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UNIT 1

Foundations of American Citizenship

YOUR ROLE AS A CITIZEN

For more than 200 years, the United States has flourished. As citizens we enjoy the rewards of our system of government, but we also have certain responsibilities. Through our participation, this system will continue to provide the blessings of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

In Unit 1, you will learn about the citizens of the United States and how our democratic system of government evolved. ■

CHAPTERS IN THIS UNIT

- 1 What Is Civics?
- 2 Roots of American Democracy





What Is Civics?

CIVIC PARTICIPATION

The celebration of our nation's birthday on July 4 is a good occasion to think about what government does for us. It protects our rights and provides us with many benefits in return for certain responsibilities. These responsibilities include becoming informed on how government works, how it affects our lives, and how we can make it better. Contact the

offices of your local government and find out what issues officials are dealing with now and how you can help.

Working in Your Community

After you have obtained the information, ask neighbors how they would deal with these community issues. Encourage them to become actively involved in community affairs. ■

Your Civics Journal

For the next week, look for things you and your family do every day that the government affects in some way. For example, if your parents drive, they need a license and must obey speed limits. Keep a list of the things you observe and note how government is involved.







Government of the People, by the People, for the People

FOCUS

TERMS TO KNOW

civics, citizen, government, dictatorship, democracy, representative democracy

OBJECTIVES

- Discuss the basic **purposes of government**.
- Identify various **levels of government**.
- Explain the difference between **dictatorship and democracy**.
- Describe **two kinds of democracy**.
- Discuss **how citizens influence government**.

Civics is the study of citizenship and government. The word comes from the Latin word *civis*, meaning “citizen.” In ancient Rome, where the word was first used, only wealthy landowners were allowed to be citizens. As such, they enjoyed special privileges that the common people did not share. Today the word *citizen*—a member of a community with a government and

laws—applies to most people. Wealth and property are no longer requirements for citizenship.

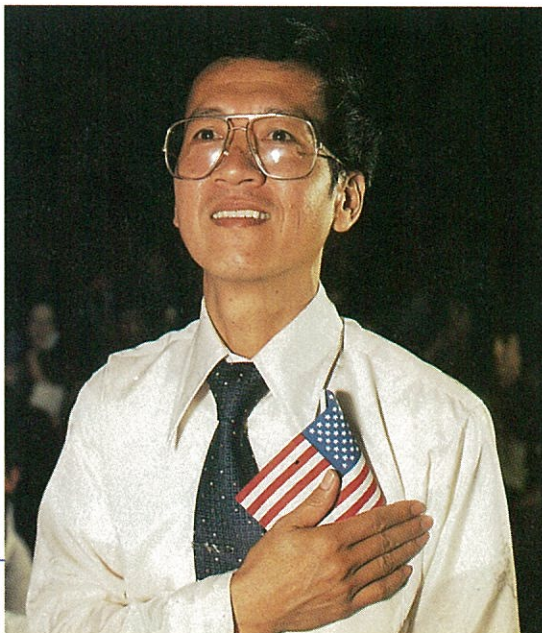
Being a citizen means much more than just living in a country. American citizens who live abroad are still citizens of the United States. Similarly, many foreigners living in this country remain citizens of their own countries.

Being a citizen means being a part of a country or community. Citizens usually share a common history, common customs, and common values. They agree to abide by a set of rules and to accept the government’s authority.

The Purposes of Government

Government, the power or authority that rules a country, is an essential part of every nation and of many communities. It provides the stability that makes many things we take for granted possible. A government makes laws, provides services, and keeps order.

Citizenship A new citizen recites the Pledge of Allegiance for the first time. *What rights do you think a citizen has?*



The Need for Government

To understand why having a government is important, imagine living without one. Without government, how would disagreements between individuals, groups, or nations be settled? Disputes between individuals, for example, might be settled by fighting or arguing. The stronger or smarter person—not necessarily the “right” person—would most likely win. Rules help protect us from others, bring order to our lives, and help us live together peacefully.

Without government, imagine how much more difficult your life would be in other ways. Traveling would be difficult because there would be few roads. Those that did exist would be owned by people who could afford to build them.

