



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

100 Civics Questions and Answers with MP3 Audio (English version)

The 100 civics (history and government) questions and answers for the naturalization test are listed below. The civics test is an oral test and the USCIS Officer will ask the applicant up to 10 of the 100 civics questions. An applicant must answer 6 out of 10 questions correctly to pass the civics portion of the naturalization test.

On the naturalization test, some answers may change because of elections or appointments. As you study for the test, make sure that you know the most current answers to these questions. Answer these questions with the name of the official who is serving at the time of your eligibility interview with USCIS. The USCIS Officer will not accept an incorrect answer.

Although USCIS is aware that there may be additional correct answers to the 100 civics questions, applicants are encouraged to respond to the civics questions using the answers provided below.

* If you are 65 years old or older and have been a legal permanent resident of the United States for 20 or more years, you may study just the questions that have been marked with an asterisk.

- [Listen to the MP3 audio of all 100 civics questions and answers \(MP3, 27.68 MB\)](#)

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

A: Principles of American Democracy

1. What is the supreme law of the land? [Question 1 Audio \(MP3, 157 KB\)](#)

- the Constitution

2. What does the Constitution do? [Question 2 Audio \(MP3, 244 KB\)](#)

- sets up the government
- defines the government
- protects basic rights of Americans

3. The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words? [Question 3 Audio \(MP3, 237 KB\)](#)

- We the People

4. What is an amendment? [Question 4 Audio \(MP3, 236 KB\)](#)

- a change (to the Constitution)
- an addition (to the Constitution)

5. What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution? [Question 5 Audio \(MP3, 182 KB\)](#)

- the Bill of Rights

6. What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment?* [Question 6 Audio \(MP3, 313 KB\)](#)

- speech

- religion
- assembly
- press
- petition the government

7. How many amendments does the Constitution have? [Question 7 Audio \(MP3, 147 KB\)](#)

- twenty-seven (27)

8. What did the Declaration of Independence do? [Question 8 Audio \(MP3, 363 KB\)](#)

- announced our independence (from Great Britain)
- declared our independence (from Great Britain)
- said that the United States is free (from Great Britain)

9. What are two rights in the Declaration of Independence? [Question 9 Audio \(MP3, 231 KB\)](#)

- life
- liberty
- pursuit of happiness

10. What is freedom of religion? [Question 10 Audio \(MP3, 175 KB\)](#)

- You can practice any religion, or not practice a religion.

11. What is the economic system in the United States?* [Question 11 Audio \(MP3, 214 KB\)](#)

- capitalist economy
- market economy

12. What is the “rule of law”? [Question 12 Audio \(MP3, 330 KB\)](#)

- Everyone must follow the law.
- Leaders must obey the law.
- Government must obey the law.
- No one is above the law.

B: System of Government

13. Name one branch or part of the government.* [Question 13 Audio \(MP3, 357 KB\)](#)

- Congress
- legislative
- President
- executive
- the courts
- judicial

14. What stops one branch of government from becoming too powerful? [Question 14 Audio \(MP3, 238 KB\)](#)

- checks and balances
- separation of powers

15. Who is in charge of the executive branch? [Question 15 Audio \(MP3, 157 KB\)](#)

- the President

16. Who makes federal laws? [Question 16 Audio \(MP3, 283 KB\)](#)

- Congress
- Senate and House (of Representatives)
- (U.S. or national) legislature

17. What are the two parts of the U.S. Congress?* [Question 17 Audio \(MP3, 188 KB\)](#)

- the Senate and House (of Representatives)

18. How many U.S. Senators are there? [Question 18 Audio \(MP3, 150 KB\)](#)

- one hundred (100)

19. We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years? [Question 19 Audio \(MP3, 162 KB\)](#)

- six (6)

20. Who is one of your state's U.S. Senators now?* [Question 20 Audio \(MP3, 360 KB\)](#)

- Answers will vary. [District of Columbia residents and residents of U.S. territories should answer that D.C. (or the territory where the applicant lives) has no U.S. Senators.]

21. The House of Representatives has how many voting members? [Question 21 Audio \(MP3, 181 KB\)](#)

- four hundred thirty-five (435)

22. We elect a U.S. Representative for how many years? [Question 22 Audio \(MP3, 165 KB\)](#)

- two (2)

23. Name your U.S. Representative. [Question 23 Audio \(MP3, 423 KB\)](#)

- Answers will vary. [Residents of territories with nonvoting Delegates or Resident Commissioners may provide the name of that Delegate or Commissioner. Also acceptable is any statement that the territory has no (voting) Representatives in Congress.]

