



**Civics  
Student Questionnaire**

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**2018  
Grade 8**

VH240003

1. How important was it to you to do well on this test?

- Ⓐ Not very important
- Ⓑ Somewhat important
- Ⓒ Important
- Ⓓ Very important

VH260313

2. How easy or difficult was this test?

- Ⓐ Extremely difficult
- Ⓑ Quite difficult
- Ⓒ Somewhat difficult
- Ⓓ Somewhat easy
- Ⓔ Quite easy
- Ⓕ Extremely easy

VH333658

3. How much effort did you apply to succeed on this test?

- Ⓐ No effort at all
- Ⓑ Very little effort
- Ⓒ Some effort
- Ⓓ Quite a bit of effort
- Ⓔ A lot of effort

VH333660

4. How challenging was taking this test?

- Ⓐ Not challenging at all
- Ⓑ A little challenging
- Ⓒ Somewhat challenging
- Ⓓ Quite challenging
- Ⓔ Extremely challenging

VH333661

5. How much time pressure did you feel when taking this test?

- Ⓐ No time pressure at all
- Ⓑ A little bit of time pressure
- Ⓒ Some time pressure
- Ⓓ Quite a bit of time pressure
- Ⓔ A lot of time pressure

VH240387

6. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Select **one or more** answer choices.

- Ⓐ No, I am not Hispanic or Latino.
- Ⓑ Yes, I am Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano.
- Ⓒ Yes, I am Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican American.
- Ⓓ Yes, I am Cuban or Cuban American.
- Ⓔ Yes, I am from some other Hispanic or Latino background.

7. Which of the following best describes you? Select **one or more** answer choices.

- Ⓐ White
- Ⓑ Black or African American
- Ⓒ Asian
- Ⓓ American Indian or Alaska Native
- Ⓔ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

8. About how many books are there in your home?

- Ⓐ Few (0–10)
- Ⓑ Enough to fill one shelf (11–25)
- Ⓒ Enough to fill one bookcase (26–100)
- Ⓓ Enough to fill several bookcases (more than 100)

9. Do you have any of the following in your home? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Yes	No	
a. Access to the Internet	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271105
b. Clothes dryer just for your family	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH336756
c. Dishwasher	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH336759
d. Your own bedroom	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH336762
e. A desktop or laptop computer (including Chromebooks) that you can use	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH591976
f. A tablet (for example, Surface Pro, iPad, Kindle Fire) that you can use	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271110
g. A smartphone (for example, iPhone, Samsung Galaxy, HTC One) that you can use	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271112

10. How often do you use the Internet for homework at home?

- A Never
- B About once or twice a month
- C About once or twice a week
- D Almost every day
- E Every day

11. How many days were you absent from school in the last month?

- A None
- B 1 or 2 days
- C 3 or 4 days
- D 5 to 10 days
- E More than 10 days

12. How often do you talk about things you have studied in school with someone in your family?

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day

13. How far in school did **your mother** go?

- Ⓐ She did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ She graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ She had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ She graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

14. How far in school did **your father** go?

- Ⓐ He did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ He graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ He had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ He graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

VH336776

15. Does **your mother** work?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

VH336779

16. Does **your father** work?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.

VH271144

17. Do any of the following people live in your home? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Yes	No	
a. Mother	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271145
b. Stepmother	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271146
c. Foster mother or other female legal guardian	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271147
d. Father	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271148
e. Stepfather	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271149
f. Foster father or other male legal guardian	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH271150

VH591969

18. In this school year, how often did you use a **laptop or desktop computer** (including Chromebooks) during your classes at school?

- A Never
- B In some classes
- C In about half of the classes
- D In more than half of the classes
- E In all or almost all classes

VH271276

19. In this school year, how often did you use a **tablet** (for example, Surface Pro, iPad, Kindle Fire) during your classes at school?

