Unit 1 Outline – Citizenship & Principles of Government

**“Why Americans Have Government”**

1. **Types of Government**
   1. Every country in the world has their own type of government; however, each government is unique and varies widely across the globe.
   2. Each country’s government has been shaped by **traditional** belief of its people and by their history.
   3. Governments fall into two different types: **nondemocratic**  and **democratic** governments.
      1. **Forms of Nondemocratic Governments** 
         1. A ***monarchy*** is a type of government where a **king** or a **queen** called a monarch, reigns over a kingdom or empire.
         2. A ***autocracy*** is a type of government where a person rules with **complete** and **absolute** power.
            1. An **absolute monarchy**  is a type of autocracy where a person assumes complete control by being born into the family of rulers.
            2. A **dictatorship**  is a type of autocracy where a military leader takes power often by force.
            3. An **oligarchy**  is a kind of dictatorship in which all of the power is concentrated within a small group of people.
         3. A ***theocracy*** is a type of government controlled by one of more religious leaders who claim rules on behalf of God or the gods worshipped in their country.
         4. ***Anarchy*** is the absence of any type of government.
      2. **Systems of Nondemocratic Governments**
         1. ***Socialism*** is an economic system where a country has power over all goods that are produced.
         2. ***Communism*** is a form of government where a single ruling party owns all means of production and no private ownership is allowed.
      3. **Forms of Democratic Governments**
         1. In a ***democracy***, the **people**  of a nation either rule directly or **elected**  officials who act on their behalf.
         2. The word “democracy” come the ancient Greek terms meaning **“ rule of the people “**
         3. There are two forms of democracy:
            1. **Direct democracy**  - all voters in a community meet in one place to make the laws and decide what actions to take.
            2. **Representative Democracy**  - the people elect representatives to carry on the work of government for them. When the people give **consent**  or give permission, to be ruled by their elected officials this is a system of government known as a **republic**
2. **Purpose of Government**
   1. There are three main purposes of government.
      1. Helping People Cooperate – it is necessary and useful to have rules, laws and for people to work together when they live in a community.
      2. Providing Services – each level of government **( Local, state & federal)** has the responsibility of providing services to their people. One example of a service that is provided is **education**  By establishing our school systems, the government ensures that all children can receive a good education. Other services include: our highway systems, our monetary systems, trash collection, and health services.
      3. Providing Laws – **make laws to keep our communities safe**
      4. Planning for the future – decide what plans will be best for a communities’ future.
3. Why We Study Civics/government?
   1. \_**Civics**\_ is the study of what it means to be a citizen; each type of government defines the roles and responsibilities of citizens a little bit differently.
   2. A citizen is a \_**legally**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ recognized member of a community that shares common values.
      1. Being A Citizen
         1. The idea of a “citizen” has changed throughout history.
         2. \_**Romans**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ used the term to distinguish the people who lived in the city of Rome versus those who were born in other territories.
         3. Today, citizens have \_**rights**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_**responsibilities**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that differ from country to country.
         4. The rights and duties of citizens depend on their country’s government. Some countries, such as \_**Israel**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, requires all citizens (men and women), to serve in the military.
         5. A \_\_**government**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the organizations, institutions, and individuals who exercise political authority over a group of people. *In other words,* a government is a “ruling authority for a community”.
         6. Citizens owe loyalty to their government and are entitled to protection from that government – this is a **social contract** that people have with their government. Governments exist to protect the rights of the people.
      2. Being an American Citizen
         1. Citizenship includes being a productive and active member of society.
         2. Americans are also members of their \_**local**\_\_\_ communities. (ex.: towns, villages, cities)
         3. In America you are a citizen and a resident of BOTH your \_\_**country**\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_**state**\_\_\_\_ in which you live. This is called a \_**federal**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ system of government (where power is shared between the state and federal government) as opposed to a \_**confederal**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ system of government (where there is no central power/protection).
         4. To be a good citizen, you need “training” – you must know the following:
            1. The purpose of \_**government**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
            2. How the government works at each level - \_**local**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_**state**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_**national**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The level of government that is the highest is \_**federal**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (the other two levels of government must follow it’s laws). The \_**local**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ level is closest to the people.
            3. What are some services provided by the different levels of government?

Local:

State:

Federal(National):

* + - * 1. How the US \_**economic**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ system works and interacts with our government.

1. American Values
   1. The United States has inspired many other nations because of its basic \_**values**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
   2. As American citizens, we are all guaranteed the same rights and freedoms by the \_**The US Constitution**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in order to protect these values.
      1. Equality:
         1. Means that each citizen has the same \_**right**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to enjoy the many benefits granted to all. What are some examples? Education, jobs
      2. Liberty:
         1. Grants citizens the \_**freedom**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to make choices about their daily lives. While our rights seem normal to us, millions of people around the world do not experience the same “rights to freedom” as American citizens do. What are some examples? Marriage, travel
      3. Justice:
         1. Our government has given power to the police to prevent others from \_**violating**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our rights.
         2. If someone’s rights are violated, the \_**courts**\_\_\_\_ have the power to punish those responsible.
         3. As long as YOU do the “right thing”, your rights and freedoms can never be taken away. Doing your part as an American citizen is called your

“ \_\_**civic duty**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”.