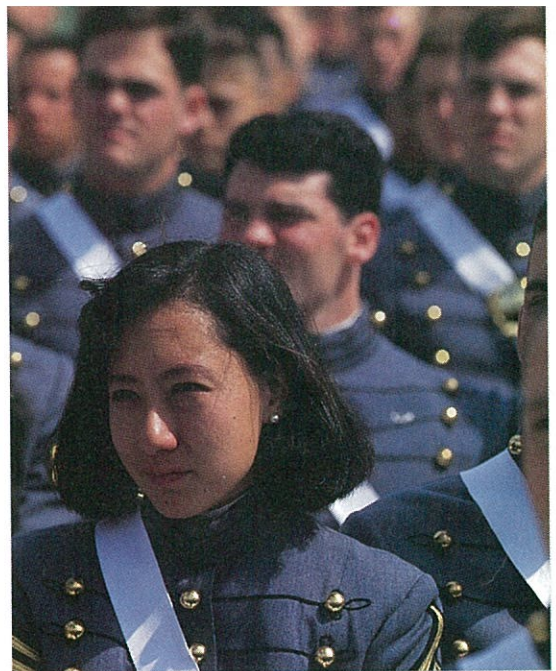
The Earliest Governments

Every society needs rules and some form of government. It is likely that people learned this lesson very early. The earliest writings known—from the ancient Sumerians—show that people had set up formal governments more than 5,000 years ago.

What Governments Do

Ancient governments served much the same purposes that modern governments serve today. The most important purpose of a government is to provide laws, or rules of conduct. These laws help prevent conflicts between individuals, groups, or nations and help settle any conflicts that do occur. By using laws, a government establishes order and provides security for its citizens.

Governments not only make laws, but also make sure that people obey the laws. Almost every country in history,



Roles of Government Training young men and women, like these West Point cadets, to serve in the armed forces is one role of government. *What are some of its other roles?*

for example, has had laws against stealing. When people know they will be punished if they take someone else’s property, they are less likely to steal.

In general, judges and courts, which are a part of government, settle conflicts. If one person accuses another of stealing, but the accused person denies the charge, a court determines who is telling the truth. Then, the judge orders an appropriate punishment, if necessary.

In addition to providing and enforcing laws, governments serve many other purposes. They set up armed services, police forces, and fire departments to protect their citizens. They provide services such as education, health facilities, and road construction that most individuals would not be able to provide for themselves. Governments also plan for the future of their country by setting goals, making budgets, and cooperating with other governments.

Levels of Government

Many levels of government exist, each representing a particular collection of people. Each of the 50 states in the United States has its own government; so do most counties, cities, and towns. The students in your school may have their own student government.

National Government

Although each of these is a government, when most people talk about “the government” they are talking about the *national* government—the government of an entire country. A national government is different from other levels of government in two important ways.

First, a national government has the highest level of authority over its citizens. A city or state government, for example, cannot make any laws that would go against the laws of the national government. The national government, however, has the power to make whatever laws it feels would benefit the country. Second, a national government provides the basic framework for citizenship.

Citizenship

Being a citizen of a nation means that you share a history and a set of beliefs with the rest of the country’s citizens. Americans, for example, share the ideals of individual rights and equality of opportunity. These ideals are expressed in many of our nation’s most important documents, and time and again Americans have fought when necessary to uphold these ideals. The shared beliefs and history are a part of the heritage of all American citizens, whether they were born here or became citizens after settling here.

Dictatorship and Democracy

Nearly 200 countries exist in the world today. Each has its own history and beliefs and its own form of government. In many countries, the power of the national government is in the hands of a very small group of people—or sometimes of just a single person.

A government that one person or a small group of people controls is called a **dictatorship**. The leader or leaders of a dictatorship have complete control over the laws and government of the country, and thus over the lives of its citizens. Often, the citizens are told where to live, what kind of work to do, and what political beliefs to have. They may not be allowed to travel to other countries.

Throughout the ages, there have been many dictatorships. Kings, conquerors, and other powerful leaders have controlled their countries completely and often ruled by force. More than 2,000 years ago in ancient Greece, however, the citizens of the city of Athens established

Dictatorship Adolf Hitler ruled Germany as a dictator from 1933 to 1945. *Why do you think dictators need large armies?*



Careers

Teaching

Have you ever thought about what it is like to be a teacher? A teacher's job is to help students learn about different subjects and learn to think and express themselves clearly. In elementary school, teachers spend all day with the same group of students, teaching them several subjects. In junior high and high school, teachers do just the opposite. They teach the same subject—social studies, for example—to different groups of students all day long. Teachers who work in colleges and universities also specialize in one subject.

Vocational teachers are another type of teacher. They often work for vocational

schools or labor unions, teaching students how to perform a specific skill, such as repairing cars or operating a computer.

Outside Work

Teachers spend a great deal of time working outside the classroom. They prepare lesson plans, grade exams and papers, take courses, and attend meetings. They also confer with parents or help with after-school activities.



Preschool teacher

Qualifications

To become a teacher, you usually must be a college graduate. Many schools also require advanced degrees. You must like young people and have a great deal of patience.



To learn more about teaching as a career, volunteer to serve as a teacher's aide either in your school or in a school nearby. Use your experience to find out what particular training teachers must have.

a different type of government called democracy. In a **democracy**, the citizens hold the power to rule and to make the laws.