24. Who does a U.S. Senator represent? [Question 24 Audio \(MP3, 157 KB\)](#)

- all people of the state

25. Why do some states have more Representatives than other states? [Question 25 Audio \(MP3, 324 KB\)](#)

- (because of) the state's population
- (because) they have more people
- (because) some states have more people

26. We elect a President for how many years? [Question 26 Audio \(MP3, 152 KB\)](#)

- four (4)

27. In what month do we vote for President?* [Question 27 Audio \(MP3, 157 KB\)](#)

- November

28. What is the name of the President of the United States now?* [Question 28 Audio \(MP3, 372 KB\)](#)

- Donald J. Trump
- Donald Trump
- Trump

29. What is the name of the Vice President of the United States now? [Question 29 Audio \(MP3, 374 KB\)](#)

- Michael R. Pence
- Mike Pence
- Pence

30. If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President? [Question 30 Audio \(MP3, 204 KB\)](#)

- the Vice President

31. If both the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, who becomes President? [Question 31 Audio \(MP3, 233 KB\)](#)

- the Speaker of the House

32. Who is the Commander in Chief of the military? [Question 32 Audio \(MP3, 157 KB\)](#)

- the President

33. Who signs bills to become laws? [Question 33 Audio \(MP3, 159 KB\)](#)

- the President

34. Who vetoes bills? [Question 34 Audio \(MP3, 141 KB\)](#)

- the President

35. What does the President's Cabinet do? [Question 35 Audio \(MP3, 164 KB\)](#)

- advises the President

36. What are two Cabinet-level positions? [Question 36 Audio \(MP3, 1.02 MB\)](#)

- Secretary of Agriculture
- Secretary of Commerce
- Secretary of Defense
- Secretary of Education
- Secretary of Energy
- Secretary of Health and Human Services
- Secretary of Homeland Security
- Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
- Secretary of the Interior
- Secretary of Labor
- Secretary of State
- Secretary of Transportation
- Secretary of the Treasury
- Secretary of Veterans Affairs
- Attorney General

- Vice President

37. What does the judicial branch do? [Question 37 Audio \(MP3, 349 KB\)](#)

- reviews laws
- explains laws
- resolves disputes (disagreements)
- decides if a law goes against the Constitution

38. What is the highest court in the United States? [Question 38 Audio \(MP3, 159 KB\)](#)

- the Supreme Court

39. How many justices are on the Supreme Court? [Question 39 Audio \(MP3, 142 KB\)](#)

- nine (9)

40. Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now? [Question 40 Audio \(MP3, 232 KB\)](#)

- John Roberts (John G. Roberts, Jr.)

41. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the federal government. What is one power of the federal government? [Question 41 Audio \(MP3, 409 KB\)](#)

- to print money
- to declare war
- to create an army
- to make treaties

42. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the states. What is one power of the states? [Question 42 Audio \(MP3, 485 KB\)](#)

- provide schooling and education
- provide protection (police)
- provide safety (fire departments)
- give a driver's license
- approve zoning and land use

43. Who is the Governor of your state now? [Question 43 Audio \(MP3, 240 KB\)](#)

- Answers will vary. [District of Columbia residents should answer that D.C. does not have a Governor.]

44. What is the capital of your state?* [Question 44 Audio \(MP3, 375 KB\)](#)

- Answers will vary. [District of Columbia residents should answer that D.C. is not a state and does not have a capital. Residents of U.S. territories should name the capital of the territory.]

45. What are the two major political parties in the United States?* [Question 45 Audio \(MP3, 190 KB\)](#)

- Democratic and Republican

46. What is the political party of the President now? [Question 46 Audio \(MP3, 229 KB\)](#)

- Republican (Party)

47. What is the name of the Speaker of the House of Representatives now? [Question 47 Audio \(MP3, 456 KB\)](#)

- Paul D. Ryan
- (Paul) Ryan

C: Rights and Responsibilities

48. There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. Describe one of them.

[Question 48 Audio \(MP3, 468 KB\)](#)

- Citizens eighteen (18) and older (can vote).
- You don't have to pay (a poll tax) to vote.
- Any citizen can vote. (Women and men can vote.)
- A male citizen of any race (can vote).

