

Civicforge — Activity Book

A Spark & Anvil activity book — puzzles, questions, and fun from Civicforge.

Write in the book, circle your answers, and check the Answer Key at the back.

1. civics

Circle the correct answer

1. What is the main purpose of government?

(A) To collect as much money as possible from citizens (B) To make sure one leader has total control (C) To decide what jobs people must have (D) To make and enforce rules that keep order and protect people

2. What word describes a government where the people choose their leaders through elections?

(A) Dictatorship (B) Monarchy (C) Anarchy (D) Democracy

3. In a monarchy, who typically holds the highest power?

(A) The citizens through voting (B) A king or queen (C) A group of elected senators (D) A military general

4. Which of these is a service that local governments commonly provide?

(A) Public libraries and fire departments (B) Declaring war on other countries (C) Signing treaties with foreign nations (D) Printing money and coining currency

5. Why do communities need laws?

(A) To prevent people from making their own choices (B) To protect people's rights and keep everyone safe (C) To punish people who are different (D) To make sure only leaders benefit

6. What is the difference between a democracy and a dictatorship?

(A) In a democracy, people vote for leaders; in a dictatorship, one person holds all power (B) A democracy is only for small countries; a dictatorship is for large ones (C) A democracy has no laws; a dictatorship has many laws (D) A democracy has a president; a dictatorship has a king

Write the answer

7. Why do governments collect taxes from citizens?

Answer: _____

8. How is a constitutional monarchy different from an absolute monarchy?

Answer: _____

9. What does 'consent of the governed' mean?

Answer: _____

10. What does 'rule of law' mean?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Your town needs a new community center but doesn't have enough money. Which action best shows how government solves this problem? →

2. A new student from another country asks you to explain how American government works. Which statement best describes it? →

3. Imagine your school has no rules at all. Which problem would most likely happen? →

4. If your class were creating a government, which step should come first? →

5. Your class creates a new rule: 'Everyone must clean up after lunch.' Which feature of government does this most resemble? →

(A) Students wouldn't know what's expected, leading to chaos and unfairness

(B) Making a law to solve a shared problem

(C) Citizens elect leaders who make laws and run the government on their behalf

(D) Town leaders hold a public meeting to discuss budgets and options with citizens

(E) Agree on basic rules that everyone must follow

2. civics

Circle the correct answer

11. What is the U.S. Constitution?

(A) The supreme law of the United States that establishes the government's structure (B) A list of all laws passed by Congress (C) The first law the president ever signed (D) A document that only applies to the military

12. What is the Bill of Rights?

(A) A law that only protects property owners (B) The original seven articles of the Constitution (C) The first ten amendments to the Constitution that protect individual freedoms (D) A list of rules for the president

- 13.** Which amendment protects freedom of speech, religion, and the press?
(A) The Second Amendment (B) The Fifth Amendment (C) The First Amendment
(D) The Tenth Amendment
- 14.** What does the Preamble to the Constitution begin with?
(A) We the People (B) I, the President (C) In the name of the King (D) The Congress of the United States
- 15.** Why did the Founders include the ability to amend (change) the Constitution?
(A) They knew society would change and the Constitution needed to adapt over time
(B) Amendments were only meant for fixing spelling errors (C) They forgot to include important sections (D) They wanted to make it easy to rewrite the whole document
- 16.** What does the Fourth Amendment protect citizens from?
(A) Serving on a jury (B) Being required to pay taxes (C) Unreasonable searches and seizures by the government (D) Having to attend school

Write the answer

- 17.** How does the Constitution prevent any one part of government from becoming too powerful?
Answer: _____
- 18.** What is the main idea of the Tenth Amendment?
Answer: _____
- 19.** Why is the phrase 'We the People' significant in the Preamble?
Answer: _____
- 20.** What does 'due process of law' mean, as protected by the Fifth Amendment?
Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

- 1.** A school principal bans a student newspaper because it criticizes school policies. Which amendment does this most likely violate? →
- 2.** Police arrive at someone's home and demand to search it without a warrant. The homeowner refuses. Which amendment supports the homeowner's right to refuse? →
- 3.** A citizen wants to change a law they believe is unjust. According to the First Amendment, which action can they legally take? →
- 4.** The 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote. How would you use this example to explain what an amendment is to a younger student? →
- 5.** A city passes a law requiring all residents to follow one specific religion. Using your knowledge of the Bill of Rights, explain why this law would be unconstitutional. →

