

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
People whose N400 applications were filed by October 18th	People whose N400s applications were filed after October 18 th OR who have not yet applied



Compare/Contrast 2008 vs. 2025 Civics Tests

2008	2025
100 questions	128 questions



2008

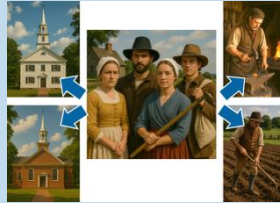
2025

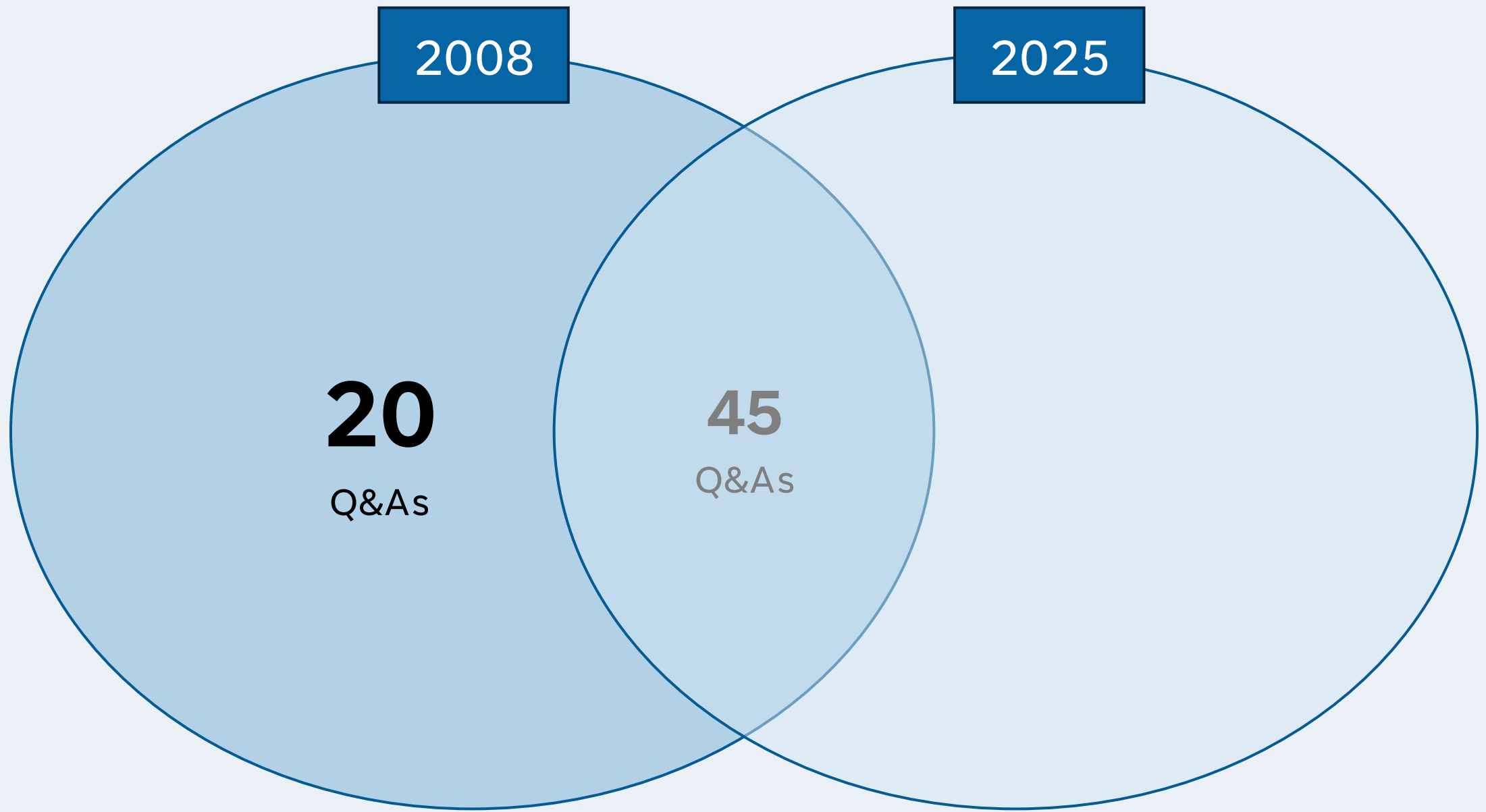
45
Q&As



2008

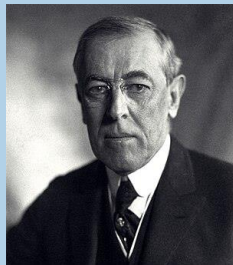
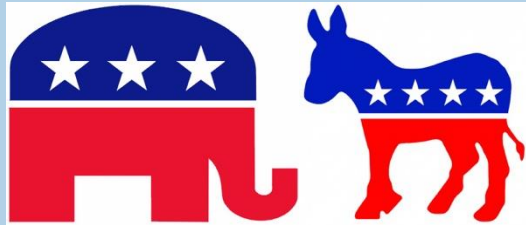
2025

