

Constitution Day: Questions from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service

Part I: Questions from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Immigrants must pass this test to become US citizens. Try to answer these questions.

1. Who discovered America and when?
2. Name the first successful settlement in America.
3. Who is considered the author of the Declaration of Independence?
4. What was the formal name of the document that served as America's Constitution between 1781 and 1788?
5. How many states are there in the United States?
6. The United States is ruled by which form of government?
7. Name the three levels of government in the United States?
8. When was the Constitution adopted?
9. What is the Bill of Rights?
10. The U.S. Constitution has how many amendments?
11. How old must a U.S. citizen be in order to vote?
12. Who is the chief executive of the United States?
13. The U.S. Congress represents which branch of government?
14. How many members are there in the U.S. House of representatives?
15. How many members are there in the U.S. Senate?
16. Who is the presiding officer of the U.S. Senate?
17. For how many years is a member of the U.S. House of Representatives elected?
18. List the three branches of America's federal government.
19. What is the name of the group that directly elects the president of the United States?
20. Must the president be a native of the United States (that is, born in this country)?
21. What term means "the removal of the president from office?"
22. Name the highest court in the United States.
23. Who was president during the Civil War?
24. Where is the nation's capital?
25. What is the title for the chief executive of state government?
26. What is the title for the chief executive of city government?
27. What is the name of our national anthem?
28. Who is the governor of the state where you live?
29. Name the head of government in your city or town.
30. What was the Emancipation Proclamation?
31. Who landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620?
32. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?
33. If the Supreme Court declares a law unconstitutional, what happens to it?
34. If a president does not approve a bill sent by Congress, what may the president do?
35. When did America first become known as "The United States of America?"

Part II. Discussion Questions

- Which of these questions do you think are most important for a citizen to be able to answer? Why?
- Which of these questions do you think are the least important for citizens to be able to answer? Why?
- What other kinds of information do you think is important for a citizen to have? From what sources does one learn such information? Why is that information important for an informed and active citizen to have?
- On the basis of what you just identified as a group, what do you wish to add to the "What Do We Need to Know" list.