- (A) An amendment is an official change to the Constitution that fixes something unfair or updates the rules for a changing society
 - (B) The First Amendment, which protects freedom of the press
 - (C) Organize a peaceful protest and petition the government
 - (D) The First Amendment prohibits the government from establishing an official religion or restricting religious freedom
 - (E) The Fourth Amendment, which protects against unreasonable searches
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3. civics

Circle the correct answer

21. Which branch of the U.S. government is responsible for making laws?
(A) The legislative branch (Congress) (B) The judicial branch (the Supreme Court)
(C) The executive branch (the President) (D) The military
22. Who is the head of the executive branch of the federal government?
(A) The Vice President (B) The President of the United States (C) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (D) The Speaker of the House
23. What is the main job of the judicial branch?
(A) To command the military (B) To write new laws for the country (C) To interpret laws and determine if they follow the Constitution (D) To collect taxes from citizens
24. How many senators does each state have in the U.S. Senate?
(A) One for every million residents (B) Two (C) Five (D) It depends on the state's population
25. Why did the Founders create three separate branches of government instead of just one?
(A) To create more government jobs (B) Because they couldn't agree on who should be in charge (C) To prevent any single person or group from gaining too much power (D) Because the British system had three branches
26. What does the term 'checks and balances' mean in the context of U.S. government?
(A) The government checks bank balances to collect taxes (B) Each branch works completely independently with no interaction (C) Each branch has the power to limit or check the actions of the other two branches (D) The President has the final say on all decisions

Write the answer

27. How does the House of Representatives differ from the Senate?

Answer: _____

28. What does 'judicial review' mean?

Answer: _____

29. What happens when the President vetoes a bill passed by Congress?

Answer: _____

30. Why do Supreme Court justices serve for life rather than for fixed terms?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Congress passes a law banning all public protests. The ACLU challenges the law in court. Which branch has the power to declare this law unconstitutional? →

2. The President nominates a new Supreme Court justice. What must happen before that person can actually serve on the Court? →

3. A governor wants to build a highway through a national forest. Which branch of the federal government would need to approve this, and why? →

4. Your class is organizing a mock government. You need to assign students to legislative, executive, and judicial roles. Which assignment correctly matches each branch's function? →

5. Imagine Congress passes a popular law, but the Supreme Court rules it unconstitutional. Should the Court's decision stand even though most people support the law? Why or why not? →

(A) Yes, because the Court's job is to protect constitutional rights, even from popular but unconstitutional laws

(B) The executive branch, because federal agencies like the Department of Interior manage national forests

(C) The Senate must hold hearings and vote to confirm the nomination

(D) Legislators write classroom rules, the executive enforces them, and judges settle disputes about the rules

(E) The judicial branch, through the power of judicial review

4. civics

Circle the correct answer

31. Who is the chief executive of a state government?

(A) The mayor (B) The senator (C) The President (D) The governor

32. What is the term for the system where power is shared between the federal government and state governments?

(A) Communism (B) Imperialism (C) Nationalism (D) Federalism

33. Which government body typically oversees public schools in a community?

(A) The local school board (B) The United Nations (C) The U.S. Congress (D) The Supreme Court

34. Name one power that belongs to state governments but NOT to the federal government.

(A) Printing money (B) Managing foreign relations (C) Issuing driver's licenses (D) Declaring war

35. Why do different states sometimes have different laws about the same issue, like the minimum driving age?

(A) Federalism gives states the power to make their own laws on issues not controlled by the federal government (B) States accidentally pass different laws because they don't communicate (C) Only a few states have the right to make their own laws (D) Different laws exist because Congress can't agree on one rule

36. How does a city council differ from the U.S. Congress?

(A) A city council makes laws for a single city while Congress makes laws for the entire nation (B) City councils have more power than Congress (C) There is no real difference — they do the same job (D) City councils are appointed, not elected

Write the answer

37. What does a state constitution do?

Answer: _____

38. Why is it important for citizens to participate in local government, not just national politics?

Answer: _____

39. What role does a county government play that is different from a city government?

Answer: _____

40. What is the Supremacy Clause and how does it affect state laws?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Your city council is deciding whether to build a new community center or upgrade the water treatment plant. As a resident, how could you participate in this decision?

