

Citizenship: Changes and Challenges

January 2026

with Catherine



**LITERACY VOLUNTEERS
CHARLOTTESVILLE / ALBEMARLE**

Changing lives, one word at a time.

www.literacyforall.org

AGENDA

- What do we know?
- Compare/Contrast
- Strategies & Resources
- Q&A
- Closure



What do we know
about the citizenship interview?



Citizenship Interview: 4 Tests

Speaking and
Understanding



Reading
Test



Writing
Test



Civics
Test



Citizenship Interview: 4 Tests

Speaking and
Understanding



Reading
Test



Writing
Test



Civics
Test



Compare/Contrast 2008 vs. 2025 Civics Tests

2008	2025
<p>People whose N400 applications were filed by October 18th</p>	<p>People whose N400s applications were filed after October 18th OR who have not yet applied</p>



Compare/Contrast 2008 vs. 2025 Civics Tests

2008	2025
100 questions	128 questions



2008

2025

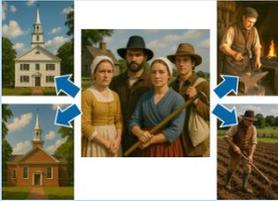
45

Q&As



2008

2025



2008

2025

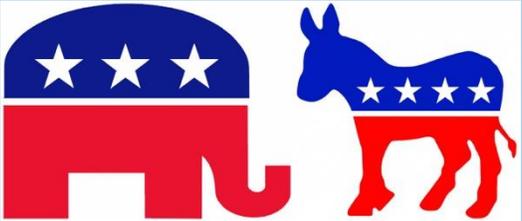
20
Q&As

45
Q&As



2008

2025



2008

2025

20
Q&As

45
Q&As

35
Q&As



2008

2025

6

2026	2028	2030	2032
Senator elected			Senator elected

└──────────┘

6 years



2008

2025

president



executive
branch



	2008	2025
Declaration of Independence	Recognize	Recognize & Produce
Federalist Papers	Recognize	Recognize & Produce
Emancipation Proclamation	Recognize	Recognize & Produce
Amendment	Recognize	Recognize & Produce



