

Citizenship: Just the Facts

Time Needed: One class period

Materials Needed:

Student worksheets

Optional T/F cards

Copy Instructions:

Reading (2 pages; class set)

Graphic Organizer (1 page; class set)

Worksheets (2 pages; class set)

T/F cards (1/3 page; class set; optional)

Learning Objectives. Students will be able to:

- Define citizenship
- Describe the process of becoming a US citizen (naturalization)
- Analyze the Oath of Allegiance
- Identify ways the rights of citizenship have changed over time

STEP BY STEP

- ANTICIPATE** by asking the question: "What does it mean to be a member of something?" Write down key words from their answers on the board.
- DISTRIBUTE** the reading and graphic organizer.
- READ** the reading with the class, pausing to fill out the Graphic Organizer with your students as you go.
- REVIEW** the graphic organizer as a class.
- CHECK** for understanding by doing the true/false anticipation activity.
- DISTRIBUTE** the worksheet activity.
- REVIEW** instructions for the activities.
- ASSIGN** students to complete the worksheet activities. Review answers if you wish.
- CLOSE** by asking students to think up one "quiz" question based on this lesson and write it down. Have students quiz a partner with their questions, or call on students to ask their questions to the entire class.

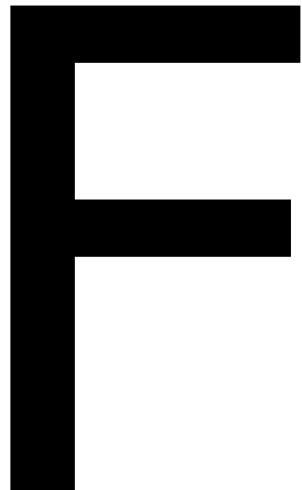
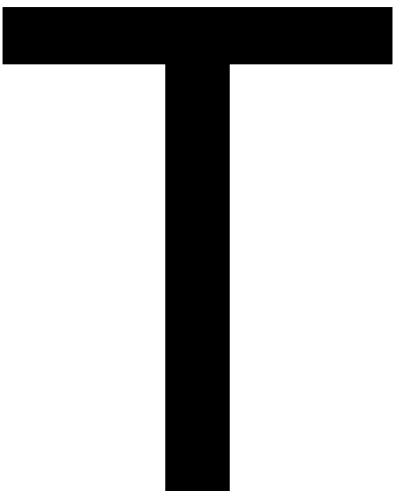
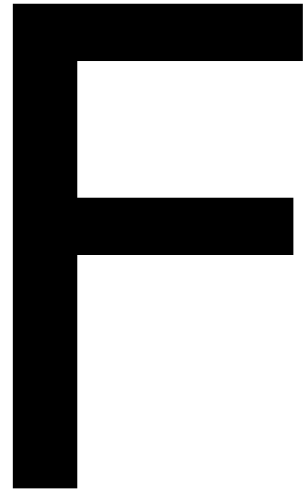
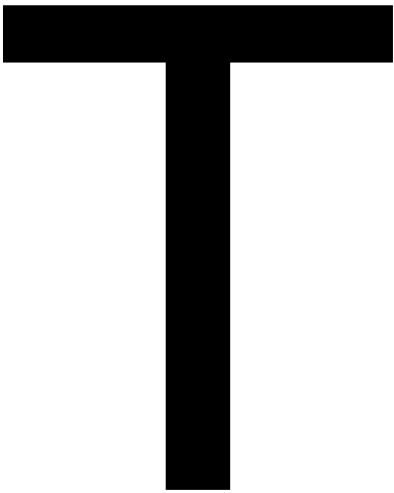
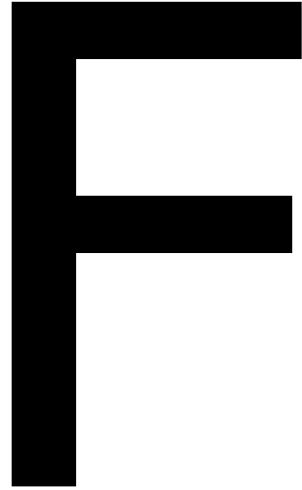
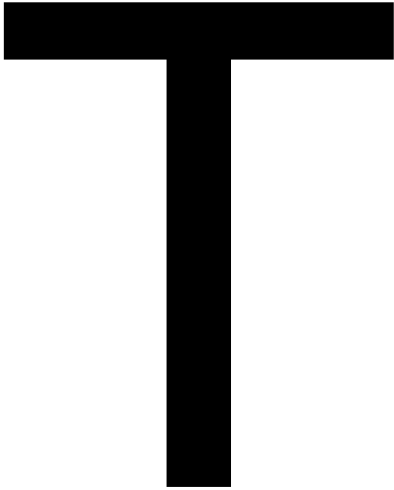
True/False Active Participation Activity

Option 1: Choral Response Tell the class you will ask a series of questions and that they are to answer as a chorus. Tell them to wait to answer until you ask for the answer. Ask each question twice, give wait time, then ask for the answer. Call on students to explain why “false” or wrong answer choices are incorrect.