Two Kinds of Democracy

The government the ancient Athenians set up was a "direct democracy," in which every adult male citizen participated directly. When laws needed to be made or leaders chosen, the citizens

would meet to debate and vote on every issue.

Because modern countries are generally much larger than ancient Athens, direct democracy is no longer a practical way to run a national government. Instead, in many countries, including the United States, citizens elect representatives to govern on their behalf. In a **representative democracy**, the citizens' representatives carry on the work of government.



Democracy in Action Town meetings in New England give local residents a chance to express their views on community issues. *How else do citizens express their views?*

In large modern nations, a government of elected representatives can work more efficiently than a direct democracy. Nevertheless, the power to govern still comes from the citizens. In a representative democracy, the citizens are the final source of authority.

How Citizens Influence Government

The United States government is one of the oldest democracies in the world. For more than 200 years, the people of the United States have used their power and authority to influence their government. They have done this in various ways.

Each American citizen has the right to elect representatives to the national government, including senators, members of the House of Representatives, a President, and a Vice President. As representatives of the people, these leaders have the responsibility to listen to the opinions of voters, whether expressed in person, by mail, by phone, or through public opinion polls.

Americans also have other ways to make themselves heard and influence their government. By joining a political party, they can help decide who will run for office and help plan for the country's future. By joining with other citizens who share similar viewpoints about a particular issue, they can get the government and other Americans to listen.

Abraham Lincoln, America's sixteenth President, described the United States as a "government of the people, by the people, for the people." Lincoln's words make three important points about American democracy. First, the power of the government comes from the people. Second, the American people themselves, acting through their representatives, run their government. Third, the purpose of the government is to make the United States a better place for the people who live there.

★ SECTION 1 REVIEW ★

UNDERSTANDING VOCABULARY

Define civics, citizen, government, dictatorship, democracy, representative democracy.

REVIEWING OBJECTIVES

- 1 What are the basic purposes of government?
- 2 What are some of the different levels of government?
- 3 What is the difference between a dictatorship and democracy?
- 4 What are two kinds of democracy?
- 5 How can American citizens influence their government?

Exploring

ISSUES

Schenck, Skokie, and Free Speech

Americans generally agree that the limits of free speech must be very broad to ensure liberty and democracy. Situations sometimes arise that test where the courts and the people feel that the boundaries should be.

The Schenck Case

Schenck v. United States (1919) is one of the nation's most famous free speech cases. Charles Schenck was convicted of violating the Espionage Act of 1917 by passing out leaflets to young men urging them to resist the military draft. His attorneys claimed that his conviction was unconstitutional because it violated the free-speech protections of the First Amendment.

In a landmark opinion, the Supreme Court upheld Schenck's conviction. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes said that the leaflets posed a "clear and present danger" of causing a criminal action (draft resistance).

The Skokie Case

The Skokie case began in 1976 when a small neo-Nazi organization, the National Socialist Party of America (NSPA), was not allowed to hold a rally in Chicago. The group, which preached hatred of Jews and other groups, decided to hold its rally in Skokie, a Chicago suburb with a large Jewish population that included survivors of the Nazi Holocaust.

The idea of neo-Nazis parading caused a furor in Skokie. The town passed laws



Protest rally

banning military uniforms, "symbols offensive to the community," and literature containing false charges against any group. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), a legal organization that defends constitutional rights, supported the right of the neo-Nazis to exercise free speech, no matter how offensive their message.

The courts decided in favor of the NSPA, ruling that Skokie's laws were unconstitutional violations of free speech. Although it won the right to parade, the NSPA decided to hold its rally elsewhere.

DEVELOPING A POINT OF VIEW

- 1** How were the Schenck and Skokie cases different?
- 2** Do you think the ACLU was right to defend the neo-Nazis? Why or why not?



We the People

FOCUS

TERMS TO KNOW

alien, immigrant, deport, naturalization

OBJECTIVES

- List ways in which people can become United States **citizens by birth**.
- Compare the status and rights of **illegal and legal aliens**.
- Describe the process of **naturalization**.

The Constitution of the United States, the document that set up the government we have today, begins with the phrase “We, the people.” With those words, the people of the original 13 American states took on the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

In 1787, the year the Constitution was signed, there were fewer than 4 million people in the United States. By 1800—less than 13 years later—there were already 4 new states, and the population of the country was well over 5 million. This remarkable growth has continued ever since. Today, our 50 states contain about 265 million people.

Which of these people are United States citizens? How can someone who is not a citizen become one? These have been important questions throughout the nation’s history. The answers have af-

ected the way our country is today and will also affect our future.

Established customs—unwritten rules all nations observe—have determined some of the answers. Others have come from specific laws. Although the answers have changed over the years, the essential question—Who is a citizen?—remains important. United States citizenship is a prize that many seek, but only a few receive.