- A Never
- B In some classes
- C In about half of the classes
- D In more than half of the classes
- E In all or almost all classes

20. How much does each of the following statements describe a person like you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Very much like me	
a. I finish whatever I begin.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271338
b. I try very hard even after making mistakes.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271339
c. I keep working hard even when I feel like quitting.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271342
d. I keep trying to improve myself, even when it takes a long time to get there.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271345

21. In this school year, how often have you done each of the following? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	Less than half of the time	About half of the time	More than half of the time	All or almost all of the time	
a. I started working on assignments right away rather than waiting until the last minute.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271370
b. I paid attention and resisted distractions.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271372
c. I stayed on task without reminders from my teacher.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271374
d. I paid attention in class even when I was not interested.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271375

VH271749

22. How much does each of the following statements describe a person like you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Very much like me	
a. I like complex problems more than easy problems.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271750
b. I like activities that challenge my thinking abilities.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271752
c. I enjoy situations where I will have to think about something.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271753
d. I enjoy thinking about new solutions to problems.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271756

VH271934

23. In this school year, how often have you felt any of the following ways about your school? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	Less than half of the time	About half of the time	More than half of the time	All or almost all of the time	
a. I felt awkward and out of place at school.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271942
b. I felt happy at school.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH271944
c. I felt that I learned something that I can use in my daily life.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH336903

VH254028

24. Write the ZIP code of your home address in the box.

□ □ □ □ □

25. In which of the following grades have you learned about civics and/or United States government? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Yes, I took a class or course mainly focused on civics and/or United States government.	Yes, I took a class or course that included some civics and/or United States government topics.	No, I did not take a class or course that taught civics and/or United States government topics.	I don't remember.	
a. 6th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH457394
b. 7th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH457396
c. 8th grade	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH457397

26. In your social studies class this year, how much have you studied the following topics? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all	Very little	Some	Quite a bit	A lot	
a. The United States Constitution	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VH457358
b. The three branches of the United States government (executive, judicial, and legislative branches)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VH457359
c. How laws are made	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VH457363
d. Political parties, elections, and voting	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VH457366
e. Other countries' governments (for example, their structure, how they are run, or interactions with the United States)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VH457368
f. International organizations (for example, the United Nations, World Bank, or World Health Organization)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VH457369
g. Current political and social issues	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VH457372

27. During this school year, how often do you do each of the following activities? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Read material from a civics and/or United States government textbook (print or digital)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716852
b. Read extra material about civics and/or United States government not in the regular textbook (for example, newspapers, magazines, or online sources)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716853
c. Conduct research about civics and/or United States government topics (for example, online, in a library, or through interviews)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716855
d. Listen to or watch movies, videos, or online content about civics and/or United States government topics	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716854

28. During this school year so far, how often have you done each of the following activities? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	Once	Two or three times	Four or five times	More than five times	
a. Gone on class field trips to learn about civics and/or United States government topics	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716858
b. Given class presentations on civics and/or United States government topics	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716859
c. Written about your opinion on a community problem or social issue (for example, in a letter, e-mail, or blog post)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716862
d. Taken part in political debates or panel discussions	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716861
e. Taken part in role-playing, mock trials, or dramas about civics and/or United States government topics	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716860

29. During this school year, how often do you do each of the following activities when you study civics and/or United States government? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	Once in a while	Sometimes	Often	Always or almost always	
a. Study the rights and responsibilities of United States citizens	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH716865
b. Examine how the United States influences and is influenced by events in other countries	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH716866
c. Compare the roles and responsibilities of local, state, and national governments in the United States	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH716871
d. Study why it is important to pay attention to the political process and government	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH716868
e. Study why it is important for individuals to participate in the political process and government	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH727879

