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Introduction

In 2015, the Arizona legislature passed the American Civics Act (House Bill 2064). This bill will require students, beginning with the graduating class of 2017, to pass a civics test based on the United States Immigration and Naturalization civics questions. Students will be required to score 60% or higher in order to graduate from high school or obtain a high school equivalency certificate. As a courtesy, the Arizona Department of Education, with help from the Maricopa County Education Service Agency and Arizona educators, has developed a mostly multiple choice version of the required test.

Statutory Requirements

Please find the complete text of the statute at the following Arizona State Legislature web address:
http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/52leg/1r/laws/0001.pdf

- School district boards and charter school governing bodies may decide how the test is administered
- Students must correctly answer at least 60 of the 100 questions on the civics test
- Student may retake the test as many times as necessary to pass
- Schools must document a student’s passing grade on their transcript
- Students receiving special education services are exempt from obtaining a passing score unless required by an IEP

Civics Test

The official list of 100 civics questions included on the naturalization test and free study materials are posted on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services web site:
http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/learners/study-test/study-materials-civics-test

ADE’s Civics Test is included in this document following page 8. An answer key and question alignment to the standards begins on page 5 of this document.

Design of ADE’s Civics Test

The Civics Test provided by ADE includes the 100 civics questions from the naturalization test with most questions rewritten as multiple choice questions. The few questions that require students to name specific elected officials are worded as short answer questions and placed at the end of the test. The multiple choice questions are ordered by the grade based on test content alignment, beginning with Kindergarten and ending with high school.
Test Administration

**Which Grade Takes the Test?**
The statute requiring the civics test does not provide guidance regarding the grade(s) when students should be permitted to take the test. Students should have the opportunity to learn the content on the civics test before being asked to take the test. Based on the alignment of the test questions, students should have been exposed to virtually all of the test content by the end of Grade 8.

It may be appropriate to offer the civics test to students as early as Grade 8. Once a student passes the civics test by answering at least 60 questions correctly, the student should not be required to take the civics test again regardless of the student’s grade level at the time the test was passed.

**Procedures**
Distribute a copy of the test to every student with instructions to mark the best possible answer. Ensure there is a place for each student to write his/her name on the test. This test should not be timed, and each student may retake the test as many times as necessary to ensure a passing grade. During the test, test administrators may not answer student questions about test content. It is expected that ethics and professionalism regarding test administration shall be upheld by test administrators.

**Environment**
A quiet and comfortable testing environment, with as few distractions as possible, is ideal for the administration of this test. Students should be seated so that they cannot easily see the responses of other students. Visual aids displayed in the testing room that could assist students while testing should be removed or covered completely. Please ensure each student has the time and space necessary to complete this test.

**Accommodations**
Students who use accommodations in classroom assessments should be offered the same or similar accommodations for this civics test.

**Scoring the Test**
Scoring of the civics test is done locally. An answer key begins on the following page.

**Recording Results**
There is currently no requirement and no system in place for collecting or reporting data on the civics test to ADE. Schools are responsible for documenting passing scores on student transcripts.
## Answer Key and Test Question Alignment

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1. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?
   A. Chinese
   B. Russians
   C. Pacific Islanders
   D. American Indians

2. Who was the first President of the United States?
   A. John Hancock
   B. James Madison
   C. Benjamin Franklin
   D. George Washington

3. What was **one** important thing that Abraham Lincoln did?
   A. led the U.S. during the Civil War
   B. led the U.S. during the War of 1812
   C. led the U.S. during the American Revolution
   D. led the U.S. during the Mexican-American War

4. When is Independence Day celebrated?
   A. April 19
   B. July 4
   C. September 17
   D. November 11

5. Who is the "Father of Our Country"?
   A. Abraham Lincoln
   B. Thomas Jefferson
   C. Benjamin Franklin
   D. George Washington

6. What Ocean is on the East Coast of the United States?
   A. Arctic Ocean
   B. Indian Ocean
   C. Pacific Ocean
   D. Atlantic Ocean
7. What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?
   A. fought for civil rights  
   B. became the first black U.S. Senator  
   C. established the Harvard Law School  
   D. ran for President of the United States

8. Which of the following is one of the two longest rivers in the United States?
   A. Ohio River  
   B. Potomac River  
   C. Colorado River  
   D. Mississippi River

9. What do Americans show loyalty to when saying the Pledge of Allegiance?
   A. the state where you live  
   B. the United States of America  
   C. the Declaration of Independence  
   D. the President of the United States of America

10. Why did the colonists fight the British?
    A. because of high taxes  
    B. because the British invaded France  
    C. because the colonists wanted a new king  
    D. because the colonists wanted religious freedom

11. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?
    A. James Madison  
    B. Abraham Lincoln  
    C. Thomas Jefferson  
    D. George Washington

12. Which of the following is an American Indian tribe?
    A. Huli  
    B. Kikuyu  
    C. Maori  
    D. Navajo
13. Why does the American flag have 13 stripes?