Citizens by Birth

With very few exceptions, anyone born within the borders of the United States automatically becomes an American citizen. For purposes of citizenship, “the United States” includes not only the 50 states and the District of Columbia, but also American territories such as Guam and Puerto Rico.

If citizens of another country give birth to a child while they are in the United States, that child is considered a citizen. (The citizenship of the parent does not change, however.)

An exception to this rule is made for children born to official representatives

Legal Aliens Legal aliens must live in the United States for a certain period of time before they can apply for citizenship. *What is the first step for immigrants who want to settle here?*





Diversity The people of the United States come from many different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. *How do you think this has influenced our country?*

of a foreign government living in the United States. Those children are considered citizens of their parents' country, even though they are born in the United States.

A child whose parents are both United States citizens is automatically a United States citizen, wherever he or she is born. The issue is more complicated, however, if only one parent is a United States citizen and the child is born outside the United States. Such children are usually considered citizens of the country where they were born. A child in this situation is said to have *dual citizenship*—citizenship in two countries.

Illegal and Legal Aliens

Many people in the United States have come here from other countries. Those who have not become citizens are referred to as **aliens**, or noncitizens.

Some aliens come to the United States for a short period of time, perhaps

as tourists or students. Some aliens, however, come to the United States with the intention of living here permanently. These people, known as **immigrants**, must apply to the United States government for permission to settle in this country.

Restrictions on Immigrants

The United States government restricts the number of immigrants who can enter the country each year. Millions of people apply, but only a few hundred thousand are granted permission to immigrate. People who fall into special categories—for example, relatives of United States citizens or people with special talents and job skills—receive preference.

The Legal Immigration Revision Act of 1990 made major changes in immigration policy. The law increased the number of immigrants allowed to enter the United States each year. It granted special consideration to people with needed



Ellis Island Wave after wave of immigrants to this country came through Ellis Island in New York harbor in the early 1900s. *What rights do legal aliens have?*

job skills or with money to invest in our economy. It increased the number of people allowed to immigrate from Europe and from nations that were disadvantaged under past laws. It also eased restrictions that were based on political beliefs.

Illegal Aliens

Despite government restrictions, a large number of aliens are living in this country illegally. Some are people who were refused permission to immigrate; others never applied for permission because they knew they would be turned down.

These illegal aliens come to the United States in a variety of ways. A few enter the country as temporary visitors, but then fail to leave. Others risk capture and arrest by sneaking across the borders of the United States. Although no one knows exactly how many illegal aliens there are in this country, some experts be-

lieve the number may be as high as 10 million.

Illegal aliens often have a difficult time in the United States. Many have no friends or family here, no place to live, and no sure way to earn money. It is against the law to hire illegal aliens. For all of them, even those with family or friends, each day is spent fearing that government officials will discover them. Any aliens found to be here illegally are **deported**, or sent back to their own country.

Legal Aliens

Aliens who have entered the United States legally have a much easier time. Their lives, in fact, are not very different from the lives of United States citizens. Legal aliens may hold jobs, own property, attend school, and travel throughout the United States. They must obey the laws of the United States and pay taxes, just as United States citizens must.

American Profiles

Carl Schurz: An Immigrant Patriot

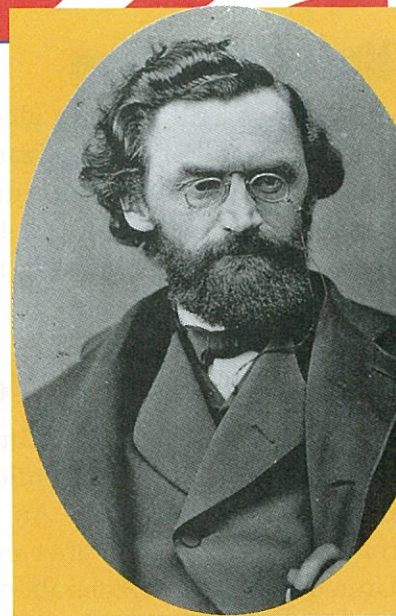
Carl Schurz came to the United States from Germany in 1852. Like many immigrants, he quickly learned English and became an American citizen.

Schurz became a United States senator, a secretary of the interior, and a journalist. In all he did, Schurz was ahead of his time, and his ideas helped shape American political thought.

Soon after coming to America, Schurz took up the antislavery cause. While reporting on conditions after the Civil War, he advocated giving formerly enslaved persons the right to vote.

As a senator, and later as a journalist, he was always a tireless crusader against political corruption. As secretary of the interior, he worked for better treatment for Native Americans. He also hired and promoted employees on the basis of merit long before civil service reform, and he favored the creation of a national park system to protect federal lands.

