Citizenship in the World

Merit Badge

By Paul D. Thompson, Citizen of the World
U.S. Citizenship Test
Ten Questions

Applicants for citizenship must answer correctly six out of 10 oral questions they are given about U.S. history and government. Below, 10 of the 100 possible questions and their answers.

1. What is the supreme law of the land?
2. How many amendments does the Constitution have?
3. How many U.S. senators are there?
4. If both the president and the vice president can no longer serve, who becomes president?
5. Who is the commander in chief of the military?
6. Who is the chief justice of the United States now?
7. How many justices are on the Supreme Court?
8. When was the Constitution written?
9. Who was president during World War I?
10. When is the last day you can send in federal income tax forms?

ANSWERS
1. the Constitution 2. 27 3. 100 4. the speaker of the House 5. the president

Source: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

The Wall Street Journal
Pathway to U.S. Citizenship

For an adult immigrant to become a U.S. citizen, he or she must go through the process of naturalization. GENERAL requirements for naturalization call for the immigrant to:

- Be at least 18 years old at the time of filing the Application for Naturalization (Form N-400)
- Take an oath of allegiance to the United States
- Be a lawfully admitted permanent resident of the United States
- At the time of filing the application, have been a permanent resident in the United States for at least 5 years (or for at least 3 years if you meet all eligibility requirements to file as a spouse of a United States citizen)
- Have demonstrated continuous permanent residence
- Have demonstrated physical presence
- Have lived within the State or USCIS District for at least 3 months prior to filing
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of U.S. history, government, and civic principles
- Demonstrate an ability to read, write, speak, and understand basic English
- Demonstrate an attachment to the principles and ideals of the U.S. Constitution
- Have demonstrated good moral character

Form N-400 uscis.gov/n-400
USCIS Forms Line: 1 800 870 3676
USCIS Customer Service: 1 800 375 5283
Learn more about specific eligibility requirements for naturalization: uscis.gov/citizenship
Citizenship is membership in a community that governs:

- Privileges
- Freedoms
- Duties
A Citizen:
• Is a native or naturalized person
• Owes allegiance to a specific nation
• Is entitled to government protection

A Subject:
• Is a citizen ruled by a sovereign authority, e.g., a monarch
• Shows loyalty to both the ruling authority and the nation
Why is World Citizenship Important?

- World Trade
- World Peace
- Human rights
  
  poverty, slavery, women’s rights
- Environmental Impact
Requirement 1.

Explain what citizenship in the world means to you and what you think makes a good world citizen.
How do you become a citizen of a country?

• By Blood
• By “Soil”
• Through Naturalization
How do you become a citizen of a country?

- **Birth** to parents who are already citizens of a nation
- **Birth** within the borders of a country
- **Naturalization** - the legal process by which a noncitizen in a country may acquire citizenship or nationality of that country
What is World Citizenship?

- Everyone is a citizen of a nation and the world
- The perspective of World Citizenship allows us to understand our roles and responsibilities because problems that effect humanity are global issues
Why is World Citizenship Important?

- World Trade
- World Peace
- Human rights
  - poverty, slavery, women’s rights
- Environmental Impact
Rights & Obligations as Americans

- Rights are granted to us by our government.
- **Obligations** are duties we have towards our country.
US Citizenship Rights

- The right to vote
- The right to a fair trial
- The right to bear arms
- Freedom of religion
- Freedom of speech
- Freedom of the press
US Citizenship Duties & Responsibilities

• Men can be asked to serve in the armed forces.
• Every person must obey laws.
• Pay taxes honestly & on time.
Requirement 2. Workbook

Explain how one becomes a citizen in the United States, and explain the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizenship.

Discuss the similarities and differences between the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizens and the citizens of two other countries.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rights and Freedoms</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>legal rights;</td>
<td>obey Canada’s laws;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>equality rights;</td>
<td>express opinions freely while</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mobility rights;</td>
<td>respecting the rights and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal peoples’ rights;</td>
<td>freedoms of others; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>freedom of thought;</td>
<td>help others in the community;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>freedom of speech;</td>
<td>care for and protect our</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>freedom of religion;</td>
<td>heritage and environment;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and the right to peaceful assembly</td>
<td>eliminate discrimination and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vote in elections</td>
<td>injustice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apply for a passport</td>
<td>Vote in elections</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cuba Rights & Responsibilities

Defined by US government as a “Communist State”

• Freedom to Travel??
• Personal Liberty??
• Freedom of Expression??
• Property rights??
Requirement 3

National Interest
There are three types of National Interest:

• Security Interest
• Economic Interest
• National Values
Security Interests

• **Security from invasion or other external military influences.**

• **Domestic security**
  i.e. World Trade Center Bombing
Economic Interests

What is a *domestic resource*?