Option 2: T/F Cards Distribute the “T/F” foldable cards to each student. Tell the class you will ask a series of questions and that they are to hold up “T” for true answers and “F” for false answers when you tell them to. Read each question prompt twice, provide wait time, then ask your class to hold up their cards. Call on students to explain why “false” or wrong answer choices are incorrect.

1. Naturalization is the process that allows you to be more natural. FALSE
2. To be naturalized you must be under 18 yrs old. FALSE
3. In 1791, the Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution. TRUE
4. Women have always had the right to vote. FALSE
5. *Allegiance* means loyalty to a person, country, or belief. TRUE
6. People who serve in the U.S. Military at least a year can become citizens. TRUE
7. Today, you must be 21 years old to vote. FALSE
8. Martin Luther King, Jr. led a march to protest the lack of food in the South. FALSE
9. Today, people can be citizens regardless of their race or gender. TRUE
10. As citizens, we have both rights and responsibilities. TRUE

CUT ON DOTTED LINE. FOLD ON SOLID LINE.



CUT ON DOTTED LINE. FOLD ON SOLID LINE.

Citizenship: Just the Facts

Name: _____

Becoming A Citizen

Citizenship means being a member of a nation or country and having full rights and responsibilities under the law. In the United States, there are three ways to become a citizen: being born in the United States, having parents who are citizens of the United States, and going through a process called naturalization.



Citizen Parents



Born in the U.S.



Naturalized



New citizens take the Oath of Allegiance at a naturalization ceremony in Boston.

Naturalization is the process that allows immigrants to become citizens. Most people who apply for citizenship fall into this category. To qualify, immigrants must be at least 18 years old and have been permanent residents of the United States for 5 years. They must also have good character, speak English, and pass a civics test and an interview. The last step involves taking an Oath of Allegiance to the United States and our Constitution. There is one shortcut: People who serve in the U.S. military for at least one year can become citizens sooner because they have demonstrated their commitment to the United States.

The Oath of Allegiance

I hereby declare, on oath,

potentate: ruler

that I absolutely and entirely renounce and **abjure** all **allegiance** and fidelity to any foreign prince, **potentate**, state, or sovereignty of whom or which I have **heretofore** been a subject or citizen;

abjure: reject

heretofore: until now

that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic;

that I will *bear true faith* and **allegiance** to the same;

that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law;

that I will perform **noncombatant service** in the Armed Forces of the United States when required by the law;

noncombatant service: duties other than fighting

that I will perform work of national importance under *civilian direction* when required by the law;

and that I take this obligation freely without any **mental reservation** or purpose of **evasion**; so help me God.

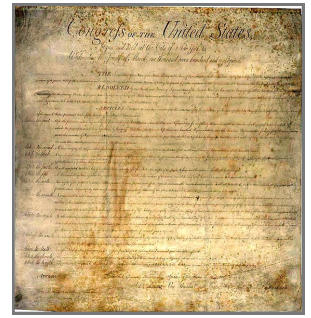
reservation: doubt about something

evasion: avoiding the truth

Citizenship: Just the Facts

Rights & Responsibilities

In 1791, ten changes, called *amendments*, were added to the Constitution. These first ten amendments are called the **Bill of Rights**. The Bill of Rights guarantees certain rights to United States citizens. These rights include freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, protection under the law, access to the judicial system, and more. But along with all these freedoms come some responsibilities. As citizens, we are responsible for things like serving on juries, obeying laws, tolerating differences in those around us, and participating in our government—for example, by voting.



The Bill of Rights

Citizenship in History



When the Bill of Rights was added to our constitution only “free white persons” were considered citizens. When the Civil War ended in 1865, the 14th Amendment was added to the Constitution. It granted citizenship to all people born in the United States. Over the next 100 years, citizenship was granted to Native Americans and children born to American parents outside the United States. In 1952, the U.S. Congress passed a law to say that citizenship could not be denied because of a persons’ race or gender.