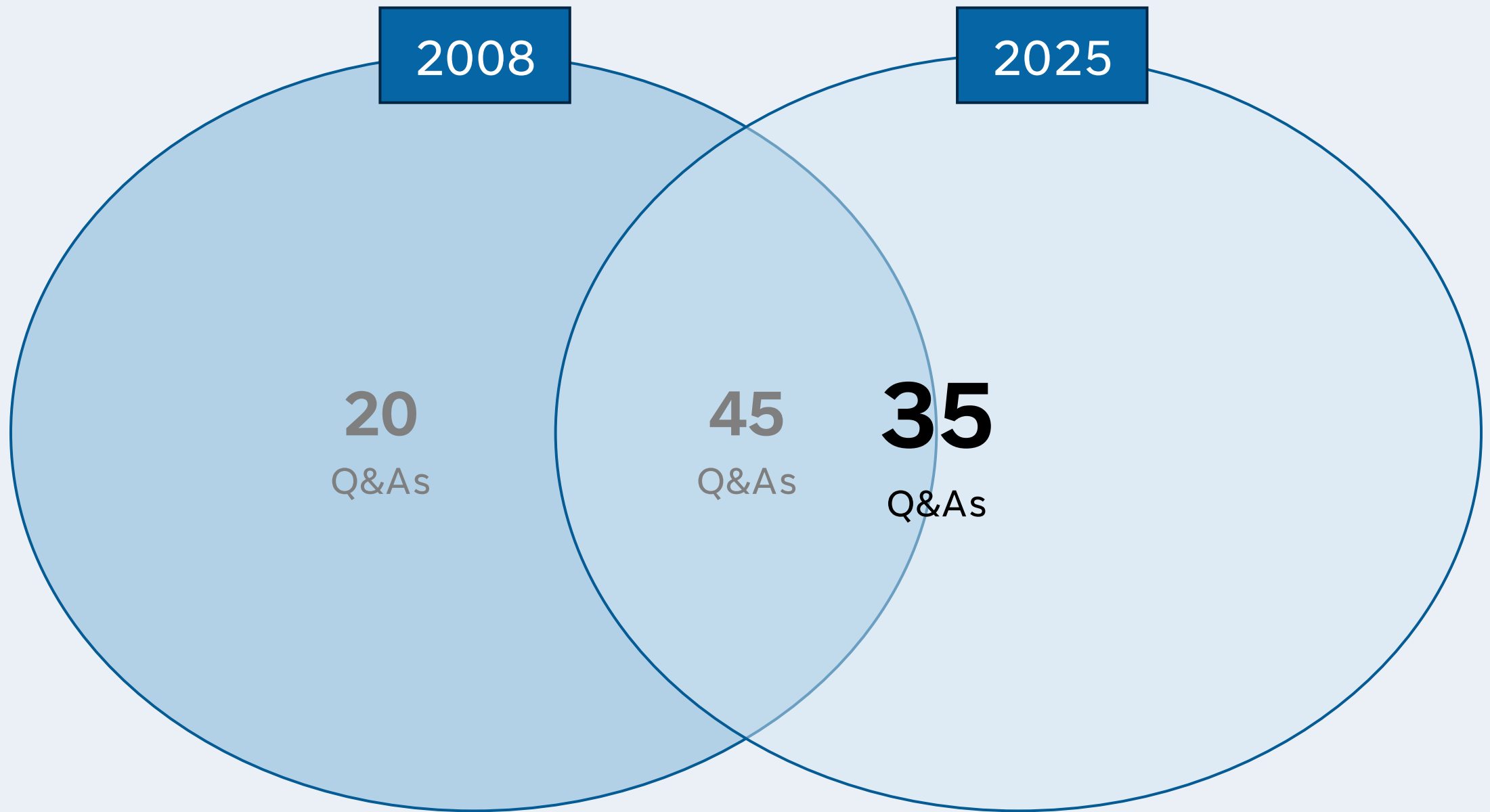


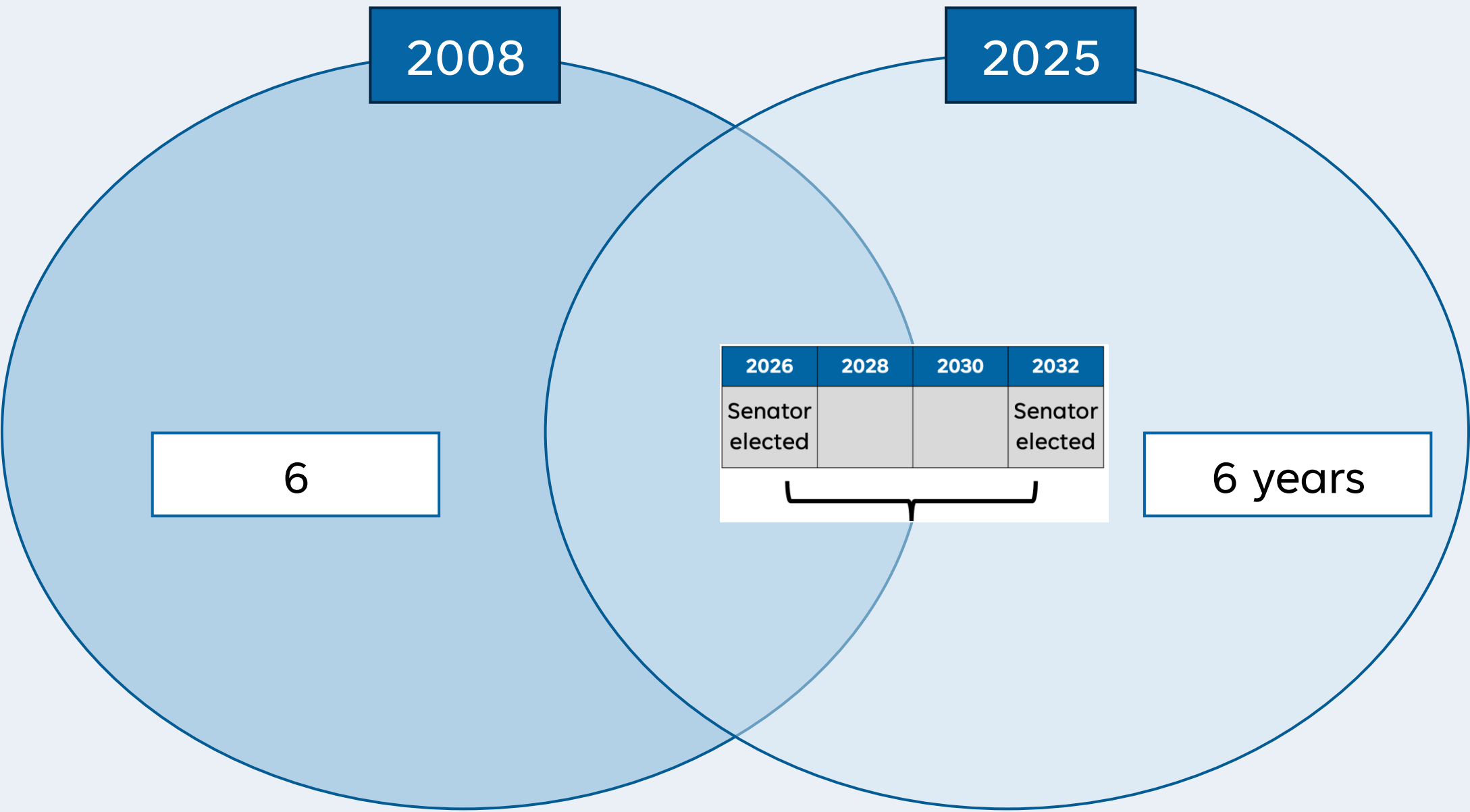


2008

2025







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