- Raw or finished goods / real property
- Manufacturing capacity
- Intellectual capital
- Service economy

We live in an increasingly global economy.
### National Interest
Comparing countries

#### Comparison of Nations in Terms of Economic Well-Being and Quality of Life

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per Person</th>
<th>Suffrage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>$35,750</td>
<td>Universal (men and women), 18 years of age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwait</td>
<td>$16,240</td>
<td>Adult males who have been naturalized for 30+ years—or have resided in Kuwait since before 1920—and their male descendants at age 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>$7,010</td>
<td>Universal and compulsory, 18 years of age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>$4,080</td>
<td>Universal, 18 years of age (active-duty members of the armed forces may not vote and are restricted to barracks on election day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>$860</td>
<td>Universal, 18 years of age</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adult Literacy Rate</th>
<th>Internet Users</th>
<th>Life Expectancy From Birth</th>
<th>Infant Mortality Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99 percent</td>
<td>551 of every 1,000 people</td>
<td>77 years</td>
<td>7 deaths out of 1,000 live births</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83 percent</td>
<td>106/1,000</td>
<td>76 years</td>
<td>9/1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93 percent</td>
<td>78/1,000</td>
<td>69 years</td>
<td>24/1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 percent</td>
<td>33/1,000</td>
<td>66 years</td>
<td>36/1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67 percent</td>
<td>3/1,000</td>
<td>52 years</td>
<td>110/1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Comparing Countries -- Chart Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>GDP</th>
<th>Suffrage</th>
<th>Adult Literacy</th>
<th>Internet Users</th>
<th>Life Expectancy</th>
<th>Infant Mortality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>$65,116</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>697</td>
<td>78.87 years</td>
<td>5.748 per 1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>$2,400</td>
<td>18 years of age; universal</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>284 (in 2011)</td>
<td>54.49 years</td>
<td>60.6 per 1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Adult literacy rate** is the **percentage of** people ages 15 and above who can both read and write with understanding a short simple statement about their everyday life.

Definition of Suffrage: Right to vote in political elections.
National Values

National values are based on a country’s traditional beliefs, culture, religion and historical experiences.

Every nation has an interest in protecting & promoting its way of life.

Many countries expand their national interest to other countries (i.e. foreign aid, military assistance, etc.)
# Saudi Arabia’s National Interests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>National Interest</th>
<th>Affected foreign relations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Geography</strong></td>
<td>To maintain friendly relations with Muslim neighbors. To encourage the growth of friendly governments in the region</td>
<td>Popular support indicates need to ally with Palestinian allies. General political and social upheaval in the area can ignite Saudi dissidents, thus support for stable governments in neighbors and are important.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Resources</strong></td>
<td>To keep the price of oil high. To keep the demand for oil high. To ensure the continued worldwide need for oil</td>
<td>Need to continue exporting oil requires friendly relations with Western countries like the US, UK and Australia Must maintain support of other oil-producing countries like Venezuela and Kuwait a an integral part of OPEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Oil</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Climate</strong></td>
<td>To keep water flowing from the few sources within the country. To maintain friendly relations with countries that export food</td>
<td>Must monitor environmental degradation of fresh water sources, which can be contaminated by actions in neighbors like Kuwait and OPEC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dry</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3a World Event

Pick a world event. How a country's national interest, and its relationship with other countries, might affect areas such as...

- Security
- Economy
- Values
- Health of its citizens
### SUGGESTED MAJOR WORLD EVENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I.D.</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>North Korea-U.S. Nuclear Talks Stall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Brexit Upends British Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Balance of Trade with China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Nuclear abilities of North Korea &amp; Iran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>The Central American Migrant Exodus Grows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Coronavirus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3a World Event

Pick a world event. How a country's national interest, and its relationship with other countries, might affect areas such as...

- Security
- Economy
- Values
- Health of its citizens

3b Global Partnership

Select a foreign country and discuss how its geography, natural resources & climate influences partnerships with other countries.

- Geography
- Natural Resources
- Climate
- Government
Req. 3b

Venezuela
Req. 3b

Venezuela
Venezuela

How do you think the current situation in Venezuela will impact...

- It’s citizens
- Other Countries
- Oil Rich Economy
International Law  Req. 4

- Explain International Law.
- How does international law differ from national law?
- Explain the role of international law.
- Explain how international law can be used as a tool for conflict.
International Law

National Law is the law in which a country deals with problems within its borders.

