

Civics



Get ready for the part of your
naturalization interview focused on the

2025 Civics Test



LITERACY VOLUNTEERS
CHARLOTTESVILLE / ALBEMARLE

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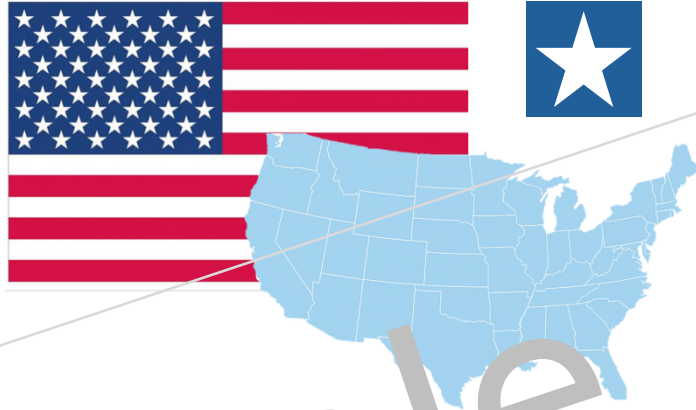
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Unit 2

Symbols and Holidays

Countries have symbols that remind people of their country. Flags are important symbols of countries.

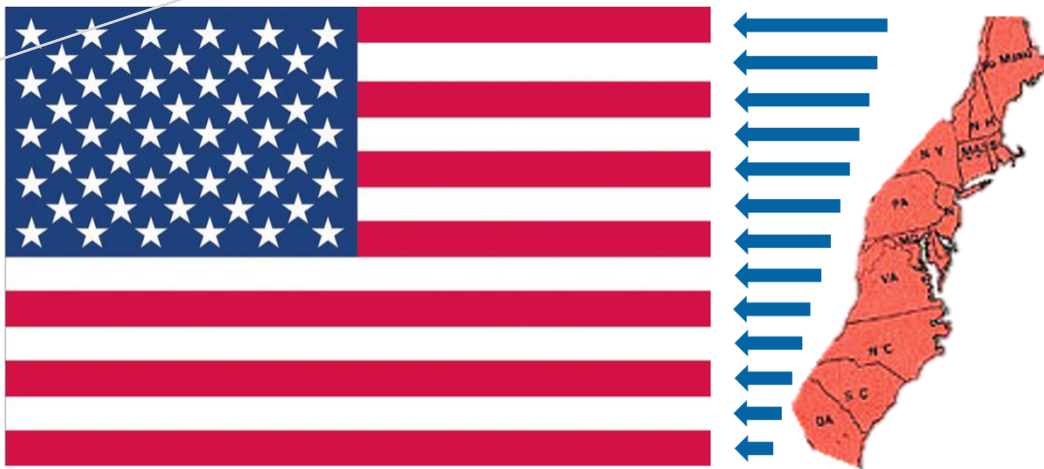
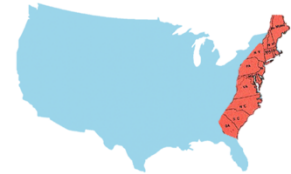
The U.S. flag has 50 stars, one star for every state. The flag has 50 stars **because there are 50 states.**



Why does the flag have 50 stars?

Because there are 50 states

The United States did not always have 50 states. Before the United States was a country, it was 13 colonies. The U.S. flag has 13 stripes **because there were 13 colonies.**



Why does the flag have 13 stripes?

Because there were 13 colonies

Every country has a national anthem. It is a song that is an important symbol of the country. The name of the United States national anthem is **The Star-Spangled Banner**.

Star



Spangled



decorated

Banner



flag



The star-spangled banner is the American flag: it is a flag decorated with stars.

What is the name of the National Anthem?

The Star-Spangled Banner

Another important symbol of the United States is the Statue of Liberty. For many years, immigrants on ships saw the Statue of Liberty when they got to the U.S. The Statue of Liberty is in **New York**.



Where is the Statue of Liberty?

New York

The United States has 11 national holidays every year. One of our biggest holidays is Independence Day. It is on the 4th of July. Independence Day is **the country's birthday**.



What is Independence Day?

the country's birthday

Another U.S. holiday is Veterans Day. It is **a day to honor people in the military**. Veterans Day is in November.

NOVEMBER						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



What is Veterans Day?

A day to honor people in the military

The United States has **a day to honor people who died in military service**. It is called Memorial Day.



What is Memorial Day?

A day to honor people who died in military service



Independence Day



Veterans Day



Memorial Day

Name 3 national U.S. holidays.

