 45
6. \_\_\_\_\_ What important event was Abraham Lincoln a major participant?  
                            A. signed the Constitution    C. moved the location of the White House  
                            B. freed the slaves                      D. Women's suffrage and the 19th Amendment
7. \_\_\_\_\_ How many stripes are on the American flag?                  A. 10    B. 13    C. 27    D. 50
8. \_\_\_\_\_ How many U.S. senators come from each state?    A. 1    B. 2    C. 3    D. 4
9. \_\_\_\_\_ When must all men register for Selective Service?  
                            A. at age 16                  B. at age 18                  C. after college                  D. no registering required
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Who may veto a bill proposed by Congress?  
                            A. the president of the United States    C. the vice president  
                            B. the secretary of state                      D. all Cabinet members
11. \_\_\_\_\_ What is one of the major U.S. territories?  
                            A. Guam                                  C. Dominican Republic  
                            B. Alaska                                  D. Cuba
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Which of these rights is not an unalienable right from the Declaration of Independence?  
                            A. liberty    B. education    C. pursuit of happiness    D. life
13. \_\_\_\_\_ The Declaration of Independence was written largely by:  
                            A. Hamilton    B. Washington    C. Jefferson    D. Adams
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Who is the commander in chief of the military?  
                            A. the Vice President                      C. the Secretary of State  
                            B. the Secretary of Defense    D. the President
15. \_\_\_\_\_ There are how many branches of government?    A. 1    B. 2    C. 3    D. 4
16. \_\_\_\_\_ Who was a writer(s) of the Federalist Papers that supported the Constitution?  
                            A. Hamilton    B. Jefferson    C. Madison    D. both A & C
17. \_\_\_\_\_ In the First Amendment, which is NOT a "freedom"?  
                            A. freedom of the press                      C. freedom of speech  
                            B. freedom of employment    D. freedom of religion
18. \_\_\_\_\_ Which power is NOT granted to the states by the Constitution?  
                            A. establish local governments                  C. coin and issue money  
                            B. establish schools                                  D. provide for state militia
19. \_\_\_\_\_ Which war was fought in the 1900s?  
                            A. Civil War    B. World War II    C. War of 1812    D. Mexican-American War
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Which amendment does NOT mention voting and who is eligible?  
                            A. 15th Amendment                      C. 22nd Amendment  
                            B. 19th Amendment                      D. 26th Amendment