

Teacher Guide: RIGHTS

In order of appearance in *Preparing for the Oath*, the Civics Test items covered in this theme are:

58. What is one reason colonists came to America?
- freedom
 - political liberty
 - religious freedom
 - economic opportunity
 - practice their religion
 - escape persecution
10. What is freedom of religion?
- You can practice any religion, or not practice a religion.
9. What are two rights in the Declaration of Independence?
- life
 - liberty
 - pursuit of happiness
6. What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment?
- speech
 - religion
 - assembly
 - press
 - petition the government
51. What are two rights of everyone living in the United States?
- freedom of expression
 - freedom of speech
 - freedom of assembly
 - freedom to petition the government
 - freedom of religion
 - the right to bear arms
50. Name one right only for United States citizens.
- vote in a federal election
 - run for federal office
55. What are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?
- vote
 - join a political party
 - help with a campaign
 - join a civic group
 - join a community group
 - give an elected official your opinion on an issue
 - call Senators and Representatives
 - publicly support or oppose an issue or policy
 - run for office
 - write to a newspaper
84. What movement tried to end racial discrimination?
- civil rights (movement)
85. What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?
- fought for civil rights
 - worked for equality for all Americans

Overview

This Teacher Guide will take you through the Civics Test questions covered in the theme, **Rights**. The instructional steps provided here target ESL students at the high beginning level. Watch the video on the Help screen and take some time to familiarize yourself with the elements and navigation of **Preparing for the Oath** so that you are comfortable presenting it to your class.

Introduction

To start the lesson, open the theme and present the Introduction Screen. Read the introductory paragraph aloud and discuss it with the students.

The writers of the Constitution thought all men had the **right** to be free. They believed it was the government's job to **protect** those **rights**. Some immigrants came to the United States to have the freedom to practice their religion, the **right** to own property, and the ability to choose their job. But there are limits to our freedoms. Martin Luther King, Jr. and others used the freedoms of **speech** and **assembly** to work for **equality** for all Americans.

Explore the Questions

These steps will help you guide your class through the theme, using an LCD projector:

1. Distribute the handout **Key Vocabulary—Rights** and review the definitions with the students.
2. Click on the Start button to begin the first video, **Colonists: Purpose**.
3. Play the video for the class with the captions on or off.
4. Pause the video where appropriate to discuss the vocabulary and images with the class.
5. Play the video again without pausing.
6. If there is a Practice activity available for this question, click on the “Practice” tab.
7. View and discuss the Practice activity.
8. Click on the “Try” tab.
9. Listen to the Civics Test item and have the students select the answer. Click on the “hear question” button to listen to the item repeatedly. After choosing the correct option, students can hear the answer aloud while they read along at the bottom of the screen.
10. Go through the rest of the videos in this theme, using the steps above.
11. Once the class has gone through all of the videos in this theme, wrap up this lesson with the handout, **Finish This Sentence—Rights**, or assign it to the students for homework.

Key Vocabulary—Rights

act: a law that is officially accepted by the government

amendment: a change or addition to the U.S. Constitution

arms: weapons, such as guns

assemble: to come together in one place

campaign: a plan to win an election

celebrate: to do something special because of a certain day or event

citizen: a person who legally belongs to a country and has the rights and protection of that country

civic group: an organized group of people that does things to help the community

colonists: people who lived in one of the original 13 British colonies before the United States became independent in 1776

colony: a country or geographic area controlled by another country

create: to make something new

demand: to strongly request or order

democracy: a political system where the government is elected by the people

duty: responsibility or obligation

economic opportunity: the chance to make more money, usually in business

election: an event when people choose a member of government by voting

equal: to be the same

equality: a situation where everyone has the same rights

federal: part of the central U.S. government, not state or local governments

federal office: an elected position in the U.S. government

independence: free; not controlled by another person or country

liberty: freedom

marches: organized walks by large groups of people to support an issue or to protest something

nonviolent: with no use of violence

opinion: what someone thinks about an issue

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peaceful/peacefully: with no violence

petition: to formally ask the government to do something

political liberty: the right to participate in the government

powerful: having a lot of power or control

press: newspapers, magazines, television, and Internet websites

protect: to keep something or someone safe

protest: to say or show that you disagree with something

pursuit of happiness: seeking a happy life

racial discrimination: treating someone unfairly because of their race, or color of their skin

representatives: elected members of a government group in the United States, such as in Congress

right: something you are morally or legally allowed to do

run for office: to seek a political position, such as in Congress

segregation: to make people live, work, and study separately because of their race, religion, or ethnicity

self-government: a government where the people make the laws

separate: to keep something or someone apart

slaves: people that are owned by other people and are forced to work without pay

speech: an expression of ideas and opinions that is made by someone who is speaking in front of a group of people

treatment: the way someone acts towards another person

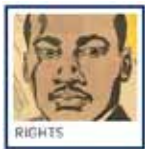
unfair: to not treat people equally

Finish This Sentence—Rights

Finish each sentence with information you learned in this theme. Discuss your answers with the class.

Example: Freedom of speech and freedom of assembly are two rights of everyone living in the United States.

1. The _____ is one right in the First Amendment.
2. _____ is one reason colonists came to America.
3. _____ and _____ are two rights in the Declaration of Independence.
4. Martin Luther King, Jr. _____.
5. Freedom of religion means _____.
6. _____ and _____ are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy.
7. The _____ movement tried to end racial discrimination.
8. _____ is one right only for United States citizens.



Visit <http://americanhistory.si.edu/citizenship/index.html?theme=12> to go directly to the **Rights** theme.