2008

2025

Civil Rights

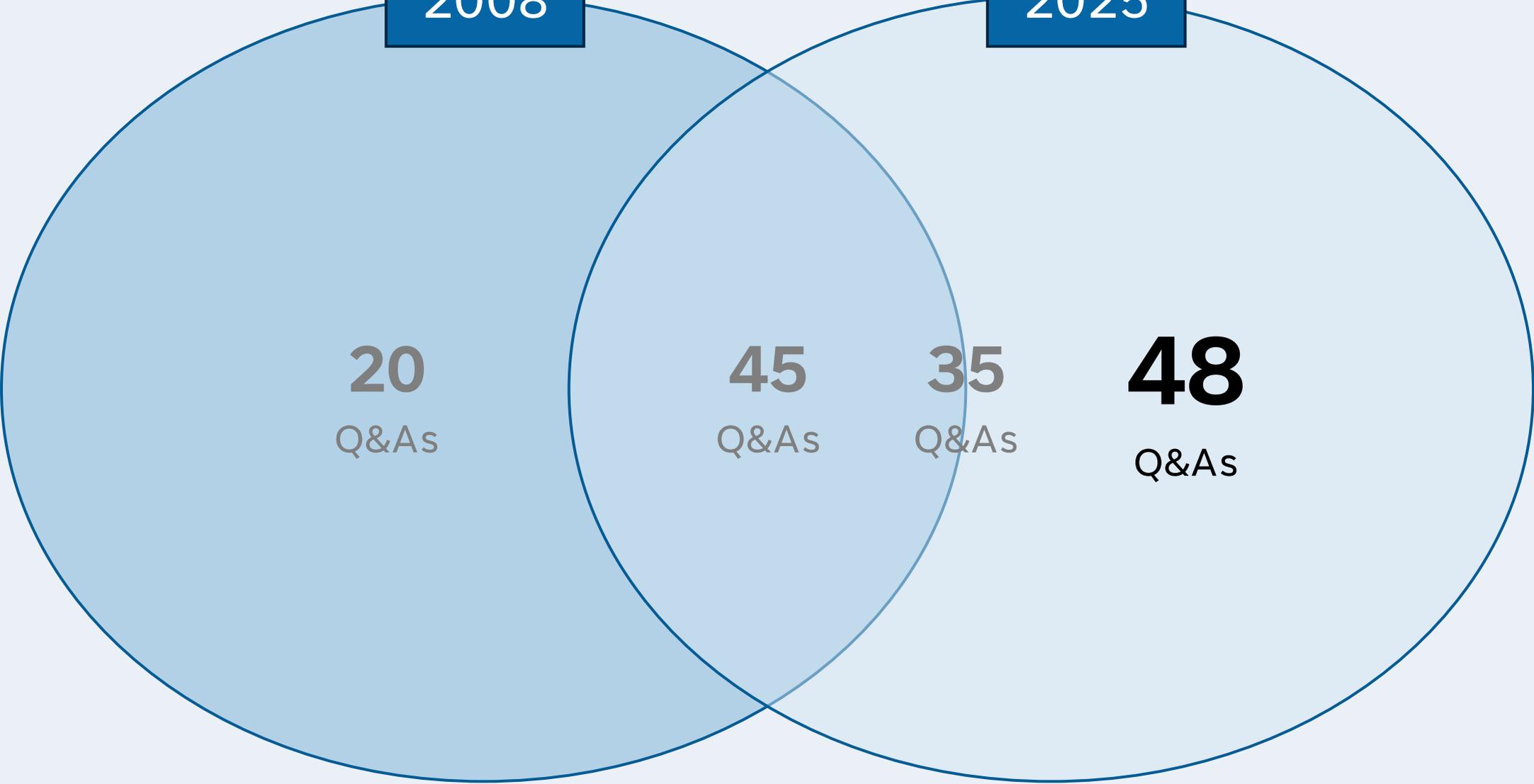


Fought to end racial discrimination



2008

2025



2025

What was the Great Depression?



Longest economic recession in modern history



2008

2025

4
Why
questions

19
Why
questions



2008

2025



Compare/Contrast 2008 vs. 2025 Civics Tests

2008	2025
100 questions	128 questions

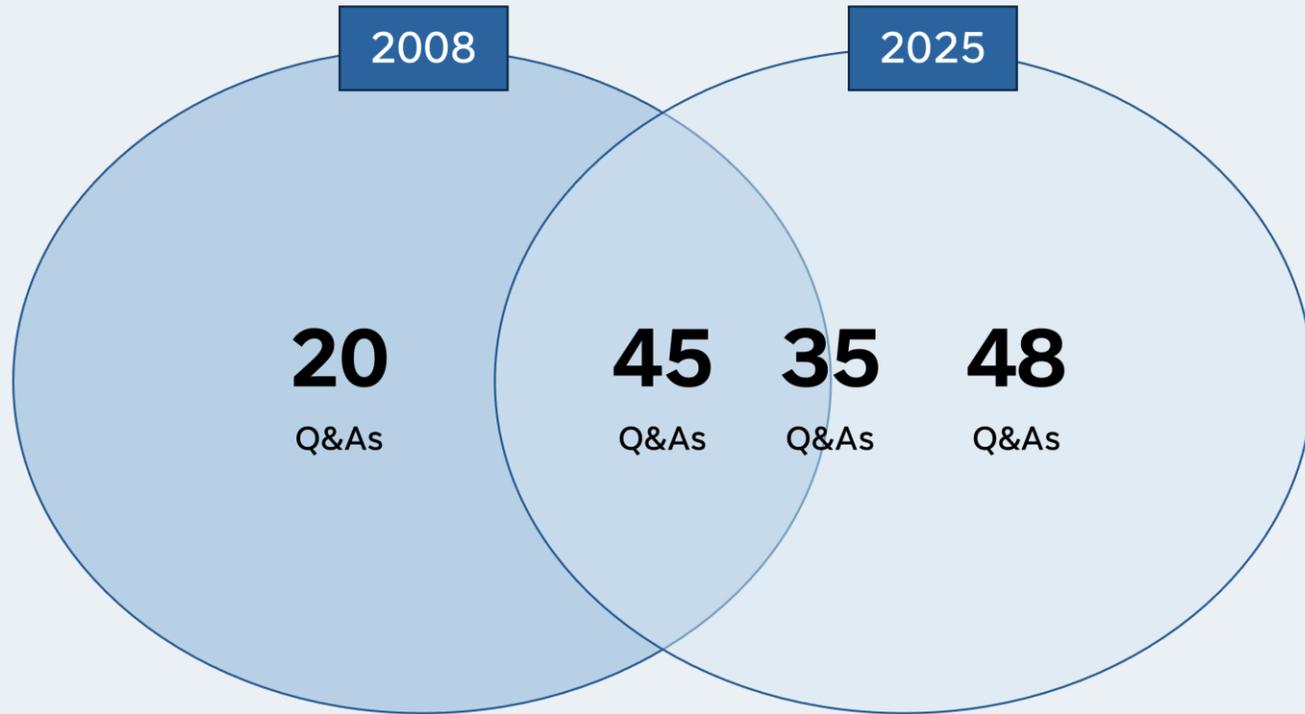


Compare/Contrast 2008 vs. 2025 Civics Tests

2008	2025
100 questions	128 questions
Answer 6 correctly out of up to 10 questions	Answer 12 correctly out of up to 20 questions



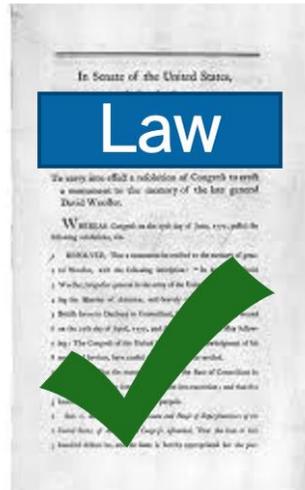
Q&A



How do we conquer these challenges?

Strategies

Yes!



