

# Lesson 9

# American Government

## System of Government The Judicial Branch

Questions: 2, 13, 14, 37, 38, 39, 40, 12

# The Three Branches of Government

CONSTITUTION



The U.S. Capitol



The White House



The Supreme Court

LEGISLATIVE

EXECUTIVE

JUDICIAL

CONGRESS

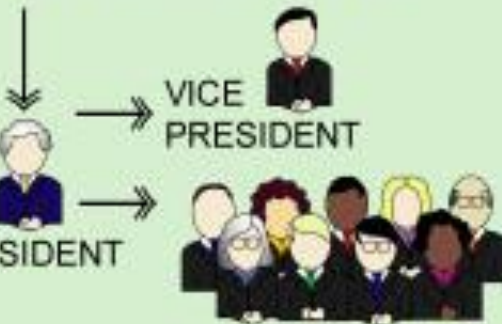
VICE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT

SUPREME COURT

COURTS OF APPEAL

DISTRICT COURTS



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SENATE

CABINET

Question

2



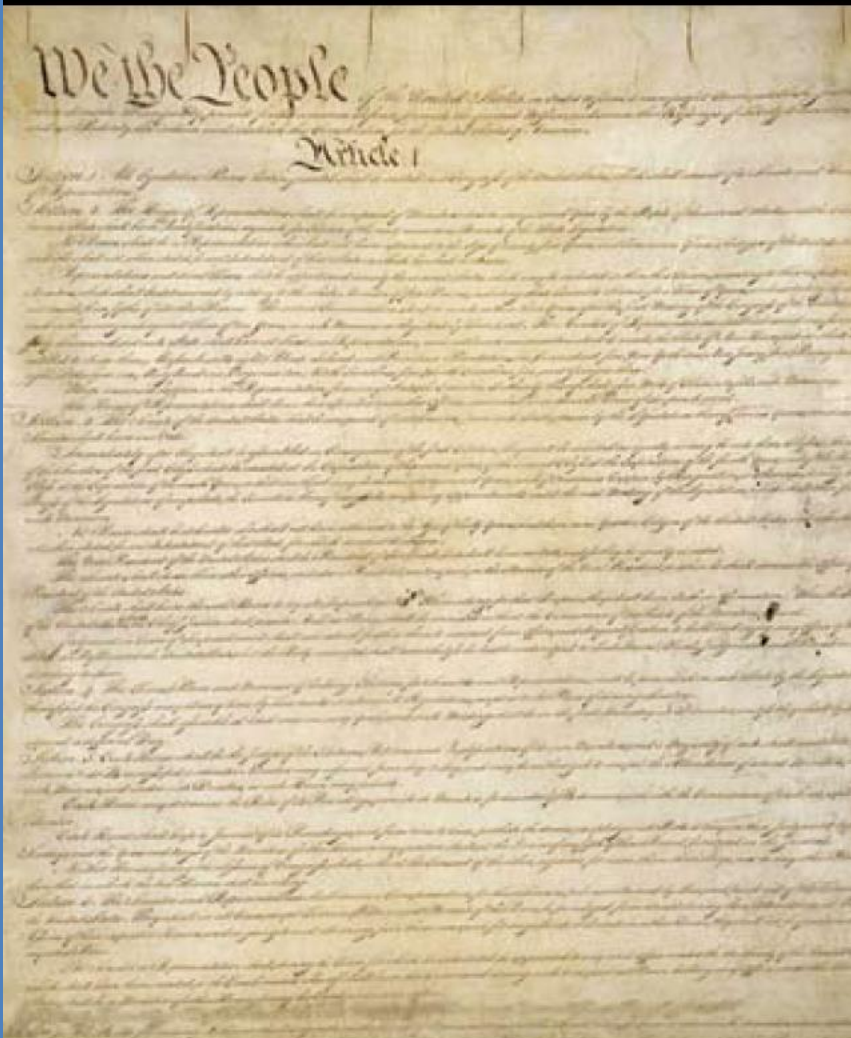
**Civics Flash Cards**  
for the Naturalization Test

**What does the  
Constitution do?**



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

## Question #2



- ★ sets up the government
- ★ defines the government
- ★ protects basic rights of Americans

Question

**13**



**Civics Flash Cards**  
for the Naturalization Test

Name one branch or part of  
the government.\*



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**



## Question #13

- ★ **Congress**
- ★ **legislative**
- ★ **President**
- ★ **executive**
- ★ **the courts**
- ★ **judicial**

**The U.S. Capitol (legislative branch)  
and the U.S. Supreme Court (judicial  
branch) buildings in Washington, D.C.**



# Separation of Powers / Checks and Balances

**PRESIDENT  
(Executive Branch)**

Can veto a bill  
Can reject a treaty  
signed by the president

Can declare an executive  
action unconstitutional  
Appoints federal judges

Can declare a law  
unconstitutional



Approves federal judges

**CONGRESS  
(Legislative Branch)**

**THE COURTS  
(Judicial Branch)**

Question

**14**



**Civics Flash Cards**  
for the Naturalization Test

**What stops one branch of government from becoming too powerful?**



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**



## Question #14



- ★ **checks and balances**
- ★ **separation of powers**

# What does the Judicial Branch do?

## The Judicial Branch:

- reviews laws
- explains laws
- resolves disputes (disagreements)
- decides if a law goes against the Constitution

# The Federal Court System

**Supreme  
Court**

**Courts of  
Appeal (11)**

**District Courts (94)**

# The U.S. Supreme Court



Question

**37**



**Civics Flash Cards**  
for the Naturalization Test

**What does the judicial  
branch do?**



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**



## Question #37



- ★ reviews laws
- ★ explains laws
- ★ resolves disputes (disagreements)
- ★ decides if a law goes against the Constitution

**The Courtroom of the U.S. Supreme Court building, where the Court has sat since 1935.**

**Courtesy of the Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States.**



Question

**38**



**Civics Flash Cards**  
for the Naturalization Test

**What is the highest court in  
the United States?**



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

## Question #38



# the Supreme Court

**West facade of the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C.**  
Courtesy of the Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States.

# The 9 Supreme Court Justices

Sonia Sotomayor

Samuel Alito

Elena Kagan

Neil Gorsuch



Ruth Bader  
Ginsburg

Anthony Kennedy

John Roberts  
(Chief Justice)

Clarence Thomas

Stephen Breyer

Question  
**39**



**Civics Flash Cards**  
for the Naturalization Test

**How many justices are on the  
Supreme Court?**



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

## Question #39



**nine (9)**

**There are nine justices on the Supreme Court: eight associate justices and one chief justice.**

**Courtesy of the Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States.**



Question  
**40**



**Civics Flash Cards**  
for the Naturalization Test

**Who is the Chief Justice of  
the United States now?**



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**



**John Roberts  
(John G.  
Roberts, Jr.)**

**Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr.**  
Courtesy of the Collection of the Supreme Court  
of the United States.



# The Rule of Law



Question

**12**



**Civics Flash Cards**  
for the Naturalization Test

**What is the “rule of law”?**



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

## Question #12



- ★ **Everyone must follow the law.**
- ★ **Leaders must obey the law.**
- ★ **Government must obey the law.**
- ★ **No one is above the law.**

**The Contemplation of Justice statue outside the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C.**

*Courtesy of the Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States.*



# The Supreme Court

## Interprets and Upholds the Constitution





# Texas v. Johnson (1989)





# Citizens United v. FEC (2010)

