

Civics and Economics – Unit 1, Part I
Duties, Rights, & Responsibilities

Part I – Key Concepts

Civics - study of _____



People that make the _____



Rules that _____ must follow.



Members of a _____.



A group of people that share the same _____.

Part II - America's Diversity

The United States has a population of approximately _____ million people. Among those are _____, people that come to the country with the intention of permanent settlement. To become citizens, they go through a process called _____ overseen by an agency in the federal government called _____. Before and during this process, they are considered _____, or non-citizens. There are two types of non-citizens, including _____ (documented) or _____ (undocumented). There are _____ million undocumented people in the United States today.

Part III – Immigration Debate

List three reasons that people oppose illegal immigration.

List three reasons that people support illegal immigration.

Guided Reading Activity 1-1

Government of the People, by the People, for the People



As you read this section, write down any words you do not understand. Come back to those words later, look them up in a dictionary and then try to use them in the context of the chapter.

DIRECTIONS: Write an answer to each question below in the space provided.

1. **Identifying** What is "civics"?

2. **Explaining** As a citizen, what do you agree to do?

3. **Describing** What is the role of government in a community?

4. **Summarizing** Why did Thomas Hobbes believe people needed governments?

5. **Defining** Write a sentence using the phrase "public policy."

6. **Concluding** Why is planning a budget important to a government's success?

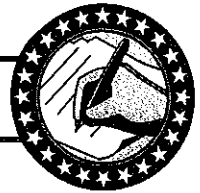
7. **Comparing** How do the general duties of the national government differ from those of the state governments?

8. **Identifying** Define "direct democracy."

9. **Explaining** What is meant by majority rule?

10. **Comparing** What is the difference between a dictatorship and a democracy?

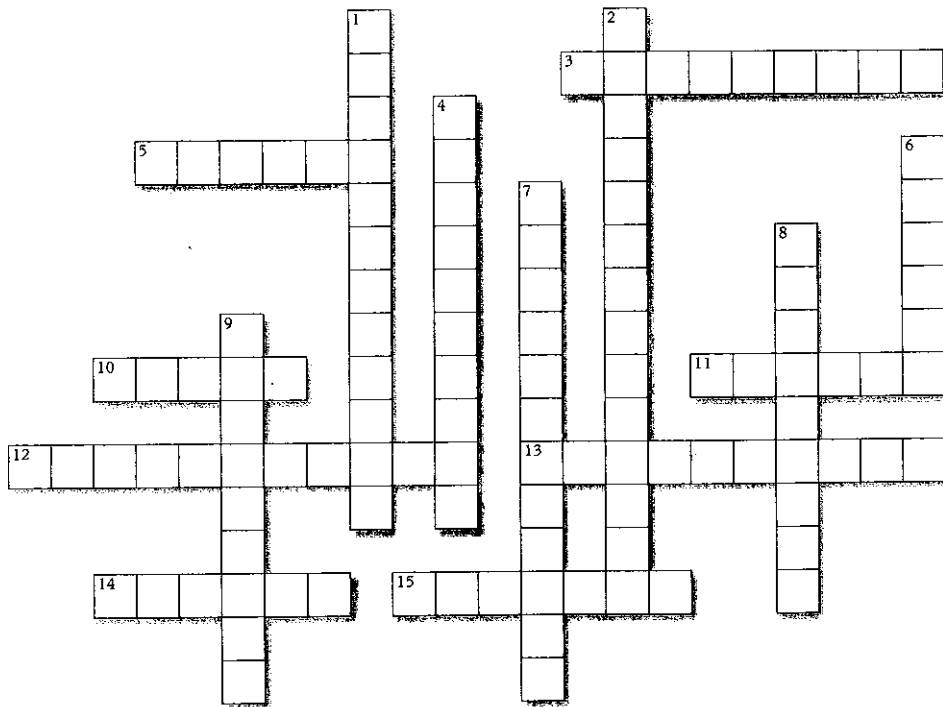
SECTION 1-1



Vocabulary Activity 1

Citizenship and Government in a Democracy

DIRECTIONS: Complete the crossword puzzle by spelling out the term defined by each clue below.