Resources

A screenshot of a YouTube playlist titled "Citizenship: 2025 Civics Test Videos" by Literacy Volunteers Charlottesville / Albemarle. The playlist contains five videos:

- 1. Intro to the U.S. (10:09)
- 2. Symbols and Holidays (12:34)
- 3. Before the United States (11:51)
- 4. Declaration of Independence (8:27)
- 5. The Constitution (11:41)

The description of the playlist states: "This set of videos will teach the 2025 Civics Test questions. Our Civics Handbook accompanies our video series. Available with information here: <https://literacyforall.org/citizenship-materials>"

How do we conquer these challenges?

Strategies

- **Selecting response options**



2025

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



2025

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

USCIS-approved response options:

- Equality
- Liberty
- Social contract
- Natural rights
- Limited government
- Self-government



2025

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

USCIS-approved response options:

- Equality
- **Liberty**
- Social contract
- Natural rights
- Limited government
- Self-government

Where is the Statue of **Liberty**?

The words, “Life, **Liberty**, and ...?”



2025

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2025

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

USCIS-approved response options:

- Equality
- **Liberty**
- Social contract
- Natural rights
- Limited government
- **Self-government**

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

Self-government



2025

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

USCIS-approved response options:

- Equality
- **Liberty**
- Social contract
- Natural rights
- Limited government
- **Self-government**



14. Many documents influenced the U.S. Constitution. Name one.

- Declaration of Independence
- Articles of Confederation
- Federalist Papers
- Anti-Federalist Papers
- Virginia Declaration of Rights
- Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
- Mayflower Compact
- Iroquois Great Law of Peace



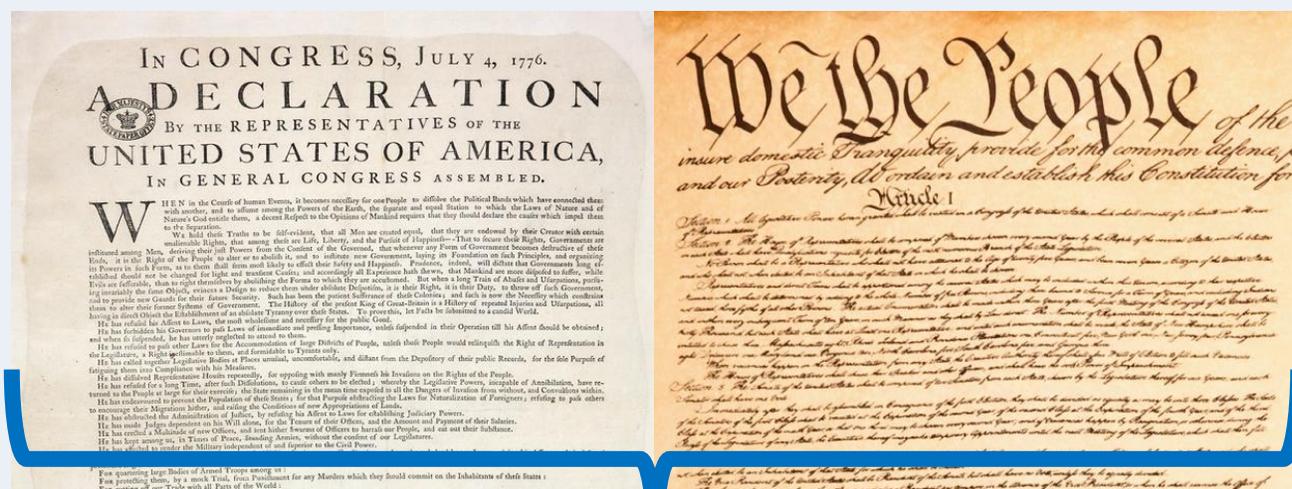
How do we conquer these challenges?

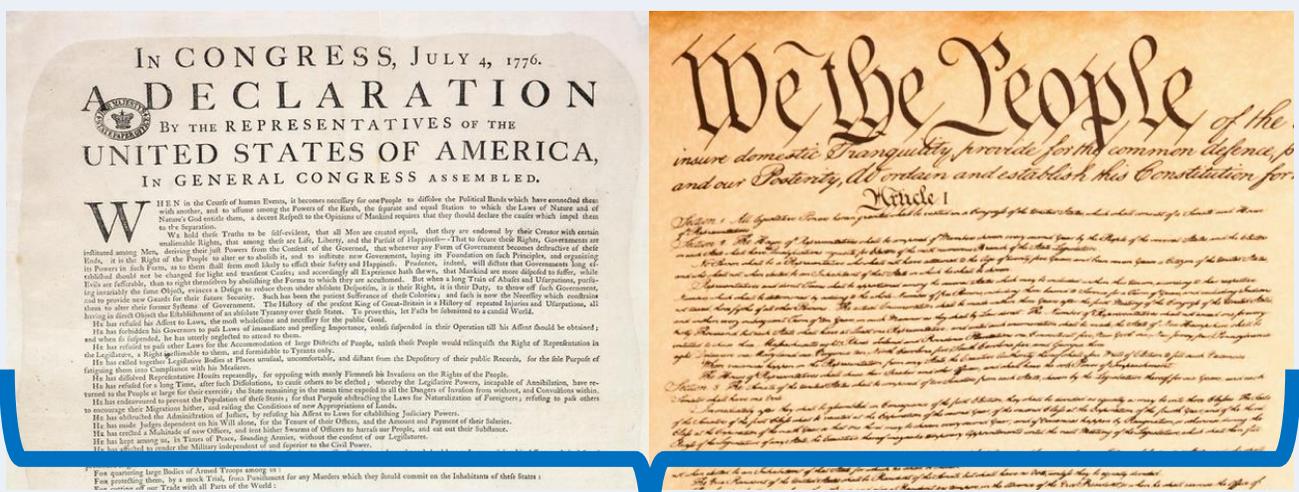
Strategies

- Selecting response options
- **Visual supports**



Visual Support for the ?