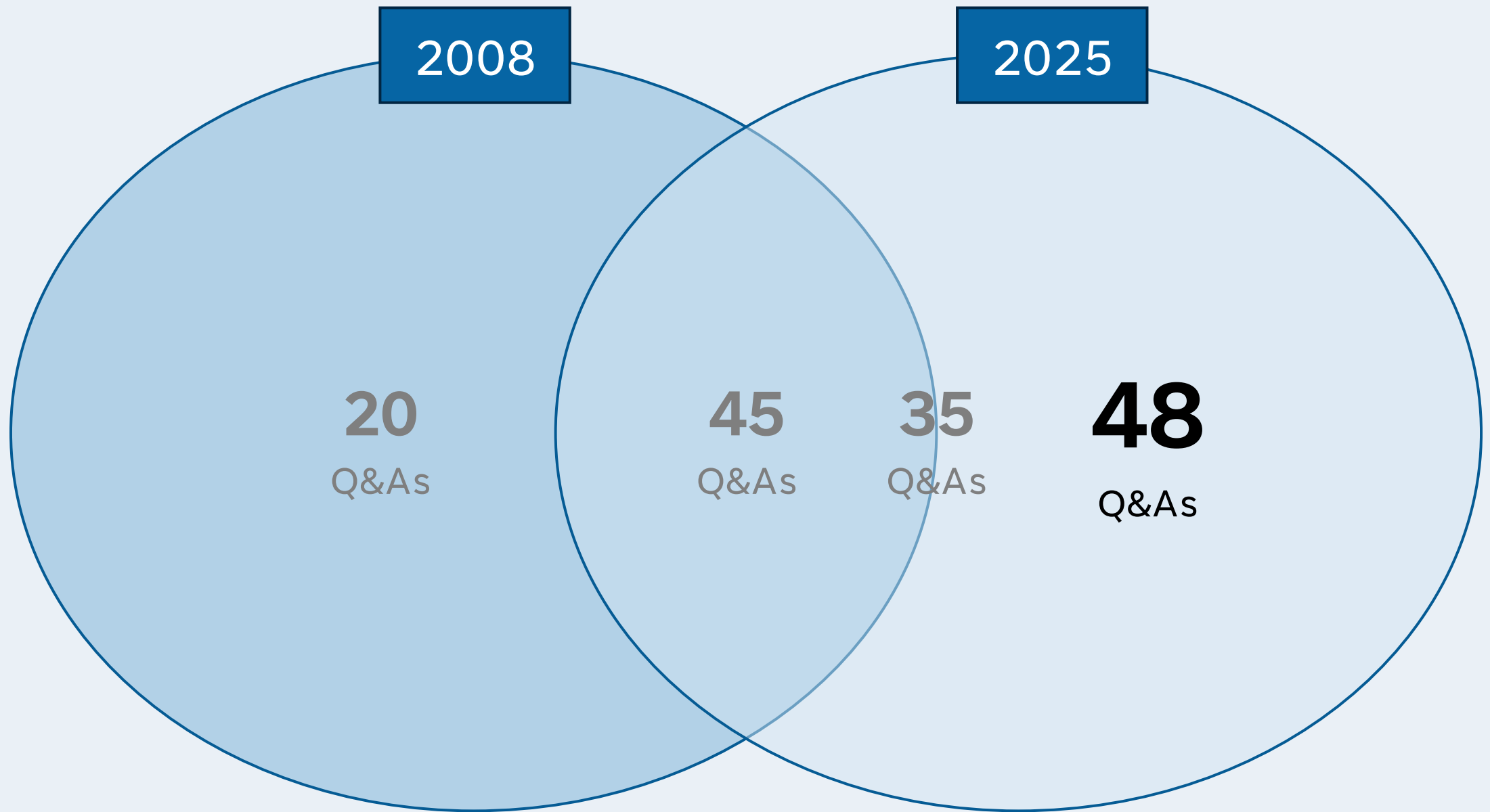
2025

Civil Rights



Fought to end
racial
discrimination





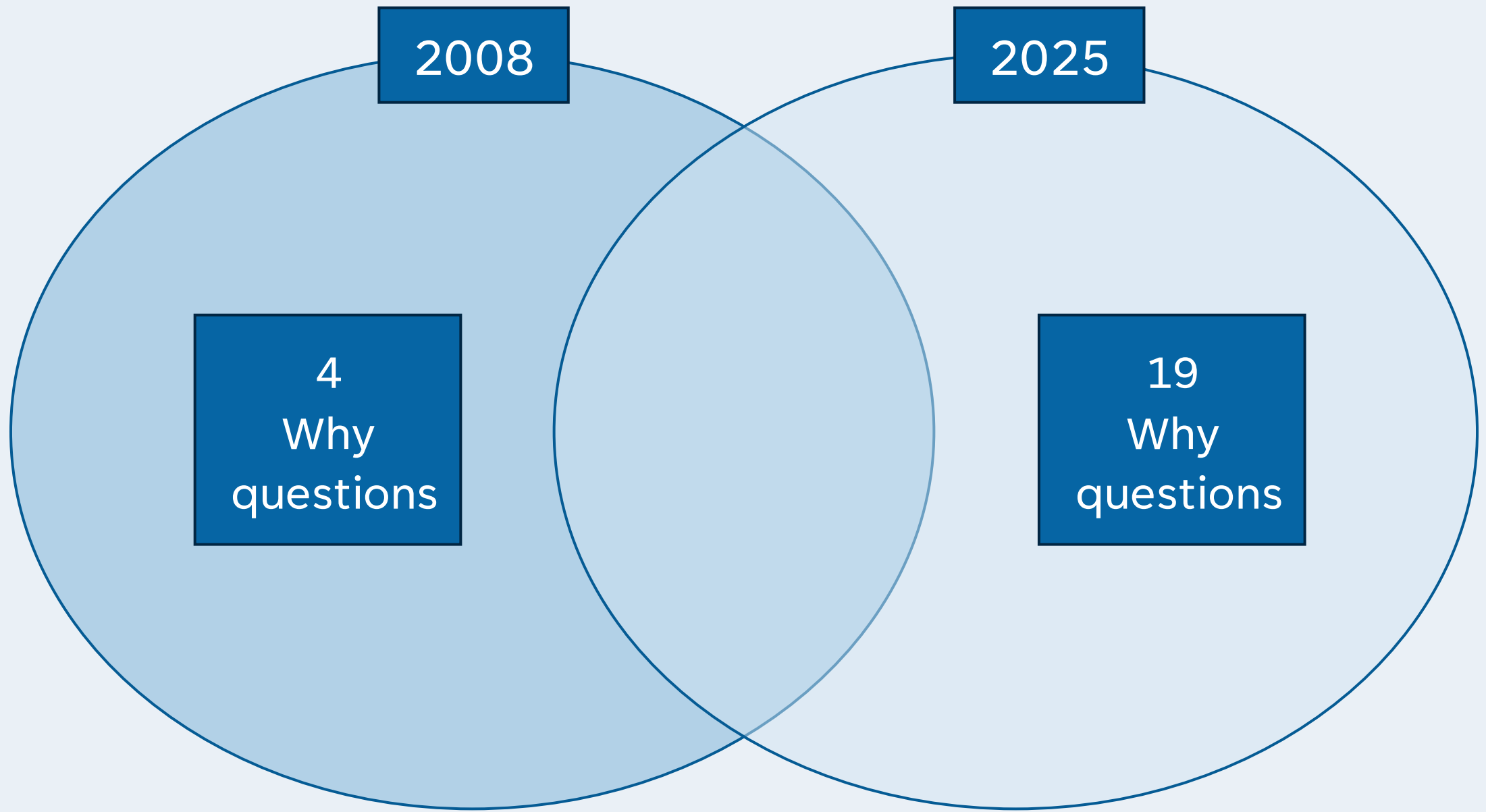
2025

What was the Great Depression?