→

2. A state passes a law that conflicts with a federal law. A citizen affected by both laws asks you which one they should follow. What do you tell them? →

3. Your school board is considering cutting the art program to save money. How would you use your knowledge of local government to advocate for keeping it? →

4. A developer wants to build a shopping mall on land currently used as a public park. Which local government body would most likely review this request? →

5. Imagine you're a new resident choosing between two neighboring towns. Town A has higher taxes but excellent schools and parks. Town B has lower taxes but fewer public services. How would you use this to explain why local government matters? →

(A) Local government decisions about taxes and spending directly shape the quality of life in a community

(B) Attend school board meetings, organize a petition, present evidence of art education's value, and rally community support

(C) The federal law takes priority under the Supremacy Clause, so they must follow the federal law

(D) The city's planning or zoning commission

(E) Attend the city council meeting, speak during public comment, and contact your council representative

5. civics

Circle the correct answer

41. What is the minimum age to vote in a U.S. federal election?

(A) 21 years old (B) 16 years old (C) 18 years old (D) 25 years old

42. What are the two major political parties in the United States?

(A) The Federalist Party and the Whig Party (B) The Liberal Party and the Green Party (C) The Democratic Party and the Republican Party (D) The Labor Party and the Conservative Party

43. What is the Electoral College?

(A) A college where politicians study before running for office (B) A popular vote system where every citizen's vote directly picks the President (C) The group of advisors who help the President make decisions (D) A system where electors from each state cast votes to officially elect the President

44. Which amendment abolished poll taxes, which had been used to prevent poor and minority citizens from voting?

(A) The 24th Amendment (B) The 15th Amendment (C) The 19th Amendment (D) The 1st Amendment

45. Why is voter registration required before someone can vote in most states?

(A) To make it harder for citizens to vote (B) To collect money from voters (C) Registration is not required in any state (D) To verify that the person is eligible to vote and to prevent fraud by ensuring each person votes only once

46. What is the difference between a primary election and a general election?

(A) A primary election chooses party candidates; a general election is the final vote between candidates from all parties (B) There is no difference — they are the same thing (C) A primary election is for local races; a general election is for national races (D) Only registered party members can vote in general elections

Write the answer

47. How does the number of Electoral College votes for each state get determined?

Answer: _____

48. What is 'gerrymandering' and why is it controversial?

Answer: _____

49. Why might some citizens choose not to vote even though they have the right?

Answer: _____

50. What role do political parties play in American democracy?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Your friend says they aren't old enough to vote, so there's nothing they can do to participate in politics. Name three ways young people can participate without voting.

→

2. A candidate makes a campaign promise to eliminate all taxes. How would you evaluate this promise using your knowledge of government? →

3. It's Election Day, but your neighbor says they don't know anything about the candidates and is thinking of not voting. What advice would you give? →

4. How would you organize a voter registration drive at your school to encourage eligible students to register? →

5. During a school election, a candidate spreads false information about their opponent. How does this relate to real elections, and what should voters do? →

- (A) Encourage them to research candidates using nonpartisan voter guides, then make an informed choice — informed voting strengthens democracy
 - (B) Misinformation in elections is a real problem — voters should fact-check claims using multiple reliable sources before making decisions
 - (C) This promise is unrealistic because taxes fund essential services like schools, roads, and emergency services that government cannot provide for free
 - (D) Volunteer for campaigns, attend public meetings, write to elected officials, organize awareness events, or join civic organizations
 - (E) Partner with nonpartisan organizations, set up tables at school events, provide registration forms, and share deadlines through social media
-

6. civics

Circle the correct answer

51. What are two ways a person can become a U.S. citizen?

- (A) By living in the U.S. for one year or by buying property (B) By being born in the United States or by going through the naturalization process (C) By marrying a U.S. citizen — that automatically makes you a citizen (D) By serving in the military only

52. Which civic duty requires citizens to serve when called and help decide court cases?

- (A) Jury duty (B) Paying taxes (C) Military service (D) Voting

53. What does 'civic responsibility' mean?

- (A) Rules that only apply to government officials (B) The duties and obligations citizens have to their community and government (C) Laws that punish people for not volunteering (D) Responsibilities that only apply during elections

54. What is the difference between a right and a responsibility in a democracy?

- (A) Only the government has responsibilities; citizens only have rights (B) Rights are for adults; responsibilities are for children (C) A right is something the government protects for you; a responsibility is something you are expected to do for your community (D) Rights and responsibilities are the same thing