Liberty

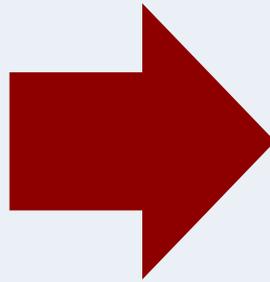
Visual support for the Answer



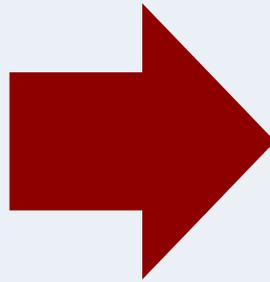
Self-government



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

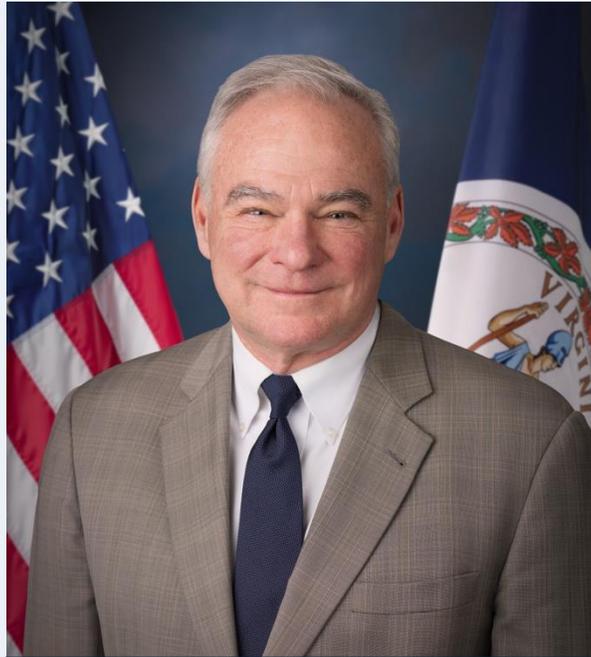


Name 2 important ideas from the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.



**Liberty and
Self-government**





Kaine



Spanberger



How do we conquer these challenges?

Strategies

- Selecting response options
- Visual supports
- **Language supports**



branches

parts of government



college



Electoral College



2008 Civics Test

**When is
Independence Day?**

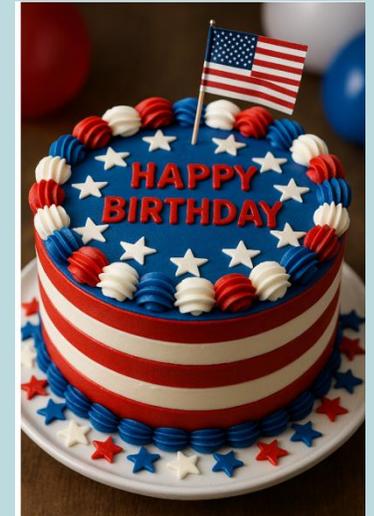
4th of July



2025 Civics Test

**What is
Independence Day?**

The country's
birthday



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



War for Independence



In



Inde



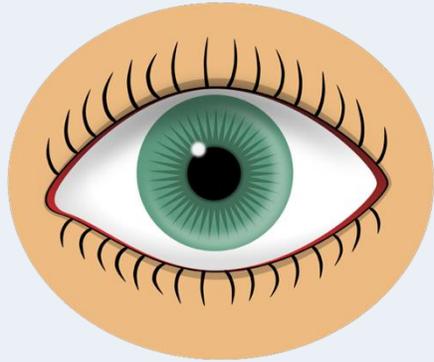
Indepen



Independence



Years



1776



17 76





To keep the president from becoming too powerful





To keep the president





To keep the president from becoming





To keep the president from becoming too powerful



How do we conquer these challenges?