**Independence Day
Veterans Day
Memorial Day**

Do you know the other U.S. national holidays?



Symbols & Holidays: Practice!

Practice saying the questions and answers out loud.

- Why does the flag have 50 stars? _____
- Why does the flag have 13 stripes? _____
- What is the name of the national anthem? _____
- Where is the Statue of Liberty? _____
- What is Independence Day? _____
- What is Veterans Day? _____
- What is Memorial Day? _____
- Name 3 national U.S. holidays. _____

Answers:

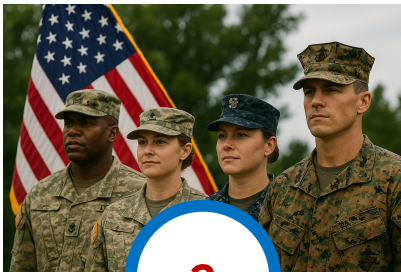
- a. New York
- b. The country's birthday
- c. The Star-Spangled Banner
- d. Because there are 50 states
- e. Because there were 13 colonies
- f. A day to honor people in the military
- g. Independence Day, Veterans Day, Memorial Day
- h. A day to honor people who died in military service

Which picture...?

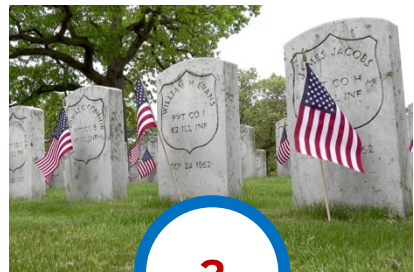
- ☐ Which picture shows Memorial Day?
- ☐ Which picture shows Independence Day?
- ☐ Which picture shows Veterans Day?



1



2



3

Unit 3

Before the United States

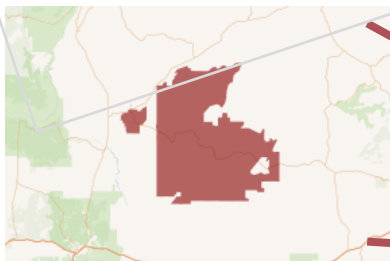
Before the United States became a country, people from Europe came to live here. They lived in colonies controlled by European countries. Before the Europeans arrived, **American Indians** lived in America.



Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?

American Indians

There are over 500 American Indian tribes in the United States today. One American Indian tribe is **Hopi**.



H  **PI**



Name one American Indian tribe in the United States.

Hopi

In the 1600s and 1700s, Britain had 13 colonies on the east coast of America. The people who moved from Europe to live in the colonies are called colonists.

The colonists came to the American colonies for many reasons. Many colonists came for **freedom**. They wanted freedom to choose their religion and their jobs.



The colonists came to America for many reasons. Name one.

Freedom

Later in the 1700s, American colonists started to get mad at the king of Britain. One reason Americans were so mad was because the king made the Americans pay **high taxes**.



Pay high taxes!



The Americans declared independence from Britain. They wanted to become a new country.

Name one reason Americans declared independence from Britain.

High taxes

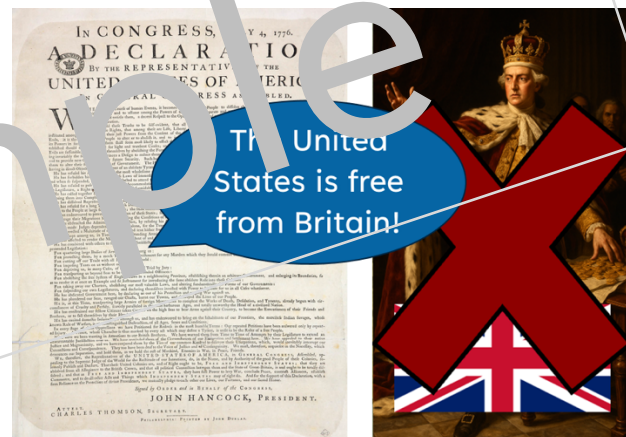
The king did not want the colonies to be a new country. The Americans fought a war called the **American Revolution** to win independence from Britain.



What war did the Americans fight to win independence from Britain?

American Revolution

The Americans wrote a document saying the colonies were free from Britain. They said they were a new country called the United States of America. The document is the **Declaration of Independence**.



What founding document said the American colonies were free from Britain?

Declaration of Independence

One important event of the American Revolution was the **Declaration of Independence**.



The American Revolution had many important events. Name one.

Declaration of Independence

Before the United States: Practice!

Practice saying the questions and answers out loud.