55. Why is it important for citizens to stay informed about government actions and current events?

- (A) Citizens don't need to be informed because leaders always do the right thing (B) Current events have no effect on citizens' daily lives (C) Being informed only matters for journalists (D) Informed citizens can make better voting decisions, hold leaders accountable, and participate meaningfully in democracy

56. What does 'the common good' mean, and why is it important in a democracy?

(A) The well-being of the whole community, not just individuals — democracy works best when people consider others' needs alongside their own (B) Whatever the majority wants, regardless of minority impact (C) A term that has no real meaning in modern politics (D) Only things that benefit the government

Write the answer

57. How does the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection Clause affect civil rights?

Answer: _____

58. What is the relationship between individual rights and the common good? Can they conflict?

Answer: _____

59. Why do democratic governments protect the rights of minority groups even when the majority disagrees?

Answer: _____

60. What are the requirements to become a naturalized U.S. citizen?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. A student is caught cheating on a test. The principal wants to suspend them immediately without hearing their side. Which constitutional principle should the student be able to invoke? →

2. Your community has a litter problem in local parks. How could you and your classmates exercise civic responsibility to address this issue? →

3. A new law requires all restaurants to post health inspection grades in their windows. How does this law serve the common good while also respecting individual rights? →

4. A classmate says: 'I have freedom of speech, so I can say anything I want with no consequences.' Using your knowledge of rights, explain why this isn't entirely accurate. →

5. Your school is creating a bill of rights for students. What three rights would you include and what responsibility would accompany each right? →

(A) Freedom of speech has limits — you can't make threats, incite violence, or defame others, and speech can still have social consequences

(B) Organize a community cleanup, petition the city council for more trash cans, and start a public awareness campaign

(C) Right to learn paired with responsibility to not disrupt; right to fair treatment paired with treating others fairly; right to express opinions paired with respecting

others' views

(D) Due process — the student has the right to be heard and present their side before being punished

(E) It protects public health through transparency while still allowing restaurants to operate — they just must meet standards

7. civics

Circle the correct answer

61. What is the United Nations (UN)?

(A) An international organization where countries work together to promote peace, security, and cooperation (B) A world government that makes laws for all countries (C) A trade organization that controls the global economy (D) A military alliance led by the United States

62. What is 'sovereignty' in the context of international relations?

(A) The authority of the United Nations over member states (B) The power of a king or queen over their citizens (C) An international law that all countries must follow (D) A nation's right to govern itself without interference from other countries

63. What is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?

(A) A document that only applies to citizens of UN member states (B) A 1948 UN document listing fundamental rights and freedoms that belong to all people everywhere (C) A law that every country must follow or face military action (D) The U.S. Bill of Rights applied worldwide

64. What is the purpose of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)?

(A) A peace organization that forbids members from having armies (B) The United Nations' military force (C) An organization that controls international trade (D) A military alliance where member countries agree to defend each other if attacked

65. Why is it difficult for international organizations like the UN to enforce their decisions?

(A) International organizations always get their way (B) The UN has a powerful military that all countries fear (C) Countries eagerly follow all international rules without exception (D) Because member nations are sovereign and can refuse to comply — the UN has no army or police force of its own

66. What is 'diplomacy' and why is it important in international relations?

(A) The practice of managing relationships between countries through negotiation and dialogue, often preventing conflicts (B) Sending spies to other countries to gather secrets (C) Using military force to get other countries to agree (D) Ignoring

other countries and focusing only on domestic issues

Write the answer

67. How does international trade benefit countries that participate in it?

Answer: _____

68. What is a treaty, and how does it differ from a law?

Answer: _____

69. Why do countries sometimes impose economic sanctions on other nations?

Answer: _____

70. What role does the UN Security Council play, and why do some countries have veto power?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Two neighboring countries dispute who owns an island between them. Both claim historical ownership. How could they resolve this without war? →

2. A developing country is experiencing a humanitarian crisis. How might the international community respond while still respecting the country's sovereignty? →

3. Climate change requires international cooperation because pollution doesn't stop at national borders. Using the Paris Agreement as an example, explain why international agreements on climate are both important and difficult to achieve. →

4. The World Health Organization (WHO) coordinates global health responses. During a pandemic, what challenges does the WHO face in getting all countries to cooperate? →

5. A multinational corporation pollutes a river that flows through three countries. Which country's laws apply, and how should this be resolved? →

(A) Submit the dispute to the International Court of Justice, negotiate a treaty, or use mediation through a neutral third party