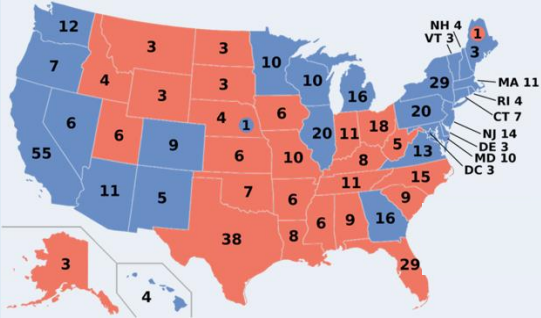
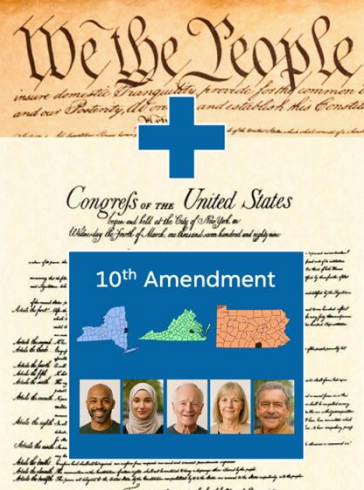
Longest economic recession in modern history





2008

2025



2008

2025



Compare/Contrast

2008 vs. 2025 Civics Tests

2008	2025
100 questions	128 questions



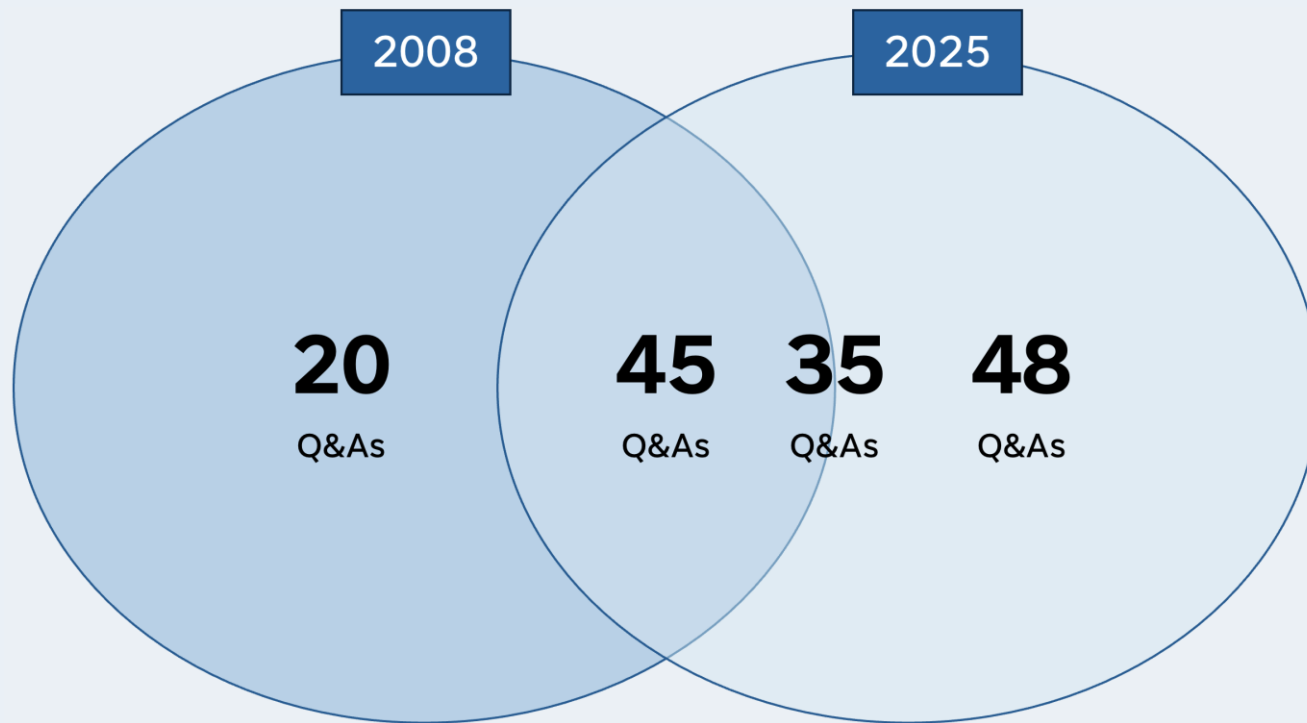
Compare/Contrast

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



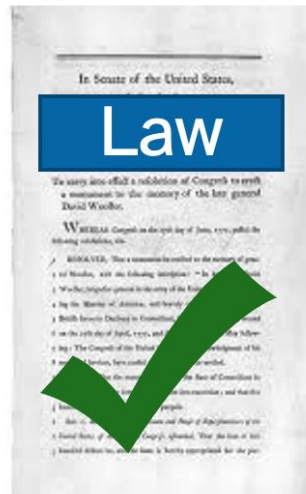
Q&A



How do we conquer these challenges?

Strategies

Yes!



Resources

A screenshot of the Literacy Volunteers Charlottesville website. The main heading is "Citizenship: 2025 Civics Test Videos". Below it, it says "19 videos Last updated on Jan 15, 2026". There are icons for a bookmark, share, and play button. A "Play" button is prominent. Below the button, it says "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>". To the right, there is a list of video thumbnails with titles and durations. The titles are: "Intro to the U.S.", "Symbols and Holidays", "Before the United States", "Declaration of Independence", and "The Constitution". The durations are: 10:09, 12:34, 11:51, 8:27, and 11:41 respectively.

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

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

USCIS-approved response options:

- Equality
- **Liberty**
- Social contract
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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?