ACROSS

- 3** Abraham Lincoln called it a government "of the people, by the people, for the people"
- 5** legal process by which a government removes an alien from the country
- 10** noncitizen residing in a country
- 11** type of democracy in which all citizens debate and vote on all issues
- 12** process of moving permanently to a new country
- 13** love of one's country
- 14** study of the rights and duties of citizens
- 15** member of a community with certain rights and duties

DOWN

- 1** government controlled by one person or a small group
- 2** type of democracy in which citizens choose a smaller group to govern and make laws
- 4** ruling authority for a community, with the right to make and enforce laws
- 6** plan for collecting and spending a community's money
- 7** course of action taken by a government to achieve community goals
- 8** mass movement from one place to another
- 9** use of violence against civilians to achieve a political goal

Duties –	Responsibilities –
1. Obey the _____	1. The most important responsibility that we have as citizens is to _____.
2. Pay _____ - Examples Local – State – Federal –	2. Respect the _____ of others. There are three specific types, including: a. _____ b. _____ c. _____
3. Defend the nation _____ - to be called up for military service	3. Respect _____:
4. Serve in court (two different ways) a. _____ b. _____	4. Speak up and be informed. What are three ways that you can be informed?
5. Go to _____ until you are at least _____ years old. This is an example of an institution. What does institution mean?	5. Participate in the community a. Volunteerism -

Guided Reading Activity 5-1

The Duties and Responsibilities of Citizenship



Before reading, write questions related to each of the subheadings in this section. After completing this section, answer the questions you wrote.

DIRECTIONS: Write an answer to each question below in the space provided.

- 1. Defining** What are "responsibilities"?

- 2. Predicting** What could happen if citizens fail to perform some of the duties required by the government?

- 3. Summarizing** What are some of the duties the government requires its citizens to perform?

- 4. Explaining** What happens to your tax money?

- 5. Explaining** What is a draft? Who is required to register with the government for the draft?

- 6. Explaining** Why do most states require their students to attend school to at least the age of 16?

- 7. Describing** Why is staying informed a civic responsibility?

- 8. Explaining** Why is voting such an important civic responsibility?

- 9. Defining** What is tolerance?

CITIZEN ACTION

The following list describes activities of citizens in our democratic society. Read each activity and label it a duty, a right, or a responsibility. (Some activities may have more than one label.)

Remember:

- Duties are required by law.
- Rights are guaranteed by our Constitution and protected by our laws and courts.
- Responsibilities are voluntary actions that are an important part of being a citizen.

- _____ 1. Vote in all elections.
- _____ 2. Join a political party.
- _____ 3. Pay all of the taxes that you owe.
- _____ 4. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper.
- _____ 5. Educate yourself and continue learning throughout your entire life.
- _____ 6. Register for military service.
- _____ 7. Help others in your community who are less fortunate.
- _____ 8. Obey the speed limits.
- _____ 9. Keep in good physical and mental health.
- _____ 10. Serve on a jury.
- _____ 11. Recycle paper, glass, and aluminum goods.
- _____ 12. Appear as a witness in a trial.
- _____ 13. Read the newspaper or watch the news on television.
- _____ 14. Have privacy in your home and in your personal life.
- _____ 15. Prepare to support yourself financially.
- _____ 16. Attend school to age sixteen.

The 7 Reasons Most Americans Don't Vote

Source: <http://www.zencollegelife.com/the-7-reasons-most-americans-dont-vote/>

America is a free country, and voting is an important part of that freedom. Unlike other countries where dictators and monarchs make decisions on behalf of the people, Americans get the right to decide who runs the country and what laws should govern citizens. But even though voting is an important privilege, most Americans simply don't vote, and some of their reasons may surprise you. Here are seven common reasons most Americans don't vote.

1. They think their vote won't count

Many Americans don't vote because they think their vote doesn't count. This is a common excuse that's rooted in the belief that the Electoral College chooses the President, not the voters. In reality, the popular vote in each state determines which candidate the Electoral College endorses for that state. Therefore, your vote does count within your state, and you should get out and exercise your right to vote.

2. Too busy

Americans are busy people. Work, family, and other life obligations tend to get in the way of civic duties like voting. There's no doubt that voting presents scheduling challenges, but is that really a good excuse not to vote? After all, people all over the world have fought and died for the right to vote. The least we can do is carve out a few minutes to go to a polling center and cast our vote.

3. Registration requirements

Voting registration can be confusing, especially for citizens that have moved from county to county or from state to state. But registration itself is painless and takes little more than the presentation of identification. Therefore, to prevent registration requirements from preventing you from voting, make it a point to update your voter registration every time you move.