A. They represent the 13 original colonies.
B. They represent the 13 signatures on the U.S. Constitution.
C. They represent the 13 military heroes of the Revolutionary War.
D. They represent the 13 members of the Second Continental Congress.

14. Why does the American flag have 50 stars?

A. One star for each state.
B. One star for each president.
C. One star for each original colony.
D. One star for each constitutional amendment.

15. What is the name of the national anthem?

A. God Bless the U.S.A.
B. America the Beautiful
C. My Country 'Tis of Thee
D. The Star-Spangled Banner

16. Which of the following are national U.S. holidays?

A. Columbus Day and Flag Day
B. Labor Day and Veterans Day
C. Memorial Day and Mother's Day
D. Valentine's Day and Thanksgiving Day

17. What is one reason colonists came to America?

A. education
B. better health
C. elect a new king
D. religious freedom

18. What was the name of the U.S. war between the North and the South?

A. Civil War
B. World War II
C. War of 1812
D. Revolutionary War
19. Which of the following reasons led to the Civil War?

   A. taxes
   B. slavery
   C. oil rights
   D. religious freedom

20. What did Susan B. Anthony do?

   A. founded the Red Cross
   B. fought for women's rights
   C. made the first American flag
   D. established a college for women

21. Where is the Statue of Liberty located?

   A. Boston, MA
   B. New York, NY
   C. Washington, DC
   D. San Francisco, CA

22. What is the deadline for filing federal income tax forms?

   A. April 15
   B. June 30
   C. September 15
   D. December 31

23. Who did the United States fight in World War II?

   A. Japan, Germany, and Italy
   B. Japan, Germany, and France
   C. Russia, China, and Japan
   D. Russia, France, and Great Britain

24. Which of the following wars was fought by the United States in the 1800s?

   A. Korean War
   B. World War I
   C. Spanish-American War
   D. French and Indian War
25. Who is in charge of the executive branch?

A. the President  
B. the Chief Justice  
C. the Majority Leader  
D. the Speaker of the House

26. What does the judicial branch do?

A. amends the Constitution and overturns laws  
B. decides if a law goes against the Constitution  
C. stipulates the number of Supreme Court Justices  
D. provides legal advice to the President and his staff

27. Which of the following includes two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?

A. vote and run for office  
B. read a newspaper and volunteer at the local food bank  
C. get a driver's license and purchase real estate property  
D. go to college and start a career

28. What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves?

A. Africans  
B. Canadians  
C. Spaniards  
D. Italians

29. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?

A. July 4, 1770  
B. July 4, 1776  
C. July 4, 1870  
D. July 4, 1876

30. Which of the following includes three of the 13 original states?

A. Georgia, Indiana, New York  
B. Maine, Ohio, and West Virginia  
C. Vermont, Florida, and Pennsylvania  
D. Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina
31. What happened at the Constitutional Convention?
   A. The Constitution was written.
   B. The Constitution was ratified.
   C. The Magna Carta was signed.
   D. The Declaration of Independence was written.

32. When was the U.S. Constitution written?
   A. 1776
   B. 1787
   C. 1812
   D. 1865

33. What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for?
   A. decorated war general
   B. inventor of the telegraph
   C. fourth president of the United States
   D. oldest member of the Constitutional Convention

34. What territory did the United States buy from France in 1803?
   A. Alaska
   B. Florida
   C. Hawaii
   D. Louisiana

35. What is one promise made when becoming a citizen of the United States of America?
   A. to register to vote
   B. to get an education
   C. to join a political party
   D. to defend the U.S. Constitution

36. When must all men register for the Selective Service?
   A. at birth
   B. at age 16
   C. at age 18
   D. men no longer have to register
37. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?
   A. called for an end to the Civil War
   B. called for the creation of state borders
   C. called for an end to Southern Secession
   D. called for the freeing of slaves in the Confederate States