International Law deals with the rules generally observed and regarded as binding in the relations between nations.
International Law

Role of International Law
International Law as a tool for conflict resolution

1. Environmentalism

2. Communications
International Law as a tool for conflict resolution

Relations are challenged by:

• war
• terrorism
• environment
• trade
• disease
• politics
• economics
• religion
• culture
Requirement 4:

a. Explain international law and how it differs from national law. Explain the role of international law and how international law can be used as a tool for conflict resolution.
Constitutional vs. Nonconstitutional

**Constitutional**

**Non-Constitutional**
Constitutional vs. Nonconstitutional

**Constitutional** governments are democratic governments that represent the interests of the majority.

The U.S. government is a federal republic, ruled on the principle of representative democracy.
Constitutional vs. Nonconstitutional

**NonConstitutional** governments

There is no effective means for the public to limit the power of their rulers, or how long those rulers stay in office.

**Dictatorships** are another form of non-constitutional governments.
5b. Name at least 5 different types of governments currently in power in the world.
### Governments

#### Forms of Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Distribution of Power</th>
<th>Relationship Between Legislative and Executive Branches</th>
<th>Level of Citizen Participation</th>
<th>Form of Government</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unitary</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>Parliament</td>
<td>Presidential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar (Burma)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People’s Republic of China</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vatican City</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Governments  

- Show on a world map countries that use each of the five forms of government.

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The World POLITICAL

maps.com

Governments

Req. 5b
Requirement 6a:

6a. Explain how government is represented abroad,
Requirement 6a:

6a. Explain how government is represented abroad, and how the United States government is accredited to international organizations.
Representation Abroad

Governmental Representation

- Foreign diplomats and embassies
- United Nations
- US Agency for International Development
Diplomatic Relations

- **Right of Legation** – Right to send and receive diplomatic representatives.
- **Accreditation of diplomats**
- **Diplomatic Immunity** [p. 82]
- **Persona non grata** [p. 82]
Embassies

**Embassy** - Headquarters for a nation’s diplomatic relations in another country.
Embassies

*Embassy* – Chief representative is the **Ambassador**.

A personal representative of the President of the United States.
Embassies

Purpose of Embassies:
Purpose of Embassies:

- Communications reflect the U.S. position on topics of foreign policy.
Purpose of Embassies:

❖ Communications reflect the U.S. position on topics of foreign policy.

❖ Provide feedback about U.S. interests to the president and secretary of state.
Consulate

A branch of an Embassy

Head of a **Consulate** is a **Consul General**.
Consulate

Embassy

Consulate

Consulate

Consulate
Missions

Well established diplomatic groups to a particular organization.
The head of a mission is also known as an Ambassador.
6. Do the following:

a. Explain how a government is represented abroad ________________________________

and how the United States government is accredited to international organizations.

__________________________________________________________________________
Requirement 6c: Explain the purpose of a passport and visa for international travel.
Passports

A passport is an internationally recognized travel document that verifies the identity and nationality of the bearer.
Passports

A valid U.S. passport is required to enter and leave most foreign countries.
Passports

Only the U.S. Department of State has the authority to grant, issue or verify United States passports.
Documentary Requirements for Entry to the United States by Air

United States Citizens require one of the following documents for entry to the United States when arriving by air:

- US Passport
- Military ID Card
- Merchant Mariner Card
- NEXUS Card (at Nexus kiosk only)
- Transportation Letter

Canadian and Bermudan Citizens require one of the following documents for entry to the United States when arriving by air:

- Passport
- NEXUS Card (Canadians only) (at Nexus kiosk only)
- Parole Letter

Mexican Citizens require the following documents for entry to the United States when arriving by air:

- Passport and Visa
- Passport and Border Crossing Card
- Parole Letter

Effective January 23, 2007
Passports
Passports

U.S. Passport Card

The wallet-size passport card is convenient and less expensive than the passport book. However, the U.S. Passport Card cannot be used for international air travel. This new travel document can be used to enter the United States from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda at land border crossings or sea ports-of-entry.
Visas

A passport stamp or document that authorizes the passport-holder to enter a country for specific purposes for a particular time period.
Visas

A visa gives the traveler permission to enter a country.
Visas
Visas
Requirement 6c:
Explain the purpose of a passport and visa for international travel.
Requirement 7

6. Do the following:
   a. Discuss the differences between constitutional and nonconstitutional governments.
   b. Name at least five different types of governments currently in power in the world.
   c. Show on a world map countries that use each of these five different forms of government.

7. Do TWO of the following (with your parent’s permission) and share with your counselor what you have learned:
   a. Visit the website of the U.S. State Department. Learn more about an issue you find interesting that is discussed on this website.
   b. Visit the website of an international news organization or foreign government, OR examine a foreign newspaper available at your local library, bookstore, or newsstand. Find a news story about a human right realized in the United States that is not recognized in another country.
   c. Visit with a student or Scout from another country and discuss the typical values, holidays, ethnic foods, and traditions practiced or enjoyed there.
   d. Attend a world Scout jamboree.
   e. Participate in or attend an international event in your area, such as an ethnic festival, concert, or play.