Schurz's courage and vision place him in the front ranks of immigrants who helped make this country great.



PROFILE REVIEW

- 1 What government posts did Schurz hold? What were some contributions he made while serving in them?
- 2 Identify at least two other immigrants to the United States, and describe their contributions to American life.

There are, however, some things that aliens are not permitted to do. They may not vote in any political elections or run for political office. They may not work in most government jobs. The laws of some states also prohibit them from working in certain jobs such as public school teaching. Unlike United States citizens,

aliens must carry identification cards at all times.

Some immigrants to the United States live their entire lives here as aliens, remaining citizens of their homeland. Others, however, decide to change their citizenship and become United States citizens.

Naturalization

The process by which aliens become citizens is called **naturalization**. It involves several years and many steps. Aliens who have entered the United States legally may become naturalized citizens.

Beginning Naturalization

The first step toward naturalization is to file a Declaration of Intention with the immigration authorities. An immigrant may do this any time after entering the United States. The Declaration states that the immigrant intends to become a United States citizen.

Most immigrants must live in the United States for five years before they can take the next step toward naturaliza-

tion. (There are exceptions to this rule; for example, those who are married to United States citizens must wait only three years.) During this time, many immigrants take special classes to prepare for citizenship. They study the English language, American history, and civics. To become citizens, they must demonstrate basic knowledge in all three areas.

After the waiting period, an immigrant may file an application for naturalization. Applicants must be at least 18 years old. A government agency called the Immigration and Naturalization Service reviews this application to make sure the information on it is true and complete. This review process often takes several months.

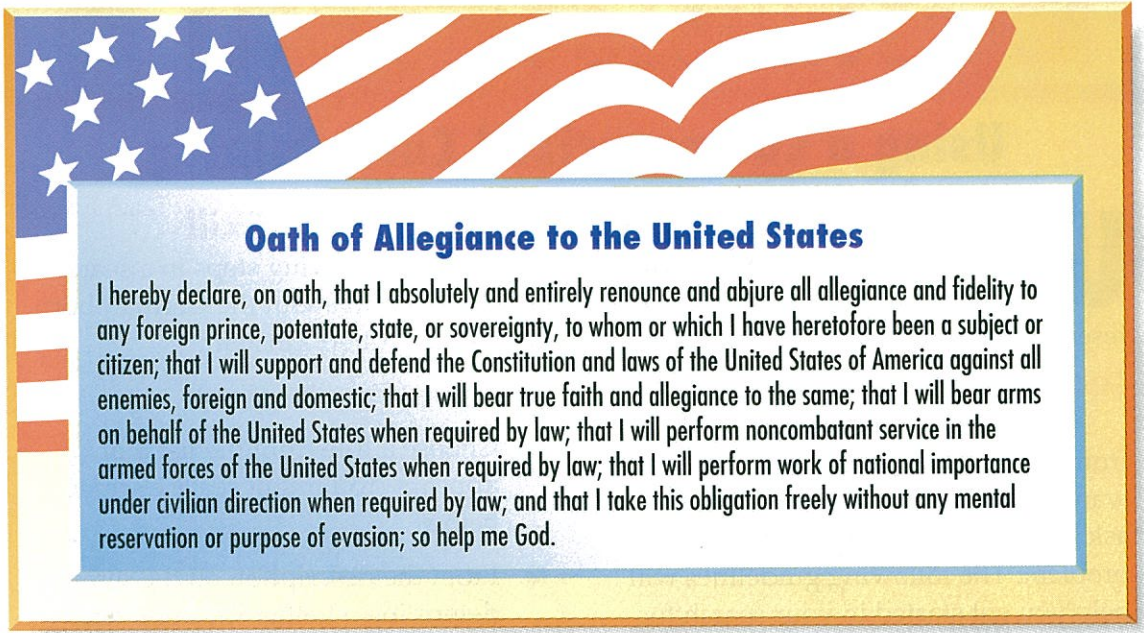
The Final Steps

If the application is approved, the immigrant will be given an appointment to meet with an immigration examiner. The examiner's job is to decide whether the immigrant is qualified to become a United States citizen. The examiner determines this by asking a series of questions about American history, American government, and his or her reasons for wanting to become an American citizen. The immigrant must answer these questions correctly, in simple English.

If the examiner is satisfied that the immigrant is ready to become a citizen, the final step is a brief court appearance. In court, the immigrant is asked to take an oath of loyalty to the United States. After taking the oath, the immigrant is officially declared a United States citizen, with all the rights and responsibilities that go along with citizenship. If the immigrant has children under 18, those children automatically become naturalized citizens as well.

Learning English Many immigrants to the United States attend English classes. *What does learning English suggest about an immigrant's interest in this country?*





Oath of Allegiance to the United States

I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, to whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by law; that I will perform noncombatant service in the armed forces of the United States when required by law; that I will perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by law; and that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; so help me God.