4. Apathy

Americans have a reputation for being apathetic to politics and voting in general, but politics in particular can cause Americans' eyes to glaze over. Many people don't like the partisan bickering underlying the voting process, and this is a valid concern. However, if you are too apathetic to vote, you should also be sure to hold your complaints about the way things are run. If you don't voice your opinion by voting, you shouldn't have the right to voice your complaints when things don't go the way you want them to.

5. Lines are too long

Voting lines can sometimes be long, and for busy people waiting in line is a horrible waste of time and energy. But in reality, voting lines are seldom long, even for high-profile presidential races. With the advent of new technology, voting is becoming easier and more efficient than ever before, and this allows voters to get in and out without having to wait in long lines. This excuse is becoming less and less relevant as time goes on.

6. Don't like the candidates

Politicians are sometimes easy to dislike. Their flaws are often aired publicly for the entire world to see, and many people generally distrust politicians based on this information. But even if you don't particularly like any of the candidates, do you really know them? And should it matter whether you like them or not? Perhaps a politician's stance on issues important to you is more important than whether or not they are likeable. Even if it's choosing the lesser of two or more evils in your eyes, voting is still an important way for you to voice your opinion about the subjects you care about most.

7. Can't get to the polls

Getting to polling locations can be a hassle, especially for the disabled, the sick, and people without transportation. In addition, voting becomes even more difficult for those citizens who are temporarily out of the country on vacation or business. But advocacy groups are making it much easier to get to the polls, even for those with special needs. In addition, absentee voting allows those people who are temporarily out of the country to cast their vote remotely. As a result, claiming that you can't get to the polls is not a very good excuse not to vote

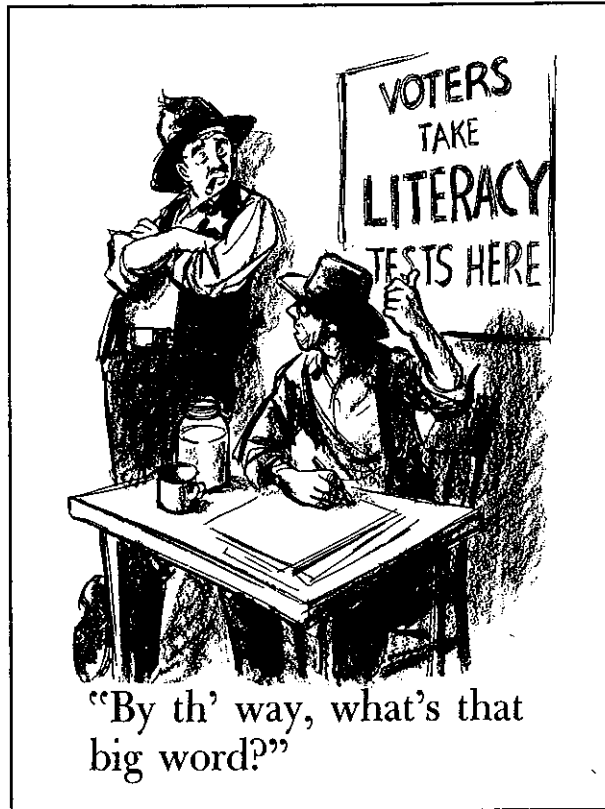
QUESTIONS:

1. Highlight or underline at least 10 vocabulary terms and/or terms you do not know from the article.
2. What reason do you see as the most legitimate? Why?
3. What reason do you see as the least legitimate? Why?
4. Provide an additional reason for why people do not vote and explain it in two sentences?
5. What are three reasons why voting is important?

CHAPTER
6

Section 2
Voter Qualifications

Voter qualifications, such as literacy tests, were used for many years to disqualify African Americans from voting. The ability to read or write as a requirement to vote was finally eliminated by federal civil rights laws and court actions. Study the cartoon below and answer the following questions.




Bill Mauldin/St. Louis Post Dispatch

Interpreting Political Cartoons

1. What are the two people in the cartoon doing?
2. What period of history does this cartoon portray?
3. What is the irony of the caption?
4. **Demonstrating Reasoned Judgment** Literary tests were outlawed because they were used to eliminate African American voters, by giving them more difficult tests than those given to white voters. Would you favor the use of basic literacy tests if they were administered fairly?

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Guided Reading Activity 1-2



The Path to Citizenship



After you have read this section, try to summarize each chunk of text (under each head) in one or two sentences.

DIRECTIONS: Write an answer to each question below in the space provided.

1. **Defining** What is "naturalization"?