38. Who was the President during World War I?
   A. Warren Harding
   B. Woodrow Wilson
   C. Franklin Roosevelt
   D. Theodore Roosevelt

39. What stops one branch of government from becoming too powerful?
   A. the military
   B. the Bill of Rights
   C. checks and balances
   D. the Federal Reserve

40. What is one responsibility that only applies to United States citizens?
   A. pay taxes
   B. obey the laws
   C. serve on a jury
   D. attend private school

41. Which of the following includes two rights of everyone living in the United States?
   A. freedom to work and freedom of speech
   B. freedom to work and freedom to make laws
   C. freedom of speech and freedom of assembly
   D. freedom to make laws and freedom of assembly

42. Which war was fought by the United States in the 1900s?
   A. Civil War
   B. World War I
   C. Revolutionary War
   D. Mexican-American War
43. What is the supreme law of the land?
   A. the U.S. Constitution
   B. the Articles of Confederation
   C. the Emancipation Proclamation
   D. the Declaration of Independence

44. What does the Constitution do?
   A. sets up and defines the government
   B. draws boundaries of congressional districts
   C. sets codes of conduct for obeying local and federal laws
   D. determines whether citizens are prosecuted to the full extent of the law

45. The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words?
   A. We the United
   B. We the People
   C. We the Citizens
   D. We the Americans

46. What is an amendment?
   A. a change to the Constitution
   B. a preamble to the Constitution
   C. an explanation of the Bill of Rights
   D. an introduction to the Bill of Rights

47. What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution?
   A. the Preamble
   B. the Bill of Rights
   C. the Articles of the Confederation
   D. the Declaration of Independence

48. What did the Declaration of Independence do?
   A. declared freedom for the slaves
   B. declared equal rights for women
   C. declared freedom from Great Britain
   D. declared an end to the war with Great Britain
49. Which of the following includes **two** rights stated in the Declaration of Independence?

A. life and liberty  
B. free speech and justice  
C. bear arms and pay taxes  
D. vote and pursuit of happiness  

50. How many amendments does the Constitution have?

A. 10  
B. 27  
C. 36  
D. 50  

51. Who vetoes bills?

A. the President  
B. the Majority Leader  
C. the President Pro Tempore  
D. the Speaker of the House of Representatives  

52. What is the "rule of law"?

A. Everyone must follow the law.  
B. Laws remain the same in every state.  
C. Government leaders are above the laws.  
D. Laws only apply to United States citizens.  

53. What is **one** branch of the federal government?

A. governor  
B. judicial  
C. military  
D. treasury  

54. Who makes federal laws?

A. the Congress  
B. the Supreme Court  
C. the Attorney General  
D. the Justice Department
55. If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President?
   A. the Vice President
   B. the Secretary of State
   C. the President Pro Tempore
   D. the Speaker of the House of Representatives

56. Who signs bills to become laws?
   A. the President
   B. the Vice President
   C. the Secretary of State
   D. the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

57. What is the highest court in the United States?
   A. the District Court
   B. the Superior Court
   C. the Supreme Court
   D. the Municipal Court

58. If both the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, who becomes President?
   A. the Secretary of State
   B. the U.S. Attorney General
   C. the President Pro Tempore
   D. the Speaker of the House of Representatives

59. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the federal government. What is one power of the federal government?
   A. to make treaties
   B. to issue driver's licenses
   C. to provide public education
   D. to establish police departments
60. Who is the Commander in Chief of the military?
   A. the President
   B. the Secretary of Defense
   C. the U.S. Attorney General
   D. the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

61. What is the capital of Arizona?
   A. Flagstaff
   B. Phoenix
   C. Prescott
   D. Tucson

62. What is one right that only applies to United States citizens?
   A. speak freely
   B. own a weapon
   C. practice a religion
   D. run for federal office

63. How old do citizens have to be to vote for President?
   A. starting at 16 years of age and older
   B. starting at 18 years of age and older
   C. starting at 21 years of age and older
   D. starting at 35 years of age and older

64. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the states. What is one power of the states?
   A. print money
   B. create an army
   C. issue passports
   D. provide public education

65. Who is one of the authors of the Federalist Papers?
   A. John Adams
   B. James Madison
   C. Thomas Jefferson
   D. George Washington
66. Who was President during both the Great Depression and World War II?