30. In your social studies class this year, how often do you get the following assignments? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never or hardly ever	Less than half of the lessons	About half of the lessons	More than half of the lessons	All or almost all of the lessons	
a. Assignments that you have to complete together with other students	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH457532
b. Short written responses (for example, a paragraph or less)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH457533
c. Assignments that use different forms of media (for example, photos, videos, or music)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH457534
d. Long written responses (for example, several paragraphs)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH457540
e. Responses to questions based on information from several sources (for example, letters, cartoons, or maps)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH457542

31. When you study social studies, how often do you use computers or other digital devices to do the following? For this question, include both schoolwork and homework assignments. Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Organize information about civics and/or United States government topics by creating tables, charts, or graphs	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457548
b. Create reports or projects about civics and/or United States government using different forms of media (for example, a slide presentation that combines text and video clips)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457549
c. Participate in online discussions about civics and/or United States government on a website (for example, in forums or social media)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457550
d. Use the Internet to look for evidence or sources (for example, text documents, photographic images, or films)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457551

32. How much does each of the following statements describe you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Exactly like me	
a. I think I can make a difference in my community.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH716888
b. I think being actively involved in community issues is my responsibility.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH716893
c. I think being concerned about state and local issues is an important responsibility for everybody.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH716891
d. I have good ideas for programs and projects that would help solve problems in my community.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH716892
e. I expect to be involved in improving my community three years from now.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH716890

33. Do you think that you would be able to do each of the following? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	I definitely can't	I probably can't	Maybe	I probably can	I definitely can	
a. Explain the roles and functions of the three branches of the United States government	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457878
b. Explain the rights and responsibilities of United States citizens	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457879
c. Explain how the United States influences and is influenced by events in other countries	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457880
d. Compare the roles and responsibilities of local, state, and national governments in the United States	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457882
e. Explain why it is important to pay attention to the political process and government	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457884
f. Explain why it is important for individuals to participate in the political process and government	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH457885

34. How much does each of the following statements describe you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Exactly like me	
a. I want other students to think I am a good civics and/or United States government student.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716895
b. I want to show others that my civics and/or United States government schoolwork is easy for me.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716898
c. I want to look smart in comparison to the other students in my social studies, civics, and/or United States government class.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716897
d. I want to get better civics and/or United States government grades than most other students in my class.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716896

35. How much does each of the following statements describe you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Exactly like me	
a. I want to learn as much as possible about civics and/or United States government in my class.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716900
b. I want to master a lot of new civics and/or United States government skills in my class.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716901
c. I want to become a better civics and/or United States government student this year.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716904
d. I want to understand as much as I can about civics and/or United States government in my class.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716902

36. How much does each of the following statements describe you? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Not at all like me	A little bit like me	Somewhat like me	Quite a bit like me	Exactly like me	
a. Civics and/or United States government are my favorite topics to study.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716874
b. I enjoy doing schoolwork about civics and/or United States government.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716879
c. I enjoy discussing civics and/or United States government topics with others.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716877
d. I think that civics and/or United States government schoolwork helps me understand what is happening in the world around me.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716878
e. I think that learning about civics and/or United States government topics will be important for my future.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716876

37. During this school year, how often do you do each of the following activities **outside of school**? Select **one** answer choice on each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. Read about current political events in the media	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716881
b. Watch movies, videos, and/or TV programs about current political events	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716882
c. Participate in volunteer activities within a community	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716884
d. Discuss current political events or issues with others (for example, people in my home or friends)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VH716883

38. How often do you receive help from a tutor, family member, or friend with social studies **outside of school or after school**?

- Ⓐ Never
- Ⓑ About once or twice a year
- Ⓒ About once or twice a month
- Ⓓ About once or twice a week
- Ⓔ Every day or almost every day

39. Approximately how many hours a day do you spend on your **social studies** homework?
- Ⓐ Less than 30 minutes a day
  - Ⓑ 30 minutes up to 1 hour a day
  - Ⓒ 1 up to 2 hours a day
  - Ⓓ 2 up to 3 hours a day
  - Ⓔ 3 up to 4 hours a day
  - Ⓕ More than 4 hours a day