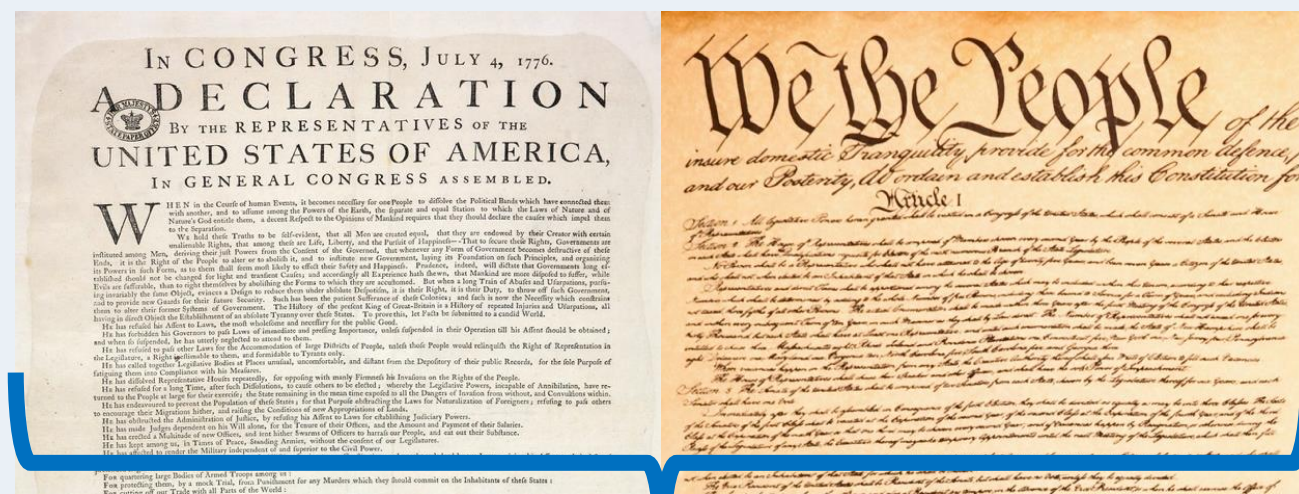
Strategies

- Selecting response options
- **Visual supports**



Visual Support for the ?





Liberty

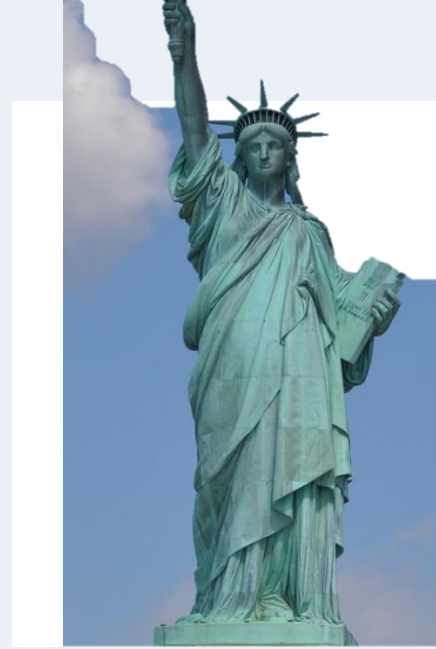
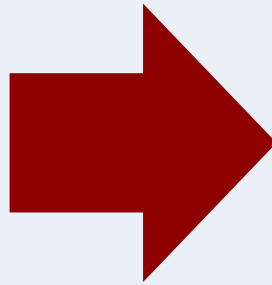


Self-government

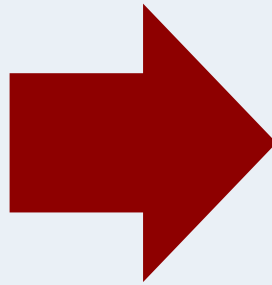
Visual support for the Answer



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

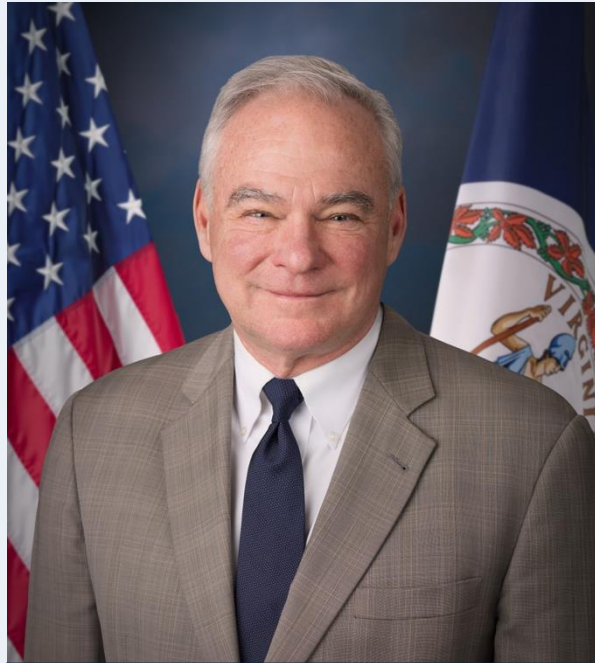


Name 2 important
ideas from the
Declaration of
Independence and
the U.S.
Constitution.



**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?**

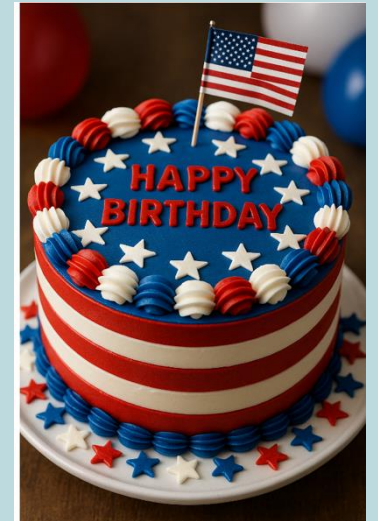
4th of July



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



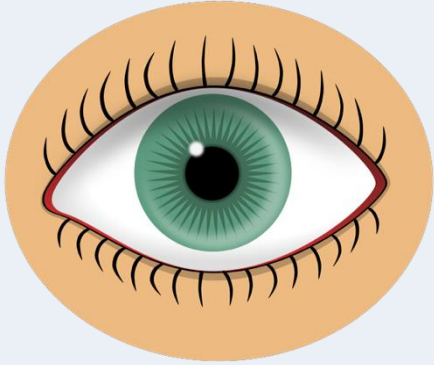
Indepen



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**



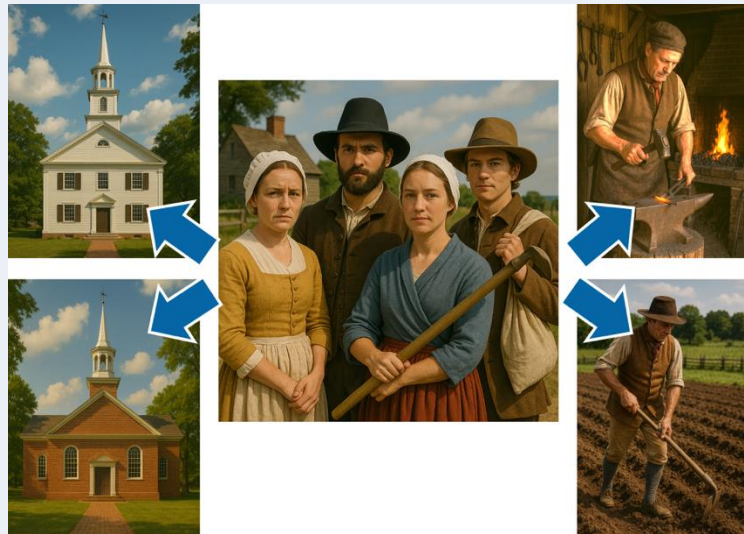


What is the
capital of ...?