2. **Comparing** What is the first step an alien takes to become a citizen?

3. **Contrasting** What is the difference between an alien and an immigrant?

4. **Explaining** Why do you think aliens come to the United States?

5. **Explaining** Why would government officials deport someone?

6. **Contrasting** What are some of the differences between a legal alien and a natural-born citizen of the United States?

SECTION 1-2

Supreme Court Case Study 5



The Right to Freedom of Enslaved Persons

Dred Scott v. Sandford, 1857

***** Background of the Case *****

John Emerson, a United States Army surgeon, took enslaved African Dred Scott to live at military posts in Illinois, a free state in 1834, and then to posts in the territory of Upper Louisiana (now Minnesota), where slavery had been forbidden by the Missouri Compromise of 1820. In 1838 Emerson and Scott returned to Missouri.

In 1846 Scott won a suit for his freedom against Emerson's widow in a Missouri court. Scott claimed that by having lived in free territory, he had earned his freedom. This ruling was overturned, however, by Missouri's supreme court. Aided by various antislavery interests, Scott then started a new suit in a federal district court against Mrs. Emerson's brother, John Sandford of New York, who had been acting as his sister's agent. Since the case was a dispute between people who live in two different states, it could be heard in a federal court. When the federal court ruled that Scott was still a slave, he appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

Constitutional Issues *****

The Constitution left questions such as the legal rights of slaves for later lawmakers to solve. In 1850 Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Law, which stated that a slave was property and which required escaped slaves to be returned to their holders. Opponents of the law unsuccessfully challenged its legality before the Supreme Court.

The first major issue was whether Dred Scott—an African American—qualified as a citizen of the United States and was, therefore, entitled to sue in a federal court. The second issue concerned whether Scott had gained his freedom by moving to a free territory or state. The third issue focused on the Missouri Compromise of 1820, which banned slavery north of the southern boundary of Missouri (except for Missouri itself). Scott had lived in the non-slavery region. Did Congress have the power to prohibit slavery in the territories and to make the prohibition a condition of admission to the Union?

***** The Supreme Court's Decision *****

The Court's decision was written by Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, although each justice wrote his own opinion, with only one justice concurring with Taney in every respect. Two justices dissented.

Taney's first ruling was that former Africans, "whether emancipated or not," did not qualify as United States citizens. Taney held that only those who were state citizens when the Union was formed became federal citizens. Even though a state may emancipate a slave, give him the right to vote, and admit him to state citizenship, Taney said, none of these actions gave a slave automatic federal citizenship. The right to grant federal citizenship belonged exclusively to Congress. Taney concluded that Scott was not, and never had become, a citizen of the United States, and was not, therefore, entitled to sue in a federal court.

(continued)



Supreme Court Case Study 5 (continued)

Taney next examined the question of whether Scott had gained his freedom when he entered the Upper Louisiana Territory. The Chief Justice attacked the Missouri Compromise as an unconstitutional exercise of congressional authority. Congress cannot forbid a state or a territory from making slavery legal. Taney explained that as long as slavery is authorized by the Constitution, Congress cannot alter the right of a person to own slaves or any other kind of property. In viewing the Missouri Compromise as unconstitutional, the Court determined that Scott's status did not change when he entered free territory. The Court held that Scott had been a slave in Illinois and had returned to Missouri as a slave. On his return to Missouri, he became subject to Missouri law alone. Taney ordered the suit dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.

***** Dissenting Opinion *****

Justice Benjamin R. Curtis dissented. Curtis noted that free African Americans were among those who had voted to ratify the Constitution in a number of states. Nothing in the Constitution stripped these free African Americans of their citizenship. Curtis maintained that "under the Constitution of the United States, every free person born on the soil of a State, who is a citizen of that State, who is a citizen of that State by force of its Constitution or laws, is also a citizen of the United States . . ."

The Court's decision is one example of judicial power being exercised in favor of racial segregation. It is also the first time that a major federal law was ruled unconstitutional.



Questions *****

DIRECTIONS: Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What was the relationship between the Missouri Compromise and the Court's decision in the *Dred Scott* case?
2. What effect do you think the Court's decision in the *Dred Scott* case had on the efforts of many Americans to end slavery?
3. If you were a plantation owner in the South who held many slaves, how would you have reacted to the *Dred Scott* decision?
4. What did the Court say about enslaved African Americans' position in the United States?
5. Why is the *Dred Scott* decision regarded as one of the most important cases in the history of the Supreme Court?