Citizenship Oath All citizenship applicants must take the citizenship oath.
What step in the naturalization process comes just before taking the citizenship oath?

Loss of Citizenship

American citizens, whether by birth or by naturalization, are United States citizens for life. Even if they move to another country, they remain citizens of the United States.

Virtually the only way to lose United States citizenship is to become a naturalized citizen of another country. This is because the United States does not want its citizens to divide their loyalty between two governments. (An exception is made for those who were born into dual citizenship, since they were not given a choice.)

In the past, people sometimes lost their citizenship for other reasons, such as threatening to overthrow the United States government or serving in the armed forces of a foreign country. Later court decisions cast a doubt on the legality of taking away citizenship for reasons like these. Therefore, no matter what

crimes they commit, or how disloyal they may seem to be, most United States citizens can count on keeping their citizenship forever.

★ SECTION 2 REVIEW ★

UNDERSTANDING VOCABULARY

Define alien, immigrant, deport, naturalization.

REVIEWING OBJECTIVES

- 1 In what ways can a person become a United States citizen by birth?
- 2 What differences are there between legal and illegal aliens?
- 3 What steps are involved in the process of naturalization?



Using a Computerized Card Catalog

Using a computerized card catalog makes it easy to find any information you need for a term paper or research project.

Learning the Skill

Computerized card catalogs vary from library to library, so you may want to look for specific directions or ask the librarian for help if you have a problem. The following guidelines will help you get started in your search for information.

Using the Catalog Type in the subject you want to research or the name of an author whose work might be helpful to you. If you are looking for a specific book you may enter the title.

Suppose you want to find information about American citizenship. You could search by entering **s** (for **subject**)/citizenship, American.

What You Will See First, you will see a list of titles. Select one of these, and a "card" will appear on the screen. This shows important information about the book.

Practicing the Skill

Use the following steps in a search for information about the German-born immigrant Albert Einstein:

- Type **s**/Einstein, Albert
- Choose a title from the list that appears. You might see the screen below.
- From the description on the screen, determine whether the book will give you the information you need, and then determine the book's availability.
- Remember to follow the directions at the bottom of the screen. These will enable you to change screens or find additional information about the book.

APPLYING THE SKILL

Using a computerized card catalog, compile a list of 10 sources you might use to write an essay about Albert Einstein.

CALL NO:	B. EINSTEIN, ALBERT
AUTHOR:	Highfield, Roger.
MAIN TITLE:	The Private Lives of Albert Einstein/Roger Highfield and Paul Carter.
PUBLISHER:	New York: St. Martin's Press, 1994

LOCATION	STATUS	UNITS
1. ADULT BIOGRAPHY	Available	
PSPrevious screen /HELP.....General help	CALonger description HELPAbout this screenAny command



Who Are Americans?

FOCUS

TERMS TO KNOW

census, quota, refugee, migration

OBJECTIVES

- Discuss **changes in immigration** from the 1500s to the present.
- Identify reasons for the rapid **growth of United States population.**
- Describe **shifts in American population.**

One of the duties of the United States government, as specified in the Constitution, is to keep an accurate count of the people living here. This includes both citizens and noncitizens. To do this, the government set up a process for counting population called the **census**. The government agency that does this job is called the Census Bureau. Since the first United States census, taken in 1790, the Census Bureau has counted the nation's population every 10 years.

From the very beginning, the government's census takers have done more than simply count people. They have also asked a variety of questions—in person or by mail—to get more information about the people who make up our country. These questions are concerned with people's place of residence, their work,

their income, and many other things. After reviewing the answers to these questions, the Census Bureau can provide a snapshot—a group portrait—of what America looks like every 10 years. Not surprisingly, the portrait has gone through many changes.

Changes in Immigration

The Latin phrase *E pluribus unum* is found on the backs of all American coins. The meaning of this phrase, "Out of many, one," reminds us that the United States is a nation made up of many kinds of people—people with different backgrounds, beliefs, and cultures.

Because of its heritage, the United States is often called "a nation of immigrants." Every American, even those born here, is descended from someone

Early Settlements Towns like Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, sprang up as German immigrants settled in America. *Why is the United States called "a nation of immigrants"?*



who came to this country from somewhere else.

Even the first Americans—the Native Americans—were immigrants. There is evidence that they came to America from Asia many thousands of years ago. They made the journey on foot, traveling over a land bridge between Siberia and Alaska that no longer exists.

Early European Settlers

The first Europeans to settle permanently in North America were from Spain. Throughout the 1500s, the search for gold and riches brought Spanish explorers and adventurers. Spanish influence is still evident in states such as Florida, Texas, and California.