49. What is one responsibility that is only for United States citizens?* **[Question 49 Audio \(MP3, 265 KB\)](#)**

- serve on a jury
- vote in a federal election

50. Name one right only for United States citizens. **[Question 50 Audio \(MP3, 242 KB\)](#)**

- vote in a federal election
- run for federal office

51. What are two rights of everyone living in the United States? **[Question 51 Audio \(MP3, 427 KB\)](#)**

- freedom of expression
- freedom of speech
- freedom of assembly
- freedom to petition the government
- freedom of religion
- the right to bear arms

52. What do we show loyalty to when we say the Pledge of Allegiance? **[Question 52 Audio \(MP3, 238 KB\)](#)**

- the United States
- the flag

53. What is one promise you make when you become a United States citizen? **[Question 53 Audio \(MP3, 579 KB\)](#)**

- give up loyalty to other countries
- defend the Constitution and laws of the United States
- obey the laws of the United States
- serve in the U.S. military (if needed)
- serve (do important work for) the nation (if needed)
- be loyal to the United States

54. How old do citizens have to be to vote for President?* **[Question 54 Audio \(MP3, 179 KB\)](#)**

- eighteen (18) and older

55. What are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy? **[Question 55 Audio \(MP3, 681 KB\)](#)**

- vote
- join a political party
- help with a campaign
- join a civic group
- join a community group
- give an elected official your opinion on an issue
- call Senators and Representatives
- publicly support or oppose an issue or policy
- run for office
- write to a newspaper

56. When is the last day you can send in federal income tax forms?* [Question 56 Audio \(MP3, 184 KB\)](#)

- April 15

57. When must all men register for the Selective Service? [Question 57 Audio \(MP3, 260 KB\)](#)

- at age eighteen (18)
- between eighteen (18) and twenty-six (26)

AMERICAN HISTORY

A: Colonial Period and Independence

58. What is one reason colonists came to America? [Question 58 Audio \(MP3, 391 KB\)](#)

- freedom
- political liberty
- religious freedom
- economic opportunity
- practice their religion
- escape persecution

59. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived? [Question 59 Audio \(MP3, 193 KB\)](#)

- American Indians
- Native Americans

60. What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves? [Question 60 Audio \(MP3, 220 KB\)](#)

- Africans
- people from Africa

61. Why did the colonists fight the British? [Question 61 Audio \(MP3, 356 KB\)](#)

- because of high taxes (taxation without representation)
- because the British army stayed in their houses (boarding, quartering)
- because they didn't have self-government

62. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence? [Question 62 Audio \(MP3, 150 KB\)](#)

- (Thomas) Jefferson

63. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted? [Question 63 Audio \(MP3, 188 KB\)](#)

- July 4, 1776

64. There were 13 original states. Name three. [Question 64 Audio \(MP3, 659 KB\)](#)

- New Hampshire
- Massachusetts
- Rhode Island
- Connecticut
- New York
- New Jersey
- Pennsylvania
- Delaware
- Maryland
- Virginia
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Georgia

65. What happened at the Constitutional Convention? [Question 65 Audio \(MP3, 244 KB\)](#)

- The Constitution was written.
- The Founding Fathers wrote the Constitution.

66. When was the Constitution written? [Question 66 Audio \(MP3, 158 KB\)](#)

- 1787

67. The Federalist Papers supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution. Name one of the writers. [Question 67 Audio \(MP3, 358 KB\)](#)

- (James) Madison
- (Alexander) Hamilton
- (John) Jay
- Publius

68. What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for? [Question 68 Audio \(MP3, 440 KB\)](#)

- U.S. diplomat
- oldest member of the Constitutional Convention
- first Postmaster General of the United States
- writer of "Poor Richard's Almanac"
- started the first free libraries

69. Who is the "Father of Our Country"? [Question 69 Audio \(MP3, 139 KB\)](#)

- (George) Washington

70. Who was the first President?* [Question 70 Audio \(MP3, 141 KB\)](#)

- (George) Washington

B: 1800s

71. What territory did the United States buy from France in 1803? [Question 71 Audio \(MP3, 253 KB\)](#)

- the Louisiana Territory
- Louisiana

72. Name one war fought by the United States in the 1800s. [Question 72 Audio \(MP3, 361 KB\)](#)

- War of 1812
- Mexican-American War
- Civil War
- Spanish-American War

73. Name the U.S. war between the North and the South. [Question 73 Audio \(MP3, 241 KB\)](#)

- the Civil War
- the War between the States

74. Name one problem that led to the Civil War. [Question 74 Audio \(MP3, 273 KB\)](#)

- slavery
- economic reasons
- states' rights

75. What was one important thing that Abraham Lincoln did?* [Question 75 Audio \(MP3, 360 KB\)](#)

- freed the slaves (Emancipation Proclamation)
- saved (or preserved) the Union
- led the United States during the Civil War

76. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do? [Question 76 Audio \(MP3, 387 KB\)](#)

- freed the slaves
- freed slaves in the Confederacy
- freed slaves in the Confederate states
- freed slaves in most Southern states

77. What did Susan B. Anthony do? [Question 77 Audio \(MP3, 235 KB\)](#)

- fought for women's rights
- fought for civil rights

C: Recent American History and Other Important Historical Information

78. Name one war fought by the United States in the 1900s.* [Question 78 Audio \(MP3, 383 KB\)](#)

- World War I
- World War II
- Korean War
- Vietnam War
- (Persian) Gulf War

79. Who was President during World War I? [Question 79 Audio \(MP3, 161 KB\)](#)

- (Woodrow) Wilson

80. Who was President during the Great Depression and World War II? [Question 80 Audio \(MP3, 200 KB\)](#)

- (Franklin) Roosevelt

81. Who did the United States fight in World War II? [Question 81 Audio \(MP3, 204 KB\)](#)

- Japan, Germany, and Italy

82. Before he was President, Eisenhower was a general. What war was he in? [Question 82 Audio \(MP3, 221 KB\)](#)

- World War II

83. During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the United States? [Question 83 Audio \(MP3, 203 KB\)](#)

- Communism

84. What movement tried to end racial discrimination? [Question 84 Audio \(MP3, 173 KB\)](#)

- civil rights (movement)

85. What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?* [Question 85 Audio \(MP3, 241 KB\)](#)

- fought for civil rights
- worked for equality for all Americans

86. What major event happened on September 11, 2001, in the United States? [Question 86 Audio \(MP3, 230 KB\)](#)

- Terrorists attacked the United States.

87. Name one American Indian tribe in the United States. [Question 87 Audio \(MP3, 1.13 MB\)](#)

[USCIS Officers will be supplied with a list of federally recognized American Indian tribes.]

- Cherokee
- Navajo
- Sioux
- Chippewa
- Choctaw
- Pueblo
- Apache
- Iroquois
- Creek
- Blackfeet
- Seminole
- Cheyenne
- Arawak
- Shawnee

- Mohegan
- Huron
- Oneida
- Lakota
- Crow
- Teton
- Hopi
- Inuit

INTEGRATED CIVICS

A: Geography

88. Name one of the two longest rivers in the United States. [Question 88 Audio \(MP3, 230 KB\)](#)

- Missouri (River)
- Mississippi (River)

89. What ocean is on the West Coast of the United States? [Question 89 Audio \(MP3, 184 KB\)](#)

- Pacific (Ocean)

90. What ocean is on the East Coast of the United States? [Question 90 Audio \(MP3, 182 KB\)](#)

- Atlantic (Ocean)

91. Name one U.S. territory. [Question 91 Audio \(MP3, 349 KB\)](#)

- Puerto Rico
- U.S. Virgin Islands
- American Samoa
- Northern Mariana Islands
- Guam

92. Name one state that borders Canada. [Question 92 Audio \(MP3, 624 KB\)](#)

- Maine
- New Hampshire
- Vermont
- New York
- Pennsylvania
- Ohio
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- North Dakota
- Montana
- Idaho
- Washington
- Alaska

93. Name one state that borders Mexico. [Question 93 Audio \(MP3, 288 KB\)](#)

- California
- Arizona
- New Mexico
- Texas

94. What is the capital of the United States?* [Question 94 Audio \(MP3, 170 KB\)](#)

- Washington, D.C.

95. Where is the Statue of Liberty?* [Question 95 Audio \(MP3, 317 KB\)](#)

- New York (Harbor)
- Liberty Island

[Also acceptable are New Jersey, near New York City, and on the Hudson (River).]

B: Symbols**96. Why does the flag have 13 stripes?** [Question 96 Audio \(MP3, 282 KB\)](#)

- because there were 13 original colonies
- because the stripes represent the original colonies

97. Why does the flag have 50 stars?* [Question 97 Audio \(MP3, 309 KB\)](#)

- because there is one star for each state
- because each star represents a state
- because there are 50 states

98. What is the name of the national anthem? [Question 98 Audio \(MP3, 170 KB\)](#)

- The Star-Spangled Banner

C: Holidays**99. When do we celebrate Independence Day?*** [Question 99 Audio \(MP3, 220 KB\)](#)

- July 4

100. Name two national U.S. holidays. [Question 100 Audio \(MP3, 927 KB\)](#)

- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Presidents' Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Columbus Day
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving
- Christmas