What is the
capital of ...?



Name 1...



?

Senate

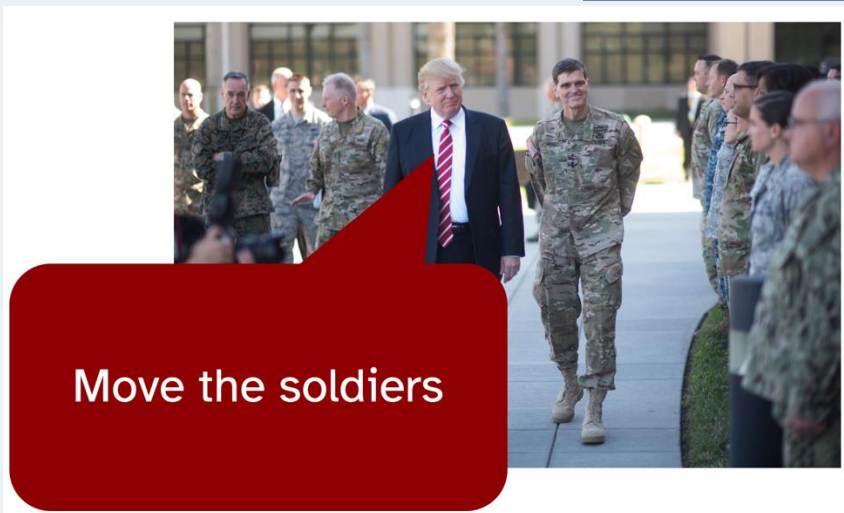
House

How long is
their term?

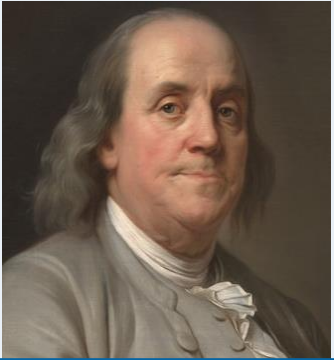
6 years

2 years

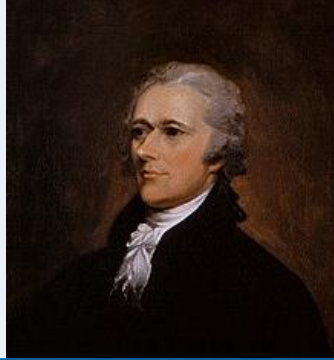




Which person...?



Franklin



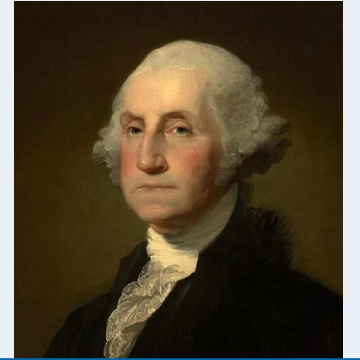
Hamilton



Jefferson



Madison



Washington



Pledge of Allegiance

1



2

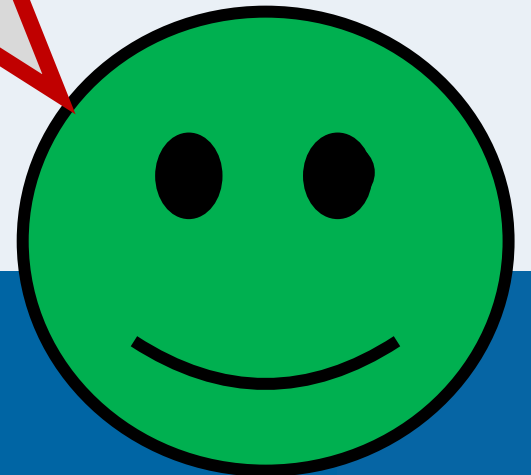


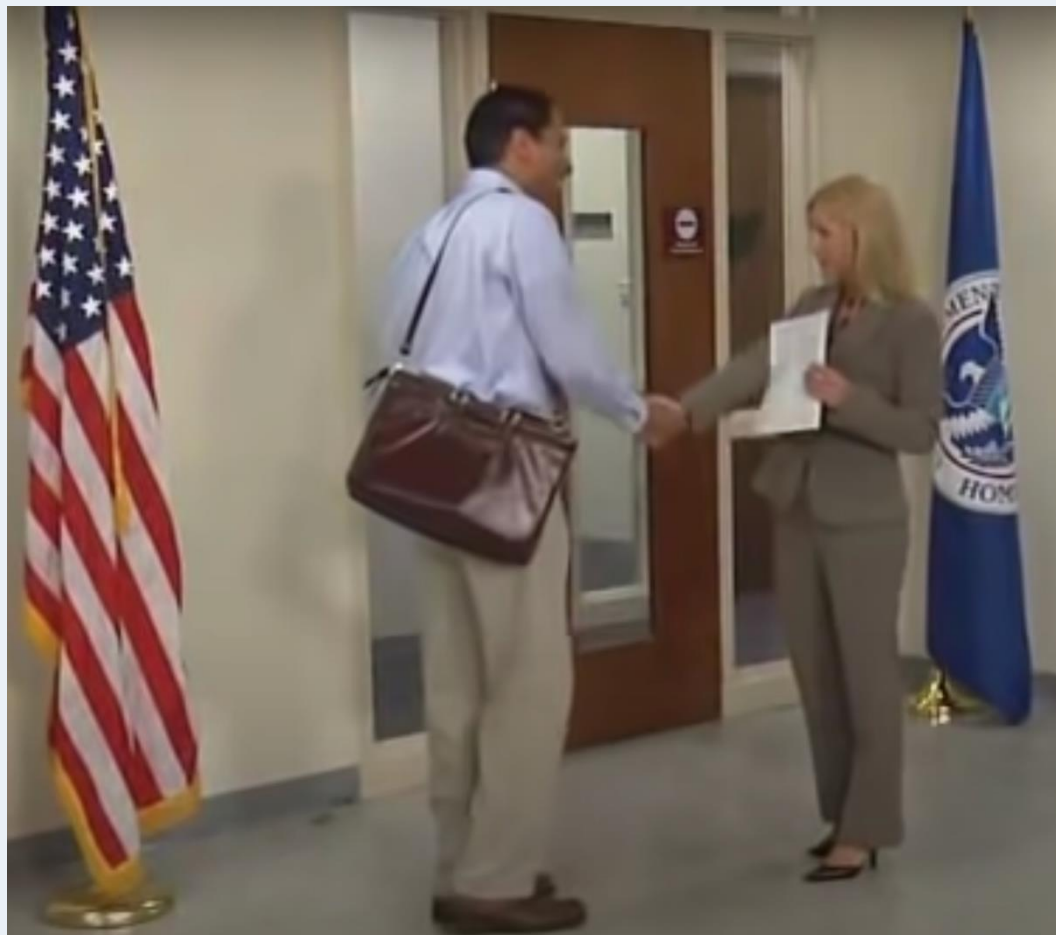
Name 2 important ideas from the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.