Beginning in the 1600s, people from France and England started to come here. The French settled primarily in Canada, but they also occupied a large area around the Mississippi River. Much later, a group of French settlers moved from Canada to the state of Louisiana, where their language and culture still thrive in the area around New Orleans.

English immigrants settled mainly along the east coast of North America, where their settlements formed the backbone of the original 13 colonies. During the late 1600s and the 1700s, immigrants from Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland, Scotland, and Sweden joined these English settlers.

Other Immigrants

Another group of immigrants who arrived during this time were black Africans. Unlike other immigrant groups, however, these people did not come willingly. Hundreds of thousands of black Africans were forced to come here as slaves. Once here, they lived and

worked on plantations in the present-day southern United States.

By 1776, when the 13 English colonies officially became the United States of America, only 60 percent of the citizens in those states were of English descent. Cultures of many different lands influenced the way these early United States citizens ate, dressed, spoke, and led their lives. Over the next 75 years, as the United States expanded to the west,

DID YOU KNOW?

The First Census

When the United States became a nation in 1787, it was the first government to require that its population be counted every 10 years. The first counting, or census, took place in 1790 and was very difficult.

Although the United States consisted of only 13 states at that time, its people were scattered from what is now Maine to Georgia and as far west as present-day Kentucky. Few roads existed, and people lived far apart. United States marshals were assigned to ride from farm to farm taking the census.

The marshals made many mistakes in their handwritten records and did not find everyone. They did manage to count 3.9 million Americans. The first census cost the nation about \$45,000—or about one cent per person that was counted.



Census taker



Keep the Foreigners Out These wealthy American business leaders do not want to share this land of opportunity with immigrants. *How do you suppose these men came to be Americans?*

the cultures of the continent's earlier inhabitants—Spanish, French, and Native American—entered the mix.

The Great Immigration

As the young nation grew, it became known throughout Europe as a land of promise. Poor and oppressed people from Germany, England, and Ireland flocked to the United States in search of freedom and opportunity. The flood of immigrants grew from 600,000 in the 1830s to more than 2 million in the 1850s. Between 1860 and 1890, more than 10 million Europeans—many of them from Norway, Sweden, and Denmark—came to this country.

In the early days, most Americans had welcomed the new arrivals. There

was plenty of space and much work to be done. By the mid-1800s, however, many Americans began to worry that immigrants were taking away their land and jobs. As a result, in 1882 the United States government passed the first of several laws to restrict immigration.

Despite restrictions, another flood of immigrants began just a few years later. Between 1890 and 1930, about 22 million people entered the United States. Most of them came from central and eastern Europe, from countries such as Greece, Poland, and Russia. This immigration slowed only after the government passed new laws in the 1920s. For the first time, these laws set **quotas**, or numerical limits, on the number of people who could enter the United States each year.

Immigration Today

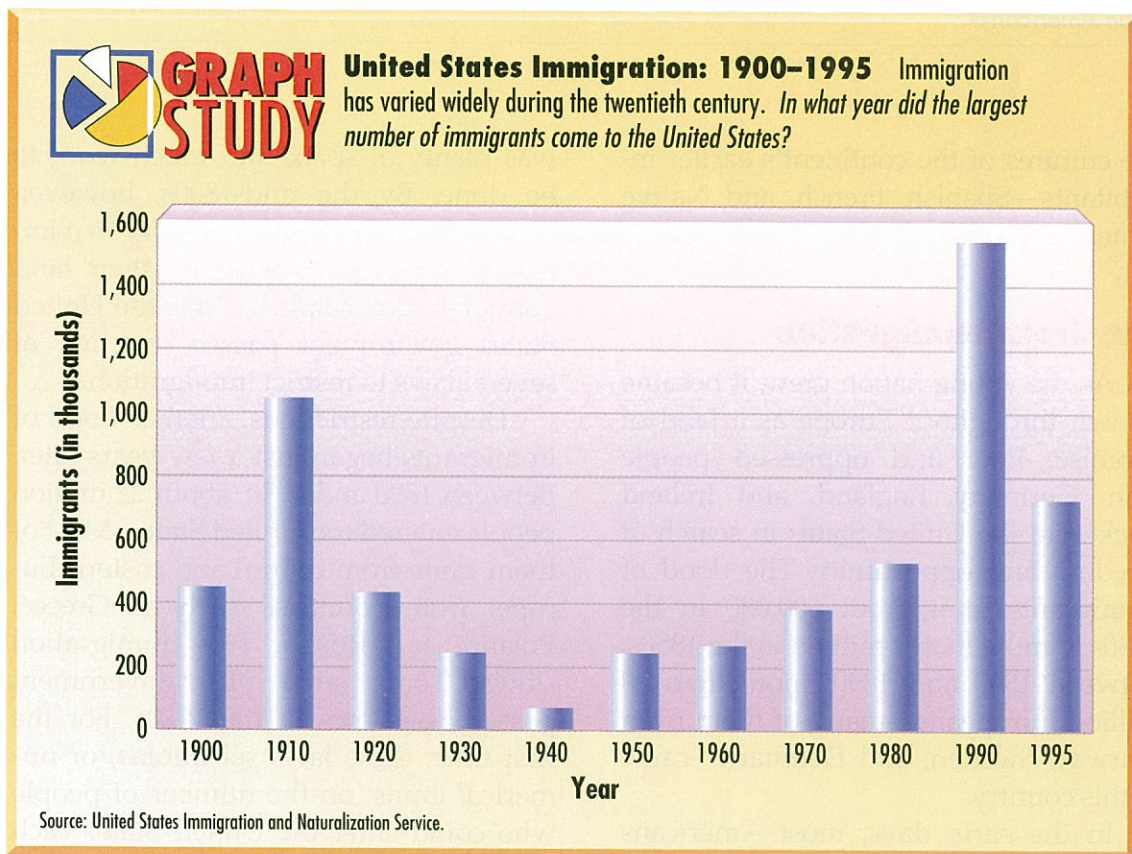
Although immigration laws have changed since the 1920s, the quotas still exist. According to current quotas, only 675,000 immigrants are allowed to enter the United States each year. In most cases, only 27,000 of those people may come from any one country.