Strategies

- Selecting response options
- Visual supports
- Language supports
- **Practice with varying combos, formats & supports**



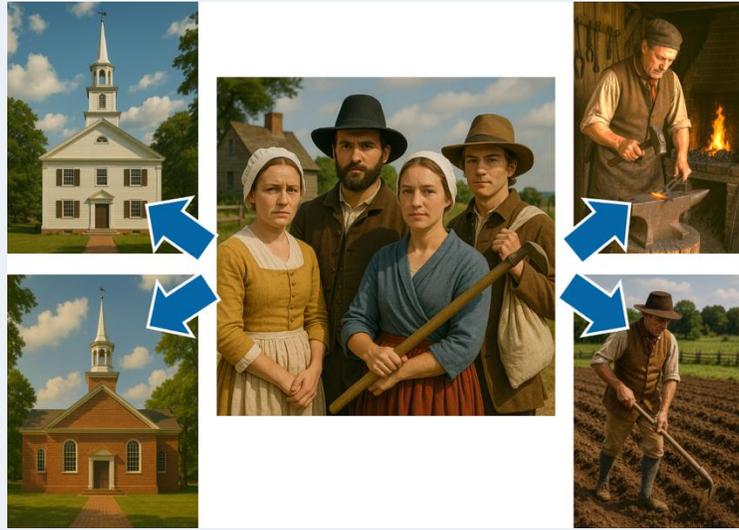


What is the
capital of ...?

What is the
capital of ...?



Name 1...



?

Senate

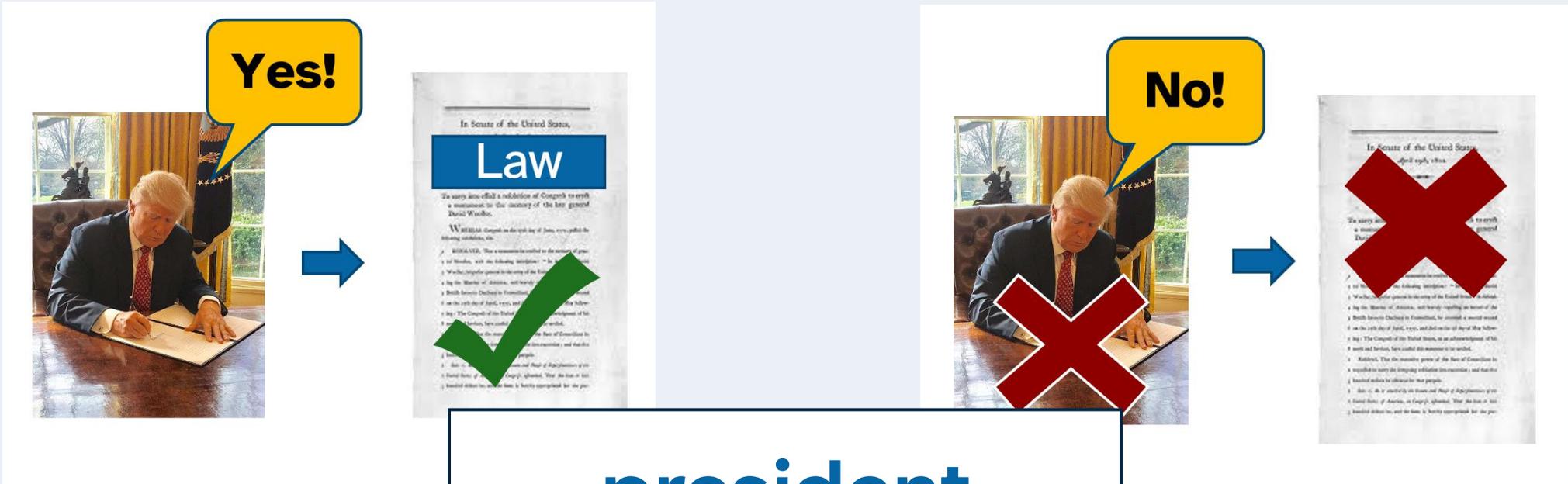
House

How long is
their term?

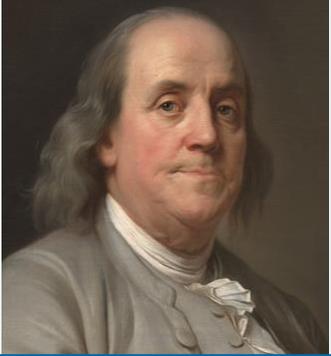
6 years

2 years

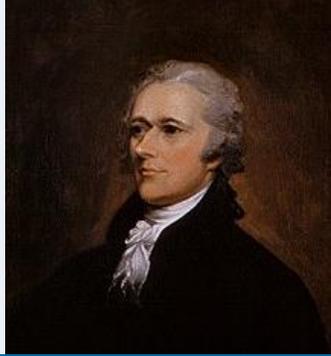




Which person...?