(B) Offer humanitarian aid through international organizations, with the country's government's cooperation, rather than intervening without permission

(C) They're important because climate is a shared problem, but difficult because countries have different economic interests and no authority can force compliance

(D) Countries may prioritize their own citizens, distrust international recommendations, or lack resources to comply — sovereignty limits WHO's enforcement power

(E) All three countries' laws may apply — this requires international negotiation, possibly involving international environmental courts or treaties

8. civics

Circle the correct answer

71. What is civic action?

(A) Only voting in presidential elections (B) Paying taxes and following laws (C) Working for a government agency (D) Activities in which citizens engage to influence their community, government, or society

72. What is a petition?

(A) A law passed by Congress (B) An official government survey sent to all citizens (C) A court order requiring someone to do something (D) A formal written request signed by many people, presented to a government official or organization to request a specific action

73. What is the difference between advocacy and lobbying?

(A) Advocacy and lobbying are exactly the same thing (B) Advocacy only happens online; lobbying only happens in person (C) Advocacy is broadly speaking out for a cause; lobbying specifically means trying to influence legislators or government officials, often professionally (D) Lobbying is illegal; advocacy is always legal

74. What is a public hearing?

(A) A criminal trial open to the public (B) A news conference where officials answer reporter questions (C) A community fundraiser organized by local businesses (D) A meeting held by a government body where citizens can speak and provide input on proposed policies, laws, or projects

75. Why is voting considered a foundational form of civic participation in a democracy?

(A) Voting gives citizens direct power to choose their representatives and influence policy direction, making government accountable to the people (B) Voting is the only form of civic participation that matters (C) Voting guarantees that your preferred candidate always wins (D) Voting is required by law in the United States

76. How does community organizing differ from individual civic action?

(A) Community organizing brings people together around shared goals to build collective power, making it more effective for systemic change than individuals acting alone (B) Community organizing is only done by professional politicians (C) Community organizing and individual action have the same impact (D) Individual civic action is always more powerful than group organizing

Write the answer

77. What role does volunteering play in civic life?

Answer: _____

78. What is 'civic tech,' and how can it expand civic participation?

Answer: _____

79. How did the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s use nonviolent civic action to challenge unjust laws?

Answer: _____

80. How did the women's suffrage movement use civic action to win the right to vote?

Answer: _____

Match each question to its answer

1. Your school is considering removing an after-school arts program due to budget cuts. How could students use civic action to advocate for keeping it? →

2. A city plans to build a new highway through a neighborhood with many low-income families. How could affected residents use civic action to make their voices heard? →

3. A student wants to start an environmental club at school to advocate for recycling programs. What steps should they take? →

4. How can citizens use social media responsibly for civic action? →

5. How does testifying at a public hearing differ from signing an online petition, in terms of civic impact? →

(A) Students could petition the school board, attend a public school board meeting to speak, organize a letter-writing campaign, or gather community support through social media

(B) Residents could attend public hearings, organize a community group, contact city council members, submit written comments, and partner with advocacy organizations

(C) Find a faculty advisor, recruit interested students, draft a proposal for administration, research what other schools have done, and present a plan to school leadership

(D) Public testimony is directly heard by decision-makers, allows for dialogue, and carries more formal weight; an online petition shows broad support but reaches officials indirectly

(E) By sharing accurate information, amplifying underrepresented voices, organizing community events, contacting officials, and encouraging civic participation — while verifying sources

Riddle & Joke Break

Guess the answer, then check the key!

81. I have three branches but I'm not a tree. I serve the people, and my roots are in democracy. What am I?

82. I'm older than the country I protect. I start with "We the People" and I've been amended 27 times. What am I?

83. I'm a secret choice that everyone gets to make. You step behind a curtain, mark your preference, and your voice counts as much as anyone else's. What am I?

84. I'm the first ten. I protect your speech, your beliefs, and even your right to stay quiet. What am I?

85. I make the laws but I don't enforce them. I have two chambers, and my members represent the people. What am I?

86. I interpret the law, but I don't write it. I have nine members who serve for life, and my decisions affect the whole country. What am I?

87. I'm not the popular vote, and I confuse a lot of people. I'm a group of 538 electors who officially choose the President. What am I?

