

Transition Packet for Citizenship Teachers

1. What is the Transition Packet?

The *Transition Packet for Citizenship Teachers* is a free tool for educators who teach citizenship classes in which some students will take the old citizenship test and other students will take the new citizenship test.

The *Transition Packet* examines all of the history/government questions from the old and new citizenship tests and divides them into 13 categories:

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A. Colonial Period | H. Recent American History |
| B. Declaration of Independence | I. The President |
| C. Constitution | J. Other Government Questions |
| D. Legislative Branch | K. Rights and Responsibilities |
| E. Executive Branch | L. Geography |
| F. Judicial Branch | M. Symbols & Holidays |
| G. 1800s | |

For each category, there are three pages:

- **Teacher Resource Page:** Contains all the questions and answers from both tests
- **Old Test Student Study Page:** Contains all the questions from the old test with space for students to write the answers
- **New Test Student Study Page:** Contains all the questions from the new test with space for students to write the answers

2. How can I use it?

During class, teach a lesson on a specific topic, such as the Colonial Period, as you normally would. This may include:

- Using illustrations of Pilgrims, Native Americans, the 13 colonies, etc.
- Using a citizenship textbook that has readings or activities about the Colonial Period
- Designing activities (individual, pair, small group, or whole class) to help students understand the Colonial Period

Once the students understand the Colonial Period, give them the Student Study Page for the test they will take (old or new). Let students work with others who are taking the same test. Have them copy the answer from the official USCIS list of questions for that test. Alternatively, you could have students complete the Study Page on their own for homework. Encourage students to use the Study Pages for review as they prepare for their version of the citizenship test.

3. Where can I get the complete packet?

You can find the complete packet at: www.thecenterweb.org/alrc/citizenship-pub.html. Feel free to print it out, copy it, and share it with fellow teachers.

4. Where can I find out more about the two versions of the citizenship test?

- For more information about the Old Test, go to: www.uscis.gov/citizenshiptest (then click on "Old Naturalization Test" at the bottom of the page)
- For more information about the New Test, see: www.uscis.gov/newtest
- For more information about which test students will take, see: www.uscis.gov/citizenshiptest

A. Colonial Period

Old Test

New Test

<p>Independence Day celebrates independence from whom? (10) <i>Independence from Great Britain</i></p> <p>What country did we fight during the Revolutionary War? (11) <i>We fought Great Britain in the Revolutionary War.</i></p> <p>Who was the first president of the United States? (12) <i>George Washington</i></p> <p>What were the original 13 states? (40) <i>Virginia, Massachusetts, Maryland, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, North Carolina, South Carolina, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Georgia</i></p> <p>Who said, “Give me liberty or give me death”? (41) <i>Patrick Henry</i></p> <p>Why did the Pilgrims come to America? (50) <i>To gain religious freedom</i></p> <p>What holiday was celebrated for the first time by American colonists? (53) <i>Thanksgiving</i></p> <p>Which President is called the “Father of our Country”? (65) <i>George Washington</i></p> <p>Which President was the first Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Army and Navy? (66) <i>George Washington</i></p> <p>Who helped the Pilgrims in America? (68) <i>The American Indians/Native Americans</i></p> <p>What is the name of the ship that brought the Pilgrims to America? (69) <i>The Mayflower</i></p> <p>What were the 13 original states of the United States called before they were states? (70) <i>Colonies</i></p>	<p>What is <u>one</u> reason colonists came to America? (58)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>freedom</i> ▪ <i>political liberty</i> ▪ <i>religious freedom</i> ▪ <i>economic opportunity</i> ▪ <i>practice their religion</i> ▪ <i>escape persecution</i> <p>Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived? (59)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>American Indians</i> ▪ <i>Native Americans</i> <p>What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves? (60)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Africans</i> ▪ <i>people from Africa</i> <p>Why did the colonists fight the British? (61)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>because of high taxes (taxation without representation)</i> ▪ <i>because the British army stayed in their houses (boarding, quartering)</i> ▪ <i>because they didn’t have self-government</i> <p>There were 13 original states. Name <u>three</u>. (64)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>New Hampshire</i> ▪ <i>Massachusetts</i> ▪ <i>Rhode Island</i> ▪ <i>Connecticut</i> ▪ <i>New York</i> ▪ <i>New Jersey</i> ▪ <i>Pennsylvania</i> ▪ <i>Delaware</i> ▪ <i>Maryland</i> ▪ <i>Virginia</i> ▪ <i>North Carolina</i> ▪ <i>South Carolina</i> ▪ <i>Georgia</i> <p>What is <u>one</u> thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for? (68)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>U.S. diplomat</i> ▪ <i>oldest member of the Constitutional Convention</i> ▪ <i>first Postmaster General of the United States</i> ▪ <i>writer of “Poor Richard’s Almanac”</i> ▪ <i>started the first free libraries</i> <p>Who is the “Father of Our Country”? (69)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>(George) Washington</i> <p>Who was the first President? (70)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>(George) Washington</i>
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A. Colonial Period