1. Qualities of a Good Citizen
   1. In order to have a “government of the people, by the people, for the people” (Abraham Lincoln), citizens must \_\_**participate**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
      1. Voting in Elections
         1. This is a citizen’s most important \_\_**responsibility**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
         2. Voters elect \_**representatives**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who they think best represent their views and will do the best job.
      2. Expressing Your Opinion – write, call, email government officials to let your voice be heard.
      3. Being an Effective Citizen – there are ten characteristics of a “good citizen”.
         1. Are responsible family members
         2. Respect and \_**obey**\_\_\_\_\_\_ the law.
         3. Respect the \_**rights**\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_**property**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of others.
         4. Are loyal to and proud of their country.
         5. Take part in and improve life in their community.
         6. Take an \_**active**\_\_\_\_\_\_ part in government.
         7. Use natural resources wisely.
         8. Are \_i**nformed**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on key issues and willing to stand up for them.
         9. Believe in equal opportunities for all people.
         10. Respect individual \_**differences**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, points of views, and \_**ways of life**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that are different from their own.

**“Who are US Citizens?”**

1. Americans Are From Everywhere
   1. The heritage of freedom of equality in what is now the United States was formed bit by bit.
   2. Over time, various groups have  **settled**  here, bringing with them different languages, ideas, beliefs, customs, hopes and dreams.
   3. People who come here from other countries and adopt American customs are called  **immigrants**
   4. Many consider to America to be a “melting pot”! Others consider America to be a “tossed salad”, where each group adds their own distinct “flavor” to the mix. ***What are your thoughts about the metaphors for America’s citizens? Are we a “tossed salad” or a “melting pot”? Explain.***

**Answers will vary.**

* + 1. So who are the people that come to America?
       1. Aliens: **people who come from a different country to live or work in America**.
       2. Immigrants: **are aliens who plan to stay permanently in America**.
    2. Most immigrants today come from **Spanish-speaking** countries.

1. Immigration Policy
   1. Once a government was formed, the United States attracted people from all around the world. Once a government was formed, the United States attracted people from all around the world. Our Congress regulate immigration and naturalization.
   2. Beginning in the **1880’s**  Congress passed laws limiting immigration due to an influx of people to the country. (i.e., Chinese Exclusion Act)
   3. In the 1920s, laws that established **quotas**  (a specific number), were passed to limit the number of people who were allowed to enter from each country.
   4. Today, the **Immigration Act of 1990**  sets a total annual quota of **675,000** immigrants.
      1. This law gives preference to:
         1. Spouses/children
         2. People who have money to invest and special or valuable talents and skills.
2. Becoming a United States Citizen
   1. According to the **14th**  Amendment to the US Constitution “A citizen is anyone who is **born** or **naturalized** in the US”.
      1. Citizenship by Birth (Law of Blood – *jus sanguinis*; Law of Soil – *jus soil*)
         1. The term **native born**  is given to anyone who is:
            1. Born to one or both parents who are citizens (Law of Blood – *just sanguinis)*
            2. Born in the United States, a US territory , or on a US  **military base** (Law of Soil – *jus soil)*
      2. Citizenship by Naturalization (Law of Soil – *jus soil*)
         1. If you are not a citizen by birth, you must go through the legal process of becoming a US Citizen called **naturalization** Approximately **13.5** % are foreign born.
         2. This is a FIVE STEP process:
            1. Apply for a permanent residency visa, commonly called a **green card.**
            2. Apply for citizenship by filing their **declaration of intention.**
            3. Get **fingerprinted.**
            4. Be **interviewed**  at the USCIS and **pass** a citizenship test (in English).
            5. Take the **Oath of Allegiance.**
         3. A naturalized citizen has all the same **rights**  and **duties** as native born citizens.
         4. Only exception is that naturalized citizens cannot become the **President!**
      3. Legal Aliens
         1. In 2009, there were about **21.7 Milllion** legal aliens reported to be living in the United States.
         2. A **legal alien** is a citizen of another country who has received permission to enter the United States. Legal aliens cannot **vote,**  serve on juries or run for office.
      4. Illegal Aliens
         1. Some people enter the United States illegally in search of jobs or a better education, health care or a place to raise their children.
         2. They are “illegal” because they lack **proper** immigration documentation (also known as “undocumented residents”. There are approximately 5-6 million in the US today.)
         3. Life is difficult for illegal immigrants. If found, they face capture and will be **deported** (sent back to their home country).
      5. Refugees
         1. Today’s immigration quotas do not include **refugees,** people who are trying to escape the dangers of their home countries.
         2. Refugees come to the United States to flee persecution, wars, political conflicts or other **crises** situations.
         3. **The President** and **Congress** set quotas each year for the number of refugees allowed to enter the United States.