U.S. Citizenship Timeline

- 1776 You must be a white male *and* own property to **vote!**
- 1791 All white males may vote even if they don’t own property!
- 1795 “Free white persons” will become **citizens** after living in the U.S. for five years.
- 1848 80,000 Mexican residents of the Southwest are granted **citizenship** after the Mexican-American war.
- 1857 In ***Dred Scott v. Sandford*** the U.S. Supreme Court rules that African Americans who were brought into this country as slaves could never be citizens.
- 1868 The **14th Amendment** overrules *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, giving citizenship to African Americans.
- 1870 Laws changed to say that “white persons and persons of African descent” can be citizens; The **15th Amendment** gives African Americans the right to vote!
- 1913 California and other states enact Alien Land Laws prohibiting non-citizens from owning property.
- 1920 The **19th Amendment** allows women to vote!
- 1924 All Native Americans are granted citizenship.
- 1940’s All laws banning Asians from becoming citizens are overturned.
- 1947 Native Americans are given the right to vote!
- 1965 Martin Luther King, Jr. leads a march to protest lack of voting rights, and the *Voting Rights Act* gets rid of all barriers to voting (literacy tests, taxes, etc.).
- 1971 The voting age is changed to 18 by the **26th Amendment!**

Citizenship: Just the Facts

Name: _____

Naturalization

List five qualifications for citizenship by naturalization:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



Citizenship

Definition: _____

History

- In 1791, ten _____, called the _____ were added to the Constitution.
- In 1868, the _____ Amendment granted citizenship to _____.
- In 1952, Congress passed a law that citizenship could not be denied because of _____ or _____.

Rights

List five rights guaranteed to United States citizens:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Responsibilities

List five responsibilities a citizen of the U.S. has:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Citizenship: Just the Facts

Name: _____

A. Is it in the Oath? First, put an X next to the lines that are required by the Oath of Allegiance.

Then put a ☆ next to the three lines that you would include if you were writing your own oath. These can be the same or different than things in the U.S. Oath.



- _____ 1. Giving loyalty to the Constitution of the United States.
- _____ 2. Promising to be kind to other people.
- _____ 3. Protecting and supporting the Constitution and laws of the U.S. against any attack.
- _____ 4. Promising to always take care of the environment.
- _____ 5. Promising all these things without hesitation and without lying.
- _____ 6. Fulfilling duties other than fighting to support the Armed Forces.
- _____ 7. Serving both my new country and my old country.
- _____ 8. Swearing to say the Pledge of Allegiance every day.
- _____ 9. Doing things that are important to the nation when the law requires it.
- _____ 10. Serving in the military to protect the United States when the law says I need to.
- _____ 11. Promising to take care of my family and friends.
- _____ 12. Completely rejecting all loyalty that I have to another country or ruler.

B. Fill in the blank. Fill in the blanks below with words from the word box.

allegiance	eighteen	naturalization	oath
military	five	one	three

- 1. There are _____ ways to become a citizen of the United States.
- 2. The process of becoming a U.S. citizen when you are not born in the United States or to parents who are U.S. citizens is called _____.
- 3. Most people who apply for citizenship are older than _____ and have lived in the United States for _____ years.
- 4. One way to become a citizen more quickly is to serve in the _____ for _____ year.
- 5. The last step in the process of becoming a U.S. citizen is taking the _____ of _____.

Citizenship: Just the Facts

Name: _____

C. Matching.

- _____ 1. Originally, the only people allowed to vote were ...
- _____ 2. The case that said that African-Americans brought into the country as slaves could never be citizens was...
- _____ 3. "Free, white persons" that had lived in the US for five years were given citizenship in...
- _____ 4. *Dred Scott v. Sandford* was overruled in...
- _____ 5. The 15th Amendment to the Constitution gives African Americans...
- _____ 6. Women were given the right to vote by the...
- _____ 7. According to the 26th Amendment you can vote if you are over the...
- _____ 8. Martin Luther King, Jr. led a protest against...



- A. the year 1795.
- B. 19th Amendment.
- C. barriers to voting.
- D. age of 18.
- E. property owning, white males.
- F. the year 1870.
- G. *Dred Scott v. Sandford*.
- H. the right to vote!

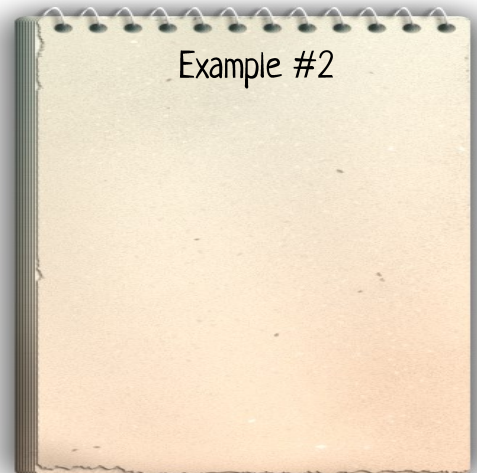
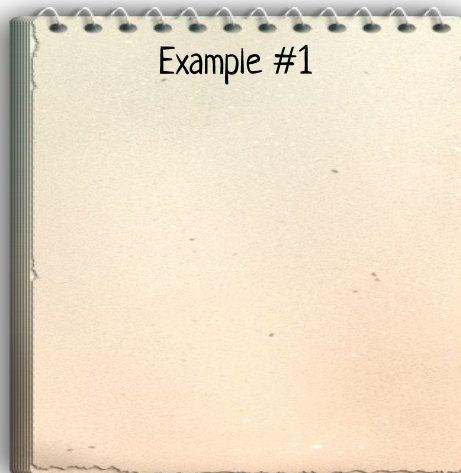
D. How long ago was it?