Practice

Try 3 Civics
Questions that we
learned so far!



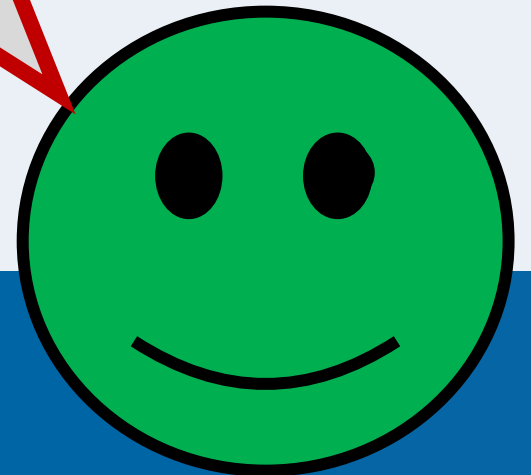


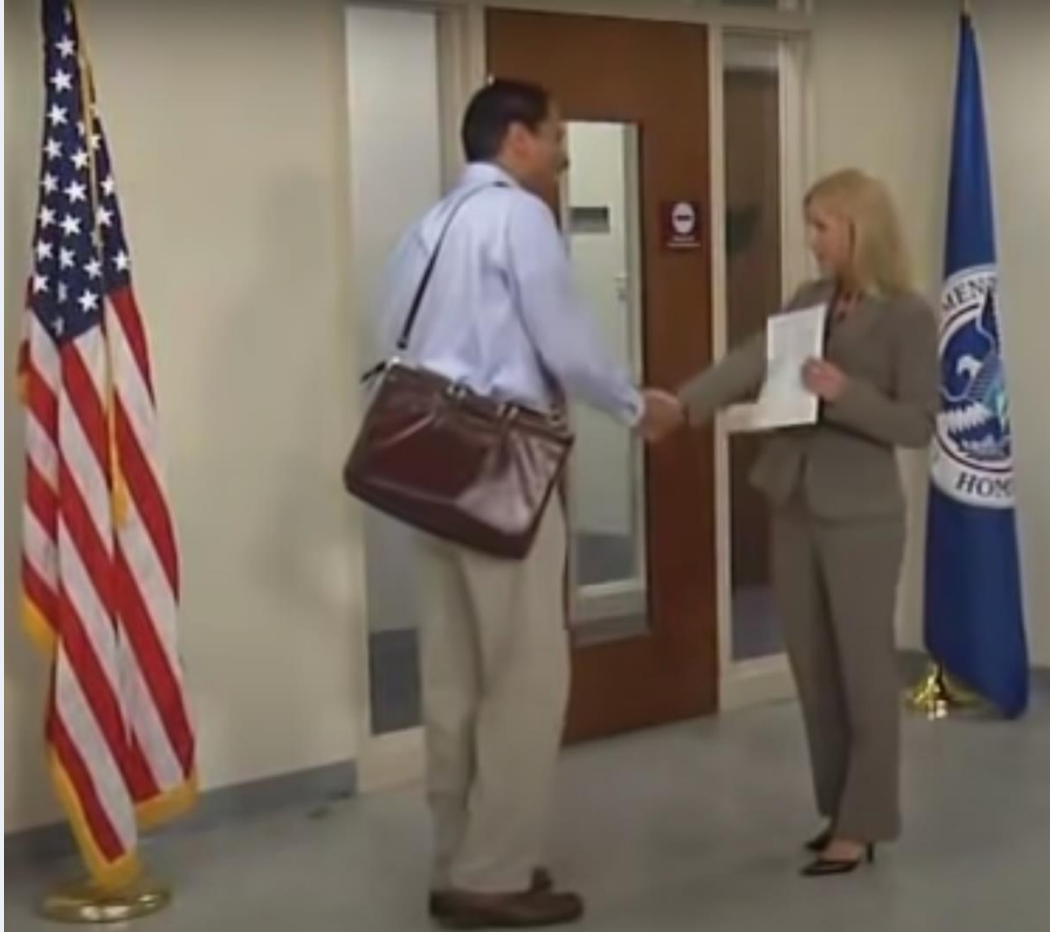
Hello, I'm Officer _____. Please follow me to my office. How long was your drive?





Everyone!



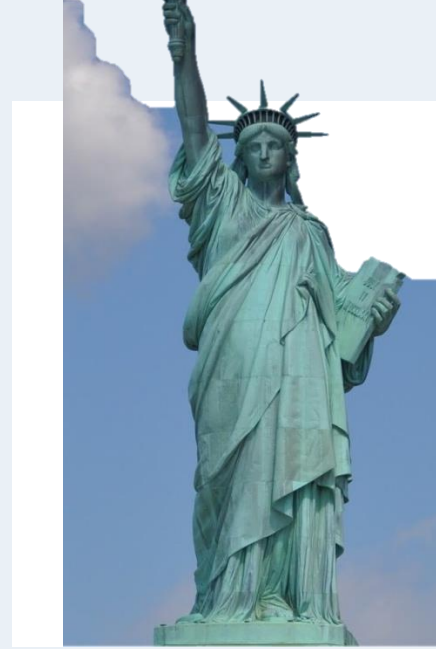
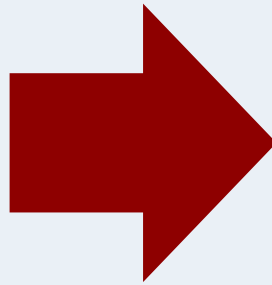


Hello, I'm Officer _____. Please follow me to my office. Did anyone drive here with you today?