A. Harry Truman  
B. Calvin Coolidge  
C. Woodrow Wilson  
D. Franklin Roosevelt

67. Before he was President, Eisenhower was a general. What war was he in?

A. Civil War  
B. Korean War  
C. World War II  
D. Spanish-American War

68. During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the United States?

A. colonialism  
B. communism  
C. imperialism  
D. sectionalism

69. What movement tried to end racial discrimination?

A. civil rights movement  
B. progressive movement  
C. temperance movement  
D. women’s suffrage movement

70. What historical event happened on September 11, 2001 in the United States?

A. The stock market crashed.  
B. Columbia space shuttle exploded.  
C. Terrorists attacked the United States.  
D. Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans.

71. What Ocean is on the West Coast of the United States?

A. Arctic Ocean  
B. Indian Ocean  
C. Pacific Ocean  
D. Atlantic Ocean
72. Which of the following is a U.S. territory?
   A. Cuba
   B. Guam
   C. Hawaii
   D. Panama

73. Which U.S. state borders Canada?
   A. Alaska
   B. Connecticut
   C. Oregon
   D. Wisconsin

74. Which U.S. state borders Mexico?
   A. Texas
   B. Arkansas
   C. Louisiana
   D. Alabama

75. What is the capital of the United States?
   A. Boston, MA
   B. New York, NY
   C. Philadelphia, PA
   D. Washington, DC

76. What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment?
   A. to vote
   B. jury trial
   C. free speech
   D. to bear arms

77. What is freedom of religion?
   A. Religious leaders are exempt from the law.
   B. States may choose a religion for the people.
   C. Religious institutions do not have to pay taxes.
   D. People may or may not choose to practice a religion.
78. What is the economic system in the United States?
   A. barter or trade economy
   B. socialist or mutual economy
   C. capitalist or market economy
   D. communist or collective economy

79. What are the two parts of the U.S. Congress?
   A. the President and the Cabinet
   B. the Supreme Court and the Superior Court
   C. the U.S. Treasury and the State Department
   D. the Senate and the House of Representatives

80. How many U.S. Senators are there?
   A. 25
   B. 50
   C. 100
   D. 435

81. How many years are there in one term of office for a U.S. Senator?
   A. 2
   B. 4
   C. 6
   D. 8

82. The U.S. House of Representatives has how many voting members?
   A. 265
   B. 380
   C. 435
   D. 519

83. How many years are there in one term of office for a U.S. Representative?
   A. 2
   B. 4
   C. 6
   D. 8
84. Who does a U.S. Senator represent?

   A. all people in the United States
   B. all people in the Senator's state
   C. only the people in the state who voted for the Senator
   D. only people who belong to the political party of the Senator

85. How is the number of U.S. Representatives chosen for each state?

   A. by state location
   B. by state population
   C. by state geographical size
   D. by state political affiliation

86. How many years are there in one term of office for a U.S. President?

   A. 2
   B. 4
   C. 6
   D. 8

87. In what month is the election day for President?

   A. January
   B. June
   C. August
   D. November

88. What is the main duty of the President's Cabinet?

   A. set policy
   B. make laws
   C. advise the President
   D. command the military

89. Which of the following includes two Cabinet-level positions?

   A. Secretary of Education and Secretary of History
   B. Secretary of Energy and Secretary of Motor Vehicles
   C. Secretary of Human Affairs and Secretary of the Navy
   D. Secretary of Homeland Security and Secretary of the Treasury
90. How many justices are on the U.S. Supreme Court?

A. 5  
B. 7  
C. 9  
D. 11

91. Which of the following includes **two** major political parties in the United States?

A. Libertarian Party and Democratic Party  
B. Progressive Party and Libertarian Party  
C. Democratic Party and Republican Party  
D. Progressive Party and Republican Party

92. There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. Which of the following is true?

A. Only citizens 21 and older can vote.  
B. Only citizens with jobs can vote.  
C. Only citizens 18 and older can vote.  
D. Only citizens who pay taxes can vote.

93. Who is the current President of the United States?

94. Who is the current Governor of Arizona?

95. Who is the current Vice President of the United States?

96. Name **one** of the two current U.S. Senators for the state of Arizona.

97. Who is the current Chief Justice of the United States?

98. What is the political party of the current President?

99. Who is the current Speaker of the House of Representatives?

100. Name **one** of the nine current U.S. Representatives for the state of Arizona.