**The Duties of a Citizen -** A duty (also called an obligation) is something that a citizen is required to do, by law. Examples of duties/obligations are: obeying laws, paying taxes, defending the nation and serving on juries.

1. **Obeying the Law**
   1. **Rule of Law**: Everyone is under the law.
   2. To obey the law, you must **know** the law.
   3. Without laws our society would **quickly collapse**.
2. **Paying Taxes**
   1. Taxes pay for services like **firefighters and police**, they build roads, and also public schools.
   2. Tax money also pays for **national defense and military.**
3. **Serving in the Armed Forces**
   1. In times of war, Congress can declare a **draft and require men** of certain ages to serve in the military.
   2. The last draft was called in 1973 during the Vietnam War.
   3. The military is now using only volunteers; however 18 year old men must register for the **Selective Service** in case a draft is called.
   4. **Rationing** is used in wartime to conserve supplies needed for the troops.
4. **Appearing in Court**
   1. Jury Duty is the **mandatory** action of serving on a jury for a court case.
   2. Jury Duty often requires sacrifices of work for a while with **very little pay**.
   3. Jury Duty is also a **trial by peers**.

**The Responsibilities of a Citizen -** Citizens also have responsibilities – these are things that they *should* do but are not required by law. Examples of responsibilities are: voting, attending civic meetings, petitioning the government, and running for office.

1. **Voting**
   1. “If you don’t vote, don’t complain about the results.”
   2. Many people gave their **lives** so we can vote, making it an honor and **responsibility**.
   3. Voting tells leaders what we like… and don’t like.
   4. Our government is based on the **consent** of the governed.
2. **Being Informed**
   1. To vote wisely, you must be well informed of **candidates**, current events, **key issues**, and the current politics.
3. **Taking Part in Government**
   1. Taking part is as easy as **voting** and joining a political party.
   2. We also need leaders who will run for office.
   3. The quality of government depends on the **people in it**.
4. **Helping your Community**
   1. One of your most important responsibilities is taking part in community service to help **others in need** in your community.
   2. **Volunteering** is a huge part of being an active citizen in the community.
5. **Respecting and Protecting Others’ Rights**
   1. You should know your rights.
   2. The rights you have belong to **those around you too**.
   3. You have the responsibility to make sure your rights and others’ rights are **protected**.

Protecting the Common Good: Beliefs or actions that are a benefit to the larger community rather than to the individual. By fulfilling your obligations and responsibilities as a citizen, you are protecting the **common good** (well-being of all citizens)

**“The American People Today”**

1. The Census
   1. In modern times, many countries take a \_**census**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which is an official, periodic counting of a population.
   2. In the world today there is over 7 billion people.
   3. The United States conducts a census count every \_**10\_\_\_** years. Between 2000 and 2010, the United States population increased about 9%. In 2000, the census counted approximately 307 million people in the US. Today, we have a population over 314 million!
   4. What does the census do?
      1. Counts People
         1. Population is used to determine how many \_**representatives**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ each state can send to Congress.
         2. Tracks where people are living and which areas are growing or shrinking.
      2. Tracks Characteristics
         1. Today’s census collects \_**demographics**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which are characteristics of the human population. (For example, ethnic background, number of children, even the number of pets!)
         2. All this information is \_**public**\_\_\_\_\_, it is posted on the Internet so anyone can view it. ([www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov))
2. Population Growth
   1. A country’s population can grow in three ways:
      1. Natural Increase
         1. \_**birthrate**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: the annual number of live births per 1,000 members of a population
         2. \_\_**deathrate**\_\_\_: the annual number of deaths per 1,000 of a country’s population.
         3. FUN FACT: The first US Census was conducted in 1790, found that there were fewer than 4 million people living in the Colonies. By, 1830 the number skyrocketed to 13 million – why? People were having more children (five or more per family) to help work the farms since that was the main livelihood for Americans at the time.
      2. Adding Territory – as we’ve expanded as a country, so has the number of people that get counted as a part of the population.
      3. Immigration - Since 1820, more than \_\_**60 million**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ immigrants have come from all over the world to call the United States home. It is these immigrants, and their descendants, that make up most of our population today.
         1. As read on all US coins, *E Pluribus Unum*, Latin for “\_**out of many, one**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”, embodies the idea that our country, though diverse and ever-changing, is still one unified nation.
3. Population Changes
   * 1. **Changing Households** - divorces, new marriages/families, people having fewer children.
     2. **Changing Women’s Roles** – prior to 1950, the role of a woman was in the home. Today, many women work outside the home.
     3. **An Older Population** – people are healthier, have better medical care and can live longer. In 2000, there were 65,000 Centenarians (People who are 100 years old or older!)
     4. **A** **More Diverse Population** – the Census shows that many Americans have mixed heritage.
     5. Where people live: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**rural to urban (farms to cities)**