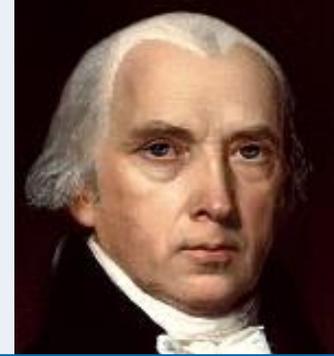
Franklin



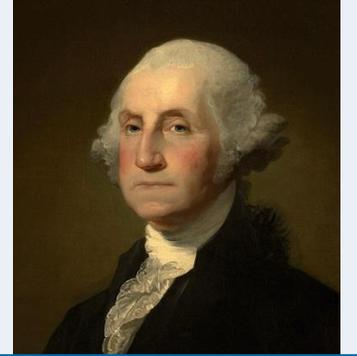
Hamilton



Jefferson



Madison



Washington



Pledge of Allegiance

1



2

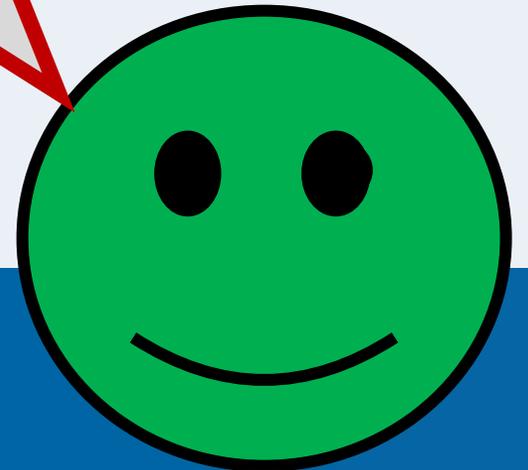


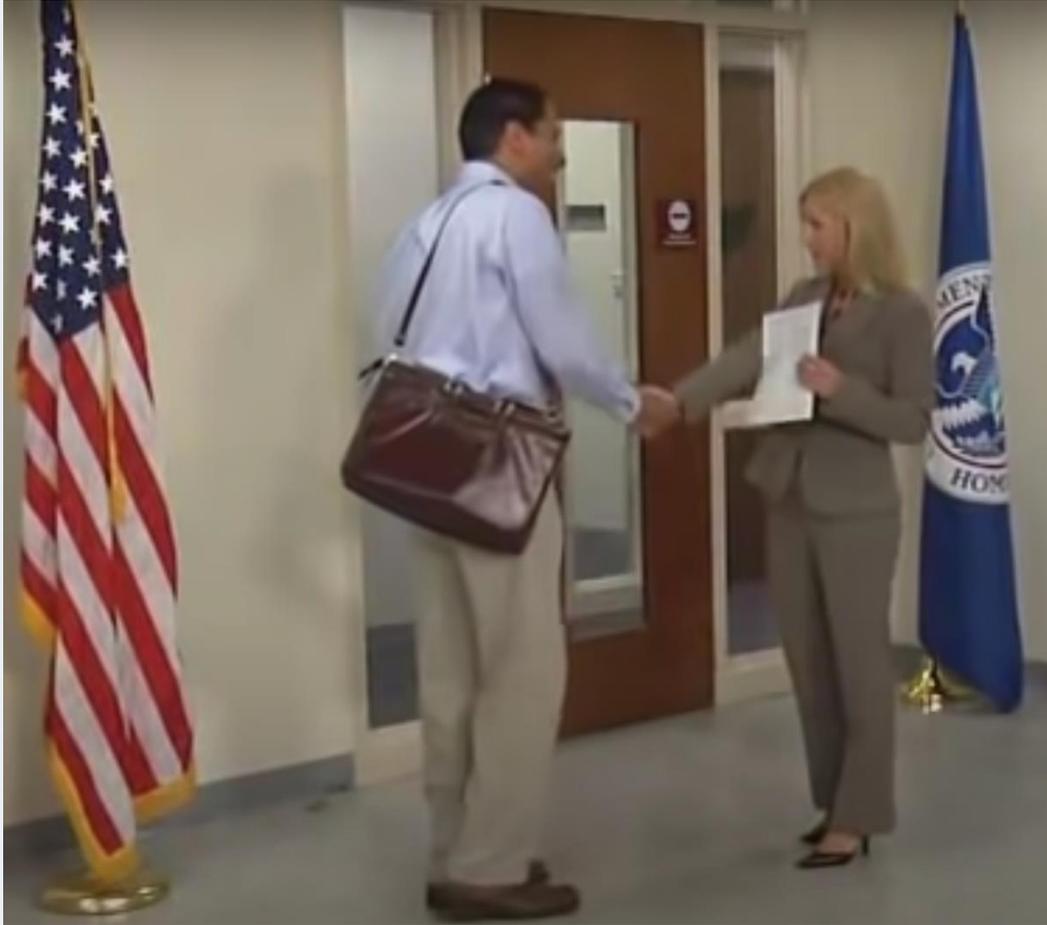
Name 2 important ideas from the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.



Practice

Try 3 Civics
Questions that we
learned so far!