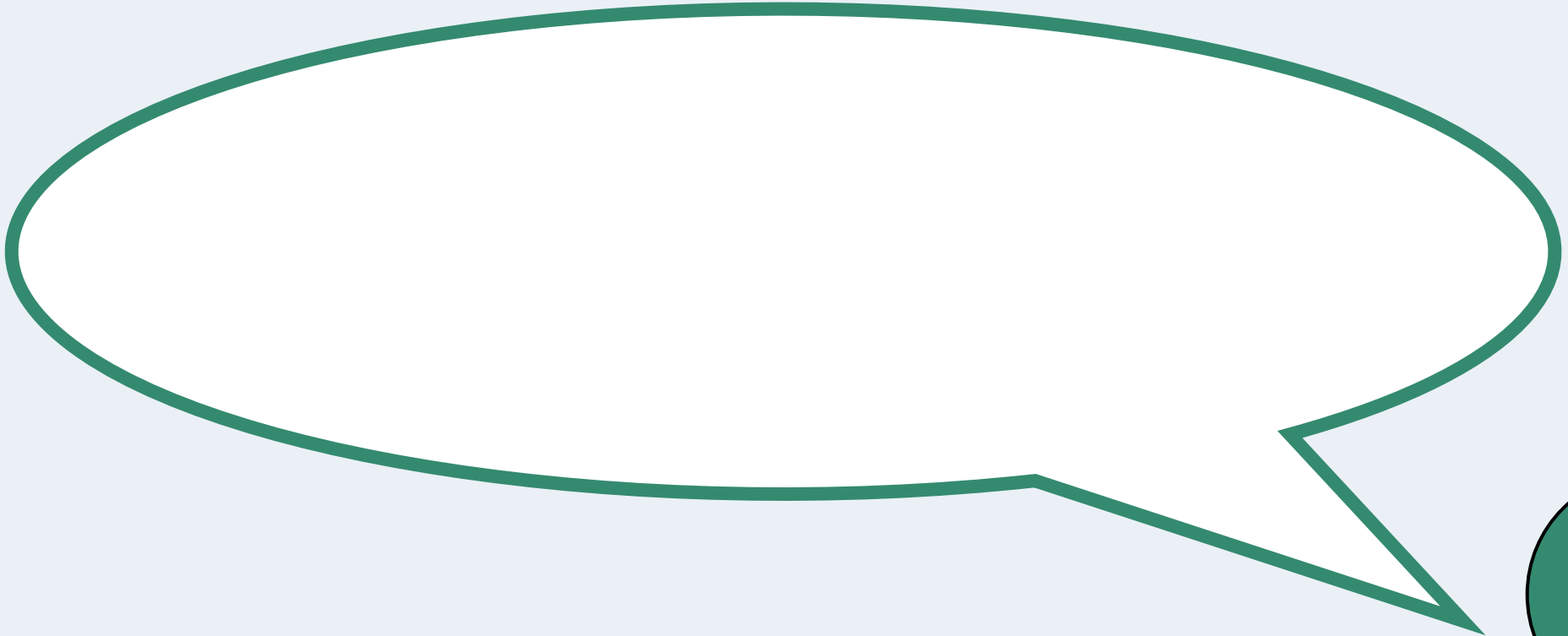
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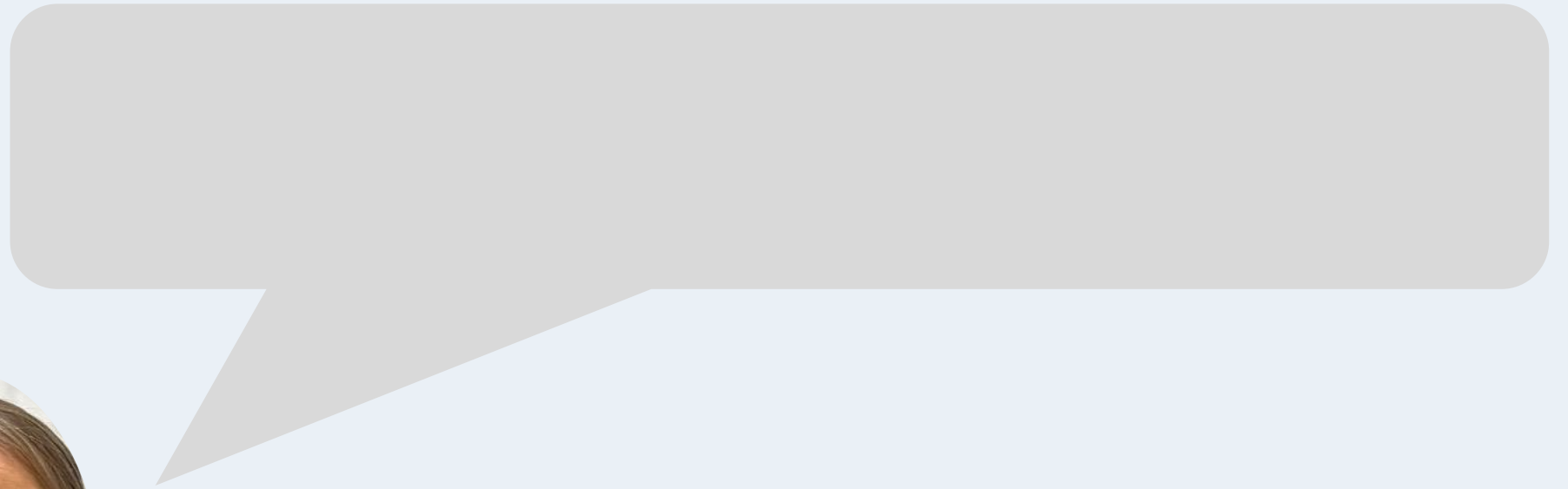






Name 2 important ideas from the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.





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

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>

- 1 **2025 Civics Test**
Intro to the U.S.
10:09
- 2 **2025 Civics Test**
Symbols and Holidays
12:34
- 3 **2025 Civics Test**
Before the United States
11:51
- 4 **2025 Civics Test**
Declaration of Independence
8:27
- 5 **2025 Civics Test**
The Constitution
11:41

2025 Civics Test: Intro to the U.S. (Unit
2025 Civics Test: Symbols and Holidays
2025 Civics Test: Before the United States
2025 Civics Test: Declaration of Independence
2025 Civics Test: The Constitution (Unit

Resources



Q&A

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www.literacyforall.org/citizenshipmaterials



Thank you!

catherine@literacyforall.org

www.literacyforall.org/citizenshipmaterials