	African Americans can vote!	Women can vote!	People over 18 can vote!
What year is it now?	□	□	□
— What year did the — Amendment pass?	— □	— □	— □
How long ago was it?	□	□	□

E. True or False.

Citizenship in the United States has always had the same meaning.

- True
- False



Naturalization

List five qualifications for citizenship by naturalization:

1. Over 18 years old
2. Permanent resident for 5 years
3. Good character
4. Speak English
5. Pass a civics test and an interview



Citizenship

Definition:

To be a member of a nation or country, and to have full rights and responsibilities under the law.

History

- In 1791, ten amendments, called the Bill of Rights were added to the Constitution.
- In 1868, the 14th Amendment granted citizenship to All people born in the United States.
- In 1952, Congress passed a law that citizenship could not be denied because of gender or race.

Rights

List five rights guaranteed to United States citizens:

1. Freedom of speech
2. Freedom of religion
3. Freedom of the press
4. Protection under the law
5. Access to the judicial system

Responsibilities

List five responsibilities a citizen of the U.S. has:

1. Serving on juries
2. Obeying laws
3. Tolerating differences in those around us
4. Participating in our government
5. Voting

Citizenship: Just the Facts

TEACHER GUIDE

A. Is it in the Oath? First, put an X next to the lines that are required by the Oath of Allegiance.

Then put a ☆ next to the *three* lines that you would include if you were writing your own oath. These can be the same or different than things in the U.S. Oath.



- 1. Giving loyalty to the Constitution of the United States.
- 2. Giving loyalty to vegetables. Vegetables are the best.
- 3. Protecting and supporting the Constitution and laws of the U.S. against any attack.
- 4. Promising to always take care of the environment.
- 5. Promising all these things without hesitation and without lying.
- 6. Fulfilling duties other than fighting to support the Armed Forces.
- 7. Serving both my new country and my old country.
- 8. Swearing to say the Pledge of Allegiance every day.
- 9. Doing things that are important to the nation when the law requires it.
- 10. Serving in the military to protect the United States when the law says I need to.
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- 12. Completely rejecting all loyalty that I have to another country or ruler.

B. Fill in the blank. Fill in the blanks below with words from the word box.

allegiance	eighteen	naturalization	oath
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- 1. There are three ways to become a citizen of the United States.
- 2. The process of becoming a U.S. citizen when you are not born in the United States or to parents who are U.S. citizens is called naturalization.
- 3. Most people who apply for citizenship are older than eighteen and have lived in the United States for five years.
- 4. One way to become a citizen more quickly is to serve in the military for one year.
- 5. The last step in the process of becoming a U.S. citizen is taking the Oath of Allegiance.

Citizenship: Just the Facts



C. Matching. Match each sentence with the correct ending.

- E 1. Originally, the only people allowed to vote were ...
- G 2. The case that said that African-Americans brought into the country as slaves could never be citizens was...
- A 3. "Free, white persons" that had lived in the US for five years were given citizenship in...
- F 4. *Dred Scott v. Sandford* was overruled in...
- H 5. The 15th Amendment to the Constitution gives African Americans...
- B 6. Women were given the right to vote by the...
- D 7. According to the 26th Amendment you can vote if you are over the...
- C 8. Martin Luther King, Jr. led a protest against...

- A. the year 1795.
- B. 19th Amendment.
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- D. age of 18.
- E. property owning, white males.
- F. the year 1870.
- G. *Dred Scott v. Sandford*.
- H. the right to vote!

D. How long ago was it? Do the subtraction problems below to find out how long each Amendment has been in effect!

	African Americans can vote!	Women can vote!	People over 18 can vote!
What year is it now? →	□	□	□
What year did the Amendment pass? →	- 1870	- 1920	- 1971
How long ago was it? →	□	□	□

E. True or False. Determine if the following sentence is TRUE or FALSE. Then, support your answer by giving TWO examples.

Citizenship in the United States has always had the same meaning.

- True
- False