Directions: Write the answer on the line.

Independence Day celebrates independence from whom? (10)

What country did we fight during the Revolutionary War? (11)

Who was the first president of the United States? (12)

What were the original 13 states? (40)

Who said, "Give me liberty or give me death?" (41)

Why did the Pilgrims come to America? (50)

What holiday was celebrated for the first time by American colonists? (53)

Which President is called the "Father of our Country"? (65)

Which President was the first Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Army and Navy? (66)

Who helped the Pilgrims in America? (68)

More →

A. Colonial Period, continued

What is the name of the ship that brought the Pilgrims to America? (69)

What were the 13 original states of the United States called before they were states? (70)

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What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves? (60)

Why did the colonists fight the British? (61)

There were 13 original states. Name three. (64)

What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for? (68)

Who is the “Father of Our Country”? (69)

Who was the first President? (70)

E. Executive Branch

Old Test

New Test

<p>Who becomes President if the President dies? (16) <i>The Vice President</i></p> <p>Who is the head of the Executive Branch of the U.S. Government? (30) <i>The President</i></p> <p>For how long is the President elected? (31) <i>The President is elected for 4 years.</i></p> <p>Who becomes President if both the President and Vice President die? (38) <i>The speaker of the House</i></p> <p>How many full terms can a President serve? (44) <i>Two full terms</i></p> <p>What are some of the requirements to be eligible to become President? (46) <i>A candidate for President must</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>be a native-born, not naturalized, citizen</i> ▪ <i>be at least 35 years old, and</i> ▪ <i>have lived in the U. S. for at least 14 years.</i> <p>Who signs bills into law? (60) <i>The President</i></p> <p>What special group advises the President? (64) <i>The Cabinet advises the President.</i></p> <p>In what month do we vote for the President? (82) <i>November</i></p> <p>In what month is the new President inaugurated? (83) <i>January</i></p> <p>What is the executive branch of our government? (86) <i>The President, the Cabinet, and departments under the cabinet members</i></p>	<p>Who is in charge of the executive branch? (15) ▪ <i>the President</i></p> <p>We elect a President for how many years? (26) ▪ <i>four (4)</i></p> <p>In what month do we vote for President? (27) ▪ <i>November</i></p> <p>If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President? (30) ▪ <i>the Vice President</i></p> <p>If both the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, who becomes President? (31) ▪ <i>the Speaker of the House</i></p> <p>Who signs bills to become laws? (33) ▪ <i>the President</i></p> <p>Who vetoes bills? (34) ▪ <i>the President</i></p> <p>What does the President’s Cabinet do? (35) ▪ <i>advises the President</i></p> <p>What are <u>two</u> Cabinet-level positions? (36)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Secretary of Agriculture</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Commerce</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Defense</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Education</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Energy</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Health and Human Services</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Homeland Security</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Housing and Urban Development</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Interior</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Labor</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of State</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Transportation</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Treasury</i> ▪ <i>Secretary of Veterans’ Affairs</i> ▪ <i>Attorney General</i> ▪ <i>Vice President</i>
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