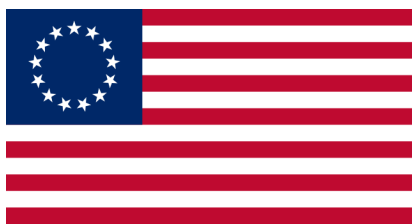
- Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived? _____
- Name one American Indian tribe in the United States. _____
- The colonists came to America for many reasons.
Name one. _____
- Name one reason why the Americans declared
independence from Britain. _____
- What war did the Americans fight to win
independence from Britain? _____
- What founding document said the American colonies
were free from Britain? _____
- The American Revolution had many important events.
Name one. _____

Answers:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| a. Freedom | d. Hopi |
| b. Declaration of Independence | e. American Revolution |
| c. American Indians | f. High taxes |

One answer can be used 2 times!

The American Flag Then and Now



Unit 5

A New Government

After the United States won the war against Britain, they had to create a new country with a new government. People from the new states met in 1787 to create a government. They wrote the **Constitution**.



What founding document was written in 1787?

Constitution

The Constitution starts with the words, “We the People.” It says “we the people” created the government. We did not have a king telling us what our government was.

“We the People” means we have **self-government**. The people created the government. The people get to vote for the government.



The U.S. Constitution starts with the words “We the People.” What does “We the People” mean?

Self-government

The people who wrote the Constitution were thinking about other important documents. One document that influenced what they wrote in the Constitution was the **Declaration of Independence**.



Many documents influenced the Constitution
Name one.

Declaration of Independence

Some of the ideas that were in the Declaration of Independence are also in the Constitution.

The Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution both say Americans have **liberty and self-government**.



Name 2 important ideas from the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

Liberty and Self-government

The Constitution created our government. It says what powers the government has. The U.S. Constitution **defines the parts of the government**.

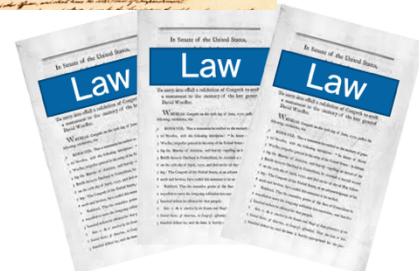


Name one thing the U.S. Constitution does

defines the parts of the government

The Constitution is the most important law in our country. It says what the government can and cannot do. No other law can go against the Constitution. The **Constitution** is the supreme law of the land.

The supreme law of the land



What is the supreme law of the land?

Constitution



The 13 colonies of Britain became the first 13 states of the United States of America.

Five of the new states were:

- New York
- New Jersey
- Virginia
- North Carolina
- South Carolina

There were 13 original states.
Name 5.

New York, New Jersey, Virginia,
North Carolina, South Carolina

How many of the 13 original states
have you visited?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut | <input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delaware | <input type="checkbox"/> New York |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Georgia | <input type="checkbox"/> North Carolina |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maryland | <input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts | <input type="checkbox"/> Rhode Island |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Hampshire | <input type="checkbox"/> South Carolina |

☐ Virginia

A New Government: Practice!

Practice saying the questions and answers out loud.

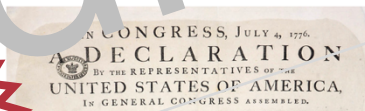
- What founding document was written in 1787? _____
- Name one thing the U.S. Constitution does. _____
- The U.S Constitution starts with the words “We the People.” What does “We the People” mean? _____
- What is the supreme law of the land? _____
- Many documents influenced the Constitution. Name one. _____
- Name two important ideas from the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. _____
- There were 13 original states. Name 5. _____

Answers:

- a. Equality and Liberty
- b. Constitution
- c. Defines the parts of the government
- d. Self-government
- e. Declaration of Independence
- f. New York, New Jersey, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina

One answer can be used for 2 questions!

Compare!



	Declaration of Independence	U.S. Constitution
What?	Said the American colonies were free from Britain	Defines the parts of the government
When?	July 4, 1776	1787
Famous words	“Life, Liberty and pursuit of Happiness”	“We the People”

Unit 12

The Courts

The judicial branch is the part of the government that has courts and judges. The judicial branch **explains laws**.



Review
from
Unit 8

What does the judicial branch do?

Explain laws

Sometimes a person thinks the judge in a lower court made a mistake or a law goes against the Constitution. They can ask a higher court to fix the mistake. The highest court in the United States is the **Supreme Court**.