88. I can say "no" to a bill that Congress passed. But Congress can override me with a two-thirds vote. What power am I?

89. Why did the student bring a broom to civics class?

90. Why is the Constitution like a good Wi-Fi connection?

91. What did the legislative branch say to the executive branch?

92. Why did the senator go to the doctor?

93. Why was the Supreme Court so cool?

94. Why did the ballot feel so important?

Fun Facts

- Did you know? The original U.S. Constitution doesn't mention the word "democracy" even once! The Founders created a "republic" -- a system where citizens elect representatives to govern on their behalf.
- Did you know? The youngest person ever elected President was John F. Kennedy at age 43, but Theodore Roosevelt became President at 42 after President McKinley was assassinated. The oldest? Joe Biden took office at 78!
- Did you know? When the Constitution was signed in 1787, only about 6% of the population was eligible to vote -- mostly white men who owned property. Today, any citizen 18 or older can vote regardless of race, gender, or wealth!

- Did you know? The U.S. Capitol building has its own subway system! Senators and representatives ride small underground trains between their offices and the Capitol so they can get to votes on time.
 - Did you know? The word "candidate" comes from the Latin word "candidatus," meaning "dressed in white." In ancient Rome, people running for office wore bright white togas so voters could spot them in a crowd!
 - Did you know? The Supreme Court building wasn't completed until 1935 -- that's 146 years after the court was established! Before that, the justices met in the basement of the Capitol and even in taverns.
 - Did you know? The longest filibuster in U.S. Senate history was by Senator Strom Thurmond in 1957. He spoke for 24 hours and 18 minutes straight -- he prepared by dehydrating himself beforehand so he wouldn't need a bathroom break!
 - Did you know? There are over 500,000 elected officials in the United States, from the President all the way down to local school board members. That's roughly one elected official for every 660 people!
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Answer Key

1. D — To make and enforce rules that keep order and protect people
2. D — Democracy
3. B — A king or queen
4. A — Public libraries and fire departments
5. B — To protect people's rights and keep everyone safe
6. A — In a democracy, people vote for leaders; in a dictatorship, one person holds all power
7. To pay for public services like roads, schools, and police
8. A constitutional monarchy limits the ruler's power with laws; an absolute monarchy does not
9. The people agree to give the government its power
10. Everyone, including leaders, must follow the same laws
Matching (civics): 1→D, 2→C, 3→A, 4→E, 5→B
11. A — The supreme law of the United States that establishes the government's structure

12. C — The first ten amendments to the Constitution that protect individual freedoms
13. C — The First Amendment
14. A — We the People
15. A — They knew society would change and the Constitution needed to adapt over time
16. C — Unreasonable searches and seizures by the government
17. By dividing power among three branches and giving each checks on the others
18. Powers not given to the federal government are reserved for the states or the people
19. It shows that government authority comes from ordinary citizens, not from rulers or the military
20. The government must follow fair legal procedures before taking away someone's life, liberty, or property
Matching (civics): 1→B, 2→E, 3→C, 4→A, 5→D
21. A — The legislative branch (Congress)
22. B — The President of the United States
23. C — To interpret laws and determine if they follow the Constitution
24. B — Two
25. C — To prevent any single person or group from gaining too much power
26. C — Each branch has the power to limit or check the actions of the other two branches
27. The House has representatives based on state population; the Senate has two per state regardless of size
28. The power of courts to decide whether a law or government action violates the Constitution
29. The bill doesn't become law unless Congress overrides the veto with a two-thirds vote in both chambers
30. So they can make decisions based on the Constitution without worrying about elections or political pressure
Matching (civics): 1→E, 2→C, 3→B, 4→D, 5→A

31. D — The governor
32. D — Federalism
33. A — The local school board
34. C — Issuing driver's licenses
35. A — Federalism gives states the power to make their own laws on issues not controlled by the federal government
36. A — A city council makes laws for a single city while Congress makes laws for the entire nation
37. It establishes the structure of the state government and protects the rights of the state's residents
38. Local government decisions directly affect daily life — schools, roads, parks, and public safety in your community
39. County government covers a larger geographic area, serving both cities and rural areas within the county
40. It establishes that the U.S. Constitution and federal law are the supreme law of the land, overriding conflicting state laws
Matching (civics): 1→E, 2→C, 3→B, 4→D, 5→A
41. C — 18 years old
42. C — The Democratic Party and the Republican Party
43. D — A system where electors from each state cast votes to officially elect the President
44. A — The 24th Amendment
45. D — To verify that the person is eligible to vote and to prevent fraud by ensuring each person votes only once
46. A — A primary election chooses party candidates; a general election is the final vote between candidates from all parties
47. Each state gets one elector per member of Congress (House representatives plus two senators)
48. Drawing voting district boundaries to give one political party an unfair advantage in elections
49. Reasons include feeling their vote doesn't matter, not knowing the candidates, or facing practical barriers like work schedules

