

Citizenship Test Discussion Prompt

Use these questions to facilitate a class discussion on the importance of the citizenship test.

- Why do you think that the U.S. requires applicants for citizenship to take a written exam?
- The test specifically focuses on American political ideals, how our institutions work, and American political history. Why should we know these?
- How does preparing for a test like this help someone who wants to become a participating member of his or her new country?
- Which questions did you find the most challenging and why?
- Which questions did you think were the easiest and why?
- How would someone find out who his or her representatives and senators are?
- Are there other questions that you think should be on the test? What are they and why?
- To apply for citizenship, a person must, in most circumstances, be able to read, write, and speak basic English. What do you think are the reasons for this requirement? Do you think that this is a good provision? Why or why not?
- What could go wrong if people stopped learning history? What might happen to society?
- Should every citizen, including those born as citizens, know the answers to the citizenship test? In some states, students must pass the citizenship test in order to graduate from high school. Do you agree with this requirement for graduation? Why or why not?