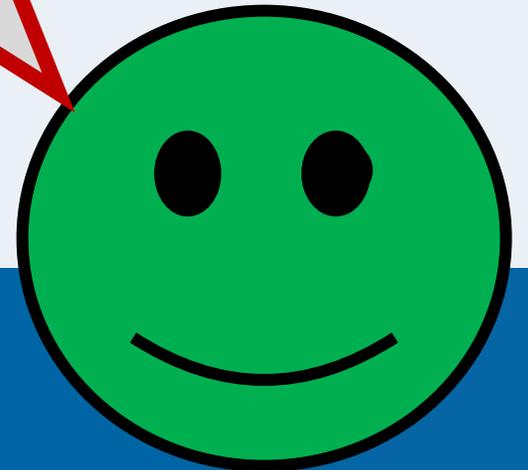


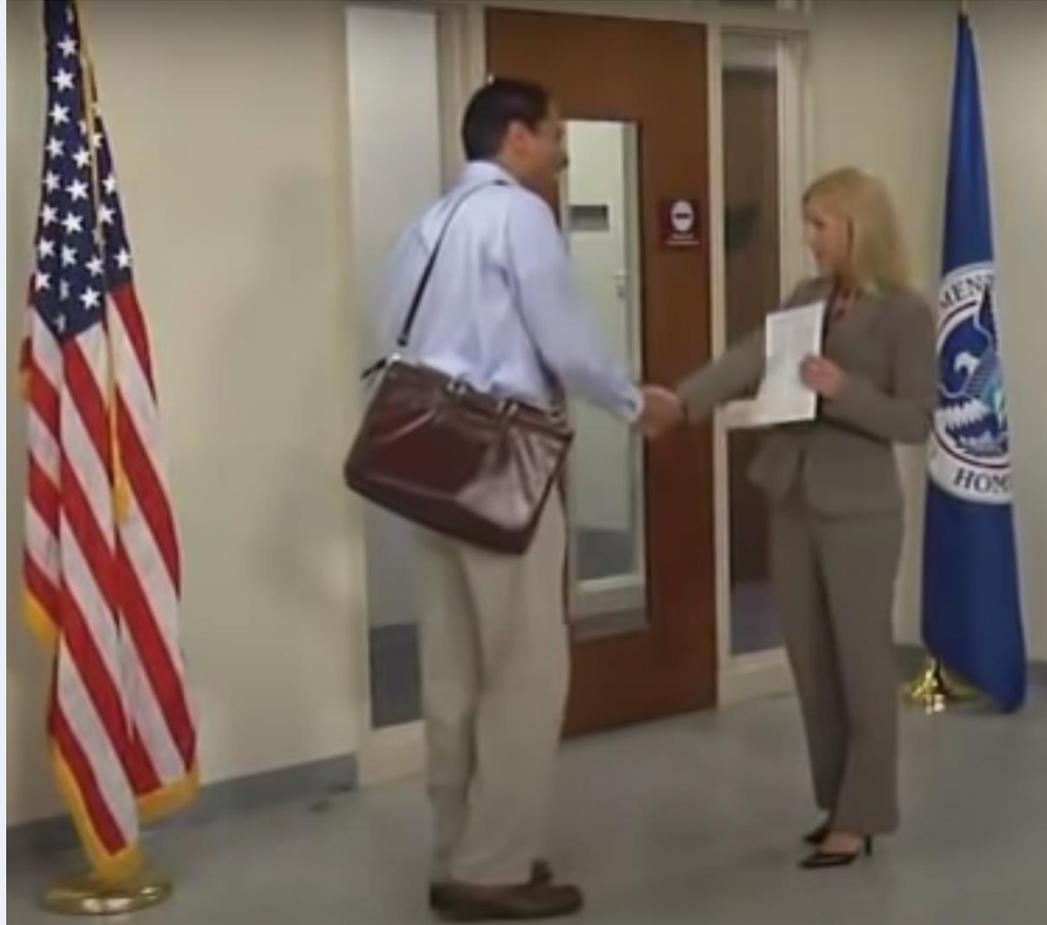
Hello, I'm Officer _____. Please follow me to my office. How long was your drive?





Everyone!



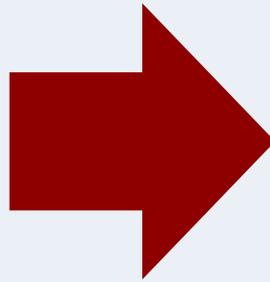


Hello, I'm Officer _____. Please follow me to my office. Did anyone drive here with you today?





