



State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness

# **U.S. History**

## 2025 Civics Released Questions and Answer Key

## **General Information**

### Overview of House Bill 1244:

The 86th Texas Legislature passed House Bill (HB) 1244 in 2019. This bill requires the U.S. History STAAR end of-course (EOC) assessment to include 10 questions randomly selected from the civics test administered by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) as part of the naturalization process. HB 1244 requires that the questions included be aligned to the TEKS for United States History Studies Since 1877. In addition, HB 1244 requires the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to issue a report annually that provides the questions included in the test and the answers to those questions, as well as student performance on the questions, both statewide and disaggregated by school district and campus.

### Implementation:

All students will take the civics question section, but different students may encounter different questions. Because not all students will encounter all of the civics questions, individual student data will not be available. Student performance on those questions will be reported at the state, district, and campus levels and will not be part of a student's individual U.S. History STAAR score.

## **U.S. History, Civics**

### **Question 1:**

What are two rights in the Declaration of Independence?

- A. Voting and free speech
- B. Free speech and life
- C. Life and pursuit of happiness
- D. Pursuit of happiness and voting

## **U.S. History, Civics**

### **Question 2:**

Why do some states have more Representatives than other states?

- A. Because of the state's population
- B. Because of the state's geographical size
- C. Because of the state's wealth
- D. Because of the state's colonial history

## **U.S. History, Civics**

### **Question 3:**

What are two rights of everyone living in the United States?

- A. The right to vote and freedom of expression
- B. Freedom of expression and freedom of assembly
- C. Freedom of assembly and the right to run for federal office
- D. The right to run for federal office and the right to vote

## **U.S. History, Civics**

### **Question 4:**

Who does a U.S. Senator represent?

- A. All citizens of the United States
- B. All people of the United States
- C. All citizens of the state
- D. All people of the state

## **U.S. History, Civics**

### **Question 5:**

If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President?

- A. The Majority Leader of the Senate
- B. The President's Chief of Staff
- C. The Secretary of Defense
- D. The Vice President

## **U.S. History, Civics**

### **Question 6:**

Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the states. What is *one* power of the states?

- A. Establish post roads
- B. Regulate the value of money
- C. Provide and maintain a navy
- D. Provide schooling and education



## **U.S. History, Civics**

### **Question 7:**

Why did the colonists fight the British?

- A. Because they didn't have self-government
- B. Because they were not considered citizens
- C. Because they were not protected from invasion
- D. Because they didn't want to continue slavery

## **U.S. History, Civics**

### **Question 8:**

Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?

- A. Aaron Burr
- B. John Marshall
- C. Thomas Jefferson
- D. Alexander Hamilton

## **U.S. History, Civics**

### **Question 9:**

What are *two* ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?

- A. Vote and join a civic group
- B. Register for the draft and enroll in community college
- C. Follow federal laws and pay state taxes
- D. Attend church and learn new languages

## **U.S. History, Civics**

### **Question 10:**

What is *one* responsibility that is only for United States citizens?

- A. Enlist in the military
- B. Serve on a jury
- C. Hire workers
- D. Buy land

## **U.S. History, Civics Items**

### **Correct Answers:**

1. C. Life and pursuit of happiness
2. A. Because of the state's population
3. B. Freedom of expression and freedom of assembly
4. D. All people of the state
5. D. The Vice President
6. D. Provide schooling and education
7. A. Because they didn't have self-government
8. C. Thomas Jefferson
9. A. Vote and join a civic group
10. B. Serve on a jury