50. They organize candidates, develop policy platforms, mobilize voters, and provide a framework for political debate
Matching (civics): 1→D, 2→C, 3→A, 4→E, 5→B
51. B — By being born in the United States or by going through the naturalization process
52. A — Jury duty
53. B — The duties and obligations citizens have to their community and government
54. C — A right is something the government protects for you; a responsibility is something you are expected to do for your community
55. D — Informed citizens can make better voting decisions, hold leaders accountable, and participate meaningfully in democracy
56. A — The well-being of the whole community, not just individuals — democracy works best when people consider others' needs alongside their own
57. It requires states to treat all people equally under the law, forming the basis for civil rights protections
58. Yes — sometimes individual rights must be balanced against community needs, like when noise ordinances limit late-night activities
59. Because democracy means protecting everyone's fundamental rights, not just the majority's preferences
60. Be a permanent resident for at least 5 years, pass a civics and English test, and take the Oath of Allegiance
Matching (civics): 1→D, 2→B, 3→E, 4→A, 5→C
61. A — An international organization where countries work together to promote peace, security, and cooperation
62. D — A nation's right to govern itself without interference from other countries
63. B — A 1948 UN document listing fundamental rights and freedoms that belong to all people everywhere
64. D — A military alliance where member countries agree to defend each other if attacked
65. D — Because member nations are sovereign and can refuse to comply — the UN has no army or police force of its own
66. A — The practice of managing relationships between countries through

negotiation and dialogue, often preventing conflicts

67. Countries can specialize in what they produce best and exchange goods, increasing variety and lowering costs for consumers
68. A treaty is a formal agreement between nations that creates binding obligations under international law, unlike domestic laws made by a single country's legislature
69. To pressure a country to change its behavior without using military force — sanctions restrict trade or freeze assets
70. The Security Council maintains international peace; five permanent members (U.S., U.K., France, Russia, China) have veto power reflecting the post-WWII power structure
Matching (civics): 1→A, 2→B, 3→C, 4→D, 5→E
71. D — Activities in which citizens engage to influence their community, government, or society
72. D — A formal written request signed by many people, presented to a government official or organization to request a specific action
73. C — Advocacy is broadly speaking out for a cause; lobbying specifically means trying to influence legislators or government officials, often professionally
74. D — A meeting held by a government body where citizens can speak and provide input on proposed policies, laws, or projects
75. A — Voting gives citizens direct power to choose their representatives and influence policy direction, making government accountable to the people
76. A — Community organizing brings people together around shared goals to build collective power, making it more effective for systemic change than individuals acting alone
77. Volunteering strengthens communities by filling gaps in public services, building social connections, and giving citizens direct experience with community needs
78. Civic tech uses digital tools and technology to make it easier for citizens to connect with government, report problems, access services, and organize for change
79. Activists used boycotts, sit-ins, marches, and legal challenges to expose injustice, build public support, and pressure government to change discriminatory laws
80. Suffragists organized marches, lobbied legislators, gave public speeches, published newspapers, and held hunger strikes to build public support and

political pressure

Matching (civics): 1→A, 2→B, 3→C, 4→E, 5→D

81. The United States government! Its three branches are legislative, executive, and judicial.
82. The U.S. Constitution! It was ratified in 1788, making it one of the oldest written constitutions still in use.
83. A vote! In a democracy, every citizen's vote carries equal weight.
84. The Bill of Rights! The first ten amendments to the Constitution, ratified in 1791.
85. Congress! It's divided into the Senate and the House of Representatives.
86. The Supreme Court! Its justices are appointed, not elected, and serve lifetime terms.
87. The Electoral College! Each state gets electors based on its representation in Congress.
88. The presidential veto! It's one of the key checks the executive branch has on the legislative branch.
89. Because the teacher said they were going to sweep the elections!
90. Because it gives everyone the right to free speech!
91. "I make the rules around here -- literally!"
92. Because they had too many bills and couldn't pass any of them!
93. Because it had the best bench in the entire country!
94. Because every time it showed up, people marked the occasion!

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