

Can You Pass a Civics Test?

An important part of the application process for becoming a U.S. citizen is passing a civics test. During a face-to-face interview with an Immigration official, prospective citizens are asked a variety of questions about the United States' history, geography, and system of government. There are 100 possible questions on the naturalization test; applicants are asked up to 10 questions and must be able to answer at least 6 correctly. While the format below is multiple choice, interviewees must answer purely from memory in real life. How would you do?



1. When was the Constitution written?

- a. 1789
- b. 1790
- c. 1787
- d. 1776

2. What is the economic system in the United States?

- a. Capitalist economy
- b. Communist economy
- c. Socialist economy
- d. None of the above

3. The House of Representatives has how many voting members?

- a. 441
- b. 435
- c. 200
- d. 100

4. Name one of the two longest rivers in the United States.

- a. Ohio River
- b. Rio Grande River
- c. Colorado River
- d. Mississippi River

5. What does the judicial branch do?

- a. Resolve disputes
- b. Decides if a law goes against the Constitution
- c. Reviews laws
- d. All of the above

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

- a. Serve on a jury
- b. Obey the law
- c. Be respectful of others
- d. Pay taxes

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

- a. The Inalienable Rights
- b. The Declaration of Independence
- c. The Bill of Rights
- d. The Articles of Confederation

(over)

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

- a. Vietnam War
- b. World War II
- c. Civil War
- d. Spanish-American War

9. Name two national U.S. holidays.

- a. Valentine's Day and Presidents' Day
- b. Labor Day and Thanksgiving
- c. Citizenship Day and Columbus Day
- d. April Fool's Day and Labor Day

10. When must all men register for the Selective Service?

- a. At any age
- b. At age 16
- c. Between 18 and 26
- d. Men do not have to register

11. Name one American Indian tribe in the United States.

- a. Cherokee
- b. Slavs
- c. Celts
- d. Zawi Chemi

12. Why do some states have more Representatives than other states?

- a. Because of the geographical size of the state
- b. Because the state's Representatives have seniority in the House of Representatives
- c. Because of the state's location
- d. Because of the state's population

13. There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. Describe one.

- a. Citizens 18 and older can vote.
- b. Only citizens with a job can vote.
- c. Citizens by birth only can vote.
- d. Citizens 17 and older can vote.

14. Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now?

- a. Clarence Thomas
- b. John Jay
- c. Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- d. John G. Roberts, Jr.

15. What is the "rule of law"?

- a. Everyone but the President must follow the law.
- b. Everyone must follow the law.
- c. All laws must be the same in every state.
- d. Government does not have to follow the law.

Answers:

1. C 2. A 3. B 4. D 5. D 6. A 7. C 8. B 9. B 10. C 11. A 12. D 13. A 14. D 15. B