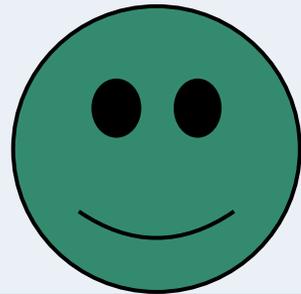
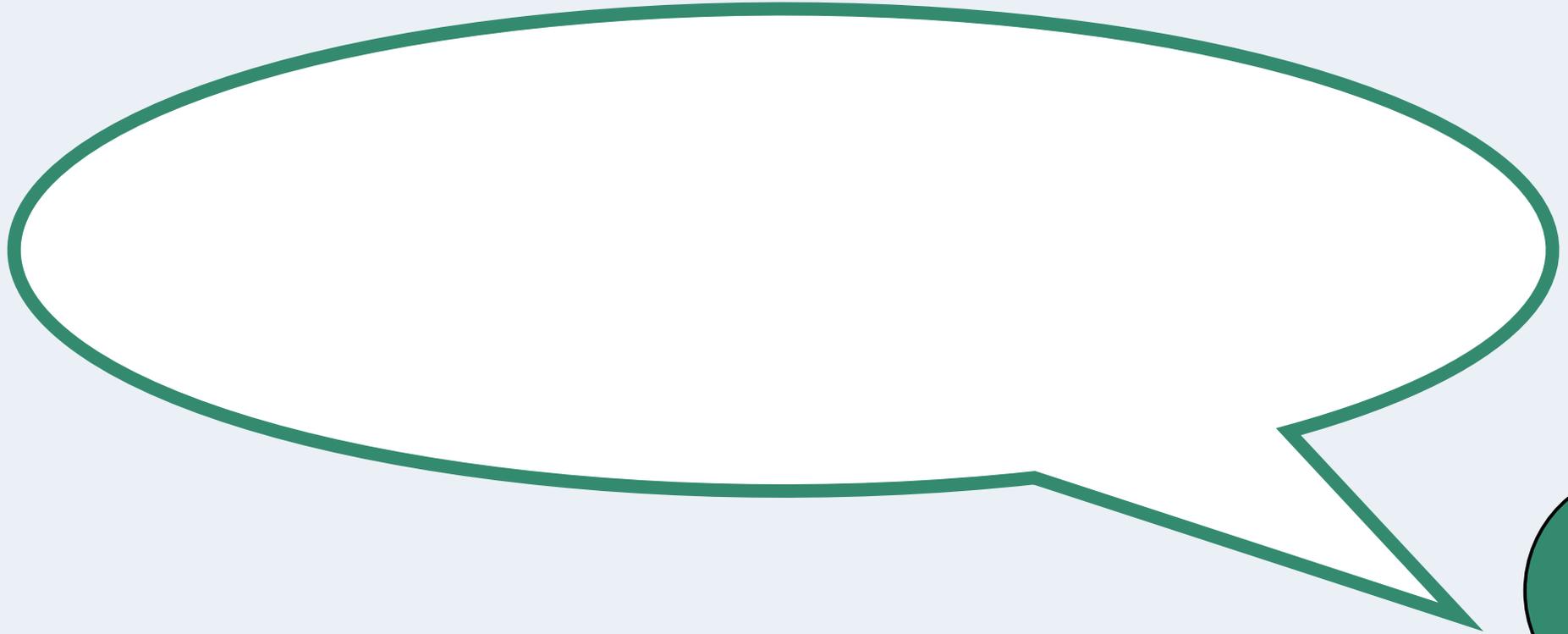
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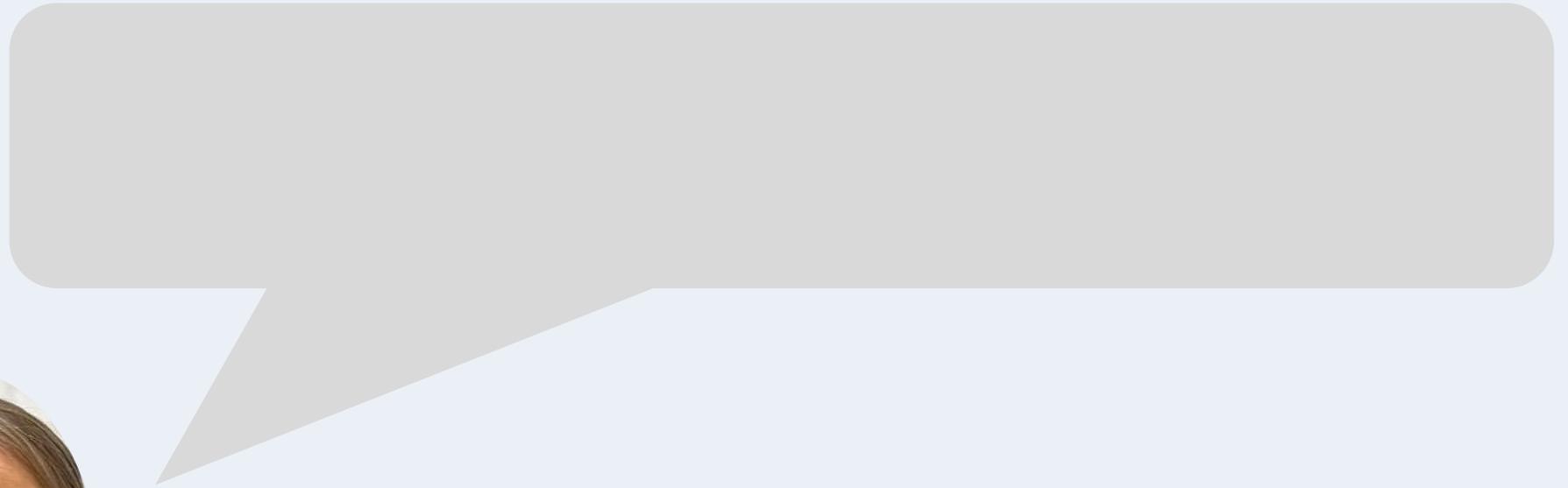






Name 2 important ideas from the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.





How do we conquer these challenges?

Strategies

- Selecting response options
- Visual supports
- Language supports
- Practice with varying combos, formats & supports



How do we conquer these challenges?

2025 Civics Test
Intro to the U.S.

Citizenship: 2025 Civics Test Videos

Literacy Volunteers Charlottesville / Albemarle...
19 videos Last updated on Jan 15, 2026

Play Comments

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- 1 **2025 Civics Test**
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The Constitution
11:41



Q&A

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www.literacyforall.org/citizenshipmaterials



Thank you!

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www.literacyforall.org/citizenshipmaterials