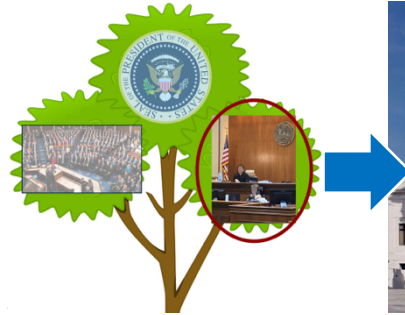
The Supreme Court



What is the highest court in the United States?

The Supreme Court

One part of the judicial branch is the **Supreme Court**.



What is one part of the judicial branch?

The Supreme Court

Judges on the Supreme Court are called justices. Each justice sits in one seat on the court. There are **9** justices on the Supreme Court.

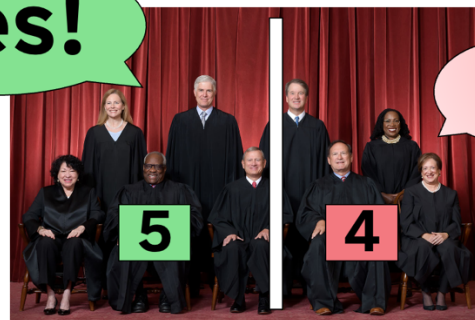


How many seats are on the Supreme Court?

9

When the justices on the Supreme Court vote on a case, they need just over half of them to agree. **5** Supreme Court justices are needed to decide a case.

Yes!



No!

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

5

The people who wrote the Constitution did not want any president or people in Congress to be able to tell the Supreme Court justices how to vote. They wanted Supreme Court justices **to be independent**.

To make sure the justices are independent, they keep their job until they retire or they die. They serve **for life**.

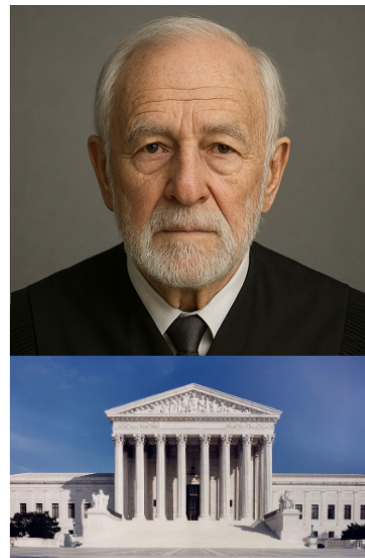


Supreme Court justices serve for life. Why?

To be independent



For Life



How long to Supreme Court justices serve?

For life

The Courts: Practice!

Practice saying the questions and answers out loud.

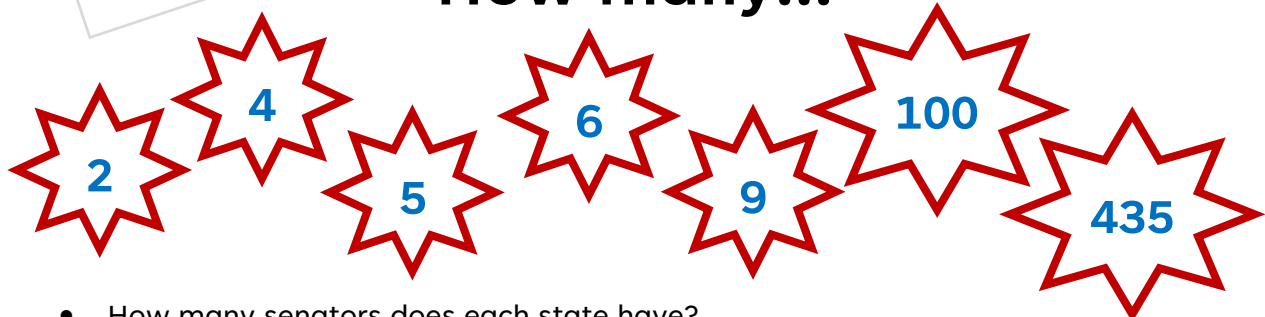
- What does the judicial branch do? _____
- What is the highest court in the United States? _____
- What is one part of the judicial branch? _____
- How many seats are on the Supreme Court? _____
- How many Supreme Court justices are usually needed to decide a case? _____
- Supreme Court justices serve for life. Why? _____
- How long do Supreme Court justices serve? _____

Answers:

- a. The Supreme Court
- b. 5
- c. Explains laws
- d. To be independent
- e. 9
- f. For life

One answer can be used 2 times!

How many...



- How many senators does each state have?
- How many U.S. Senators are there?
- How many voting members are there in the House of Representatives?
- How many seats are on the Supreme Court?
- How many Supreme Court justices are usually needed to decide a case?
- How many years is the term for a member of the House of Representatives?
- The President of the United States is elected for how many years?
- How many years is the term for a U.S. Senator?