The major exception to this rule involves **refugees**—people who have lost their homes because of war, famine, or political oppression. The United States has opened its doors to refugees many times during this century. One large group of refugees has come from Southeast Asia, particularly from Vietnam and Cambodia. More recently, hundreds of thousands of refugees have poured in from the troubled countries of Central America and the Caribbean.

For many years, the United States was referred to as a “melting pot.” This meant a place where people from many backgrounds and cultures blended into a new kind of person—an American. Today, however, most people realize that there is no such thing as a typical American. Americans come in all shapes, colors, and sizes. They hold a variety of views and beliefs, and they all have something special to contribute to the country.

Growth of United States Population

The growth of America’s population was not due entirely to immigration. Even before the first great flood of immigrants began, the number of Americans





Urban Growth In the mid-1800s, Americans began to move from rural areas to cities. *How was this change related to technological advances?*

had increased from nearly 4 million in 1790 to more than 12 million in 1830. Much of this growth was simply the result of Americans having many children.

In the 100 years between 1830 and 1930, the nation's population grew almost 10 times larger, from about 12 million people to about 120 million. Surprisingly, fewer than 40 million of these new Americans were immigrants. Instead, the great leap in population was once again due primarily to a natural increase. Immigrant Americans, like the Americans who were here before them, tended to have large families. With more Americans having large families, the birthrate was high and the population grew rapidly.

One reason for this high birthrate is quite simple: During our country's earlier years, American families needed as

much help as possible to survive. This was especially true on farms, where much of the American population lived. In the days before modern machines and appliances, the work of maintaining a home and family and earning a living was difficult and time-consuming. Children were needed to do household chores, work on family farms, and bring in additional money from outside jobs.

As modern life became more automated, and fewer people lived on farms, having large families became less important. As a result, America's birthrate has dropped steadily throughout the 1900s. From 1930 to 1996, the country's population increased from 123 million to 265 million. Although the population more than doubled in those 66 years, the rate of increase was the slowest in our nation's history.

Shifts in American Population

As the American population has grown, it has also moved around a number of times during our history. The first great shift in population came in the mid-1800s, when Americans began to move from rural areas to cities. The main reason for the move was employment—in the cities, jobs could easily be found in manufacturing, transportation, sales, and services. Also, as cities began to grow, they became exciting centers of art, music, and fashion. For more than 100 years, small towns throughout rural America steadily became smaller as cities became larger.

Shortly after this first shift in population began, another started. Freed from slavery after the Civil War, African

Suburban Growth Population in suburban areas continues to grow as people move away from urban neighborhoods. *What are some other population trends?*



Americans were seeking jobs, respect, and a new way of life. Like many other Americans, they also headed for the cities, most of which were in the North. The result was a **migration**, or mass movement, of African Americans from the South to the North. This migration began in the late 1800s and lasted well into this century.

Shift to the Sunbelt

Another important population shift in the United States began in the 1970s with a migration to the western and southern parts of the country. These regions have grown quite rapidly while most of the older, industrial areas in the North and East have grown more slowly or even lost population. Many people have left the crowded, industrial Northeast for warmer, more spacious parts of the country. States such as Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Georgia, and Florida have grown tremendously. For many years, the state with the largest population was New York. That honor now belongs to California, and Texas is the second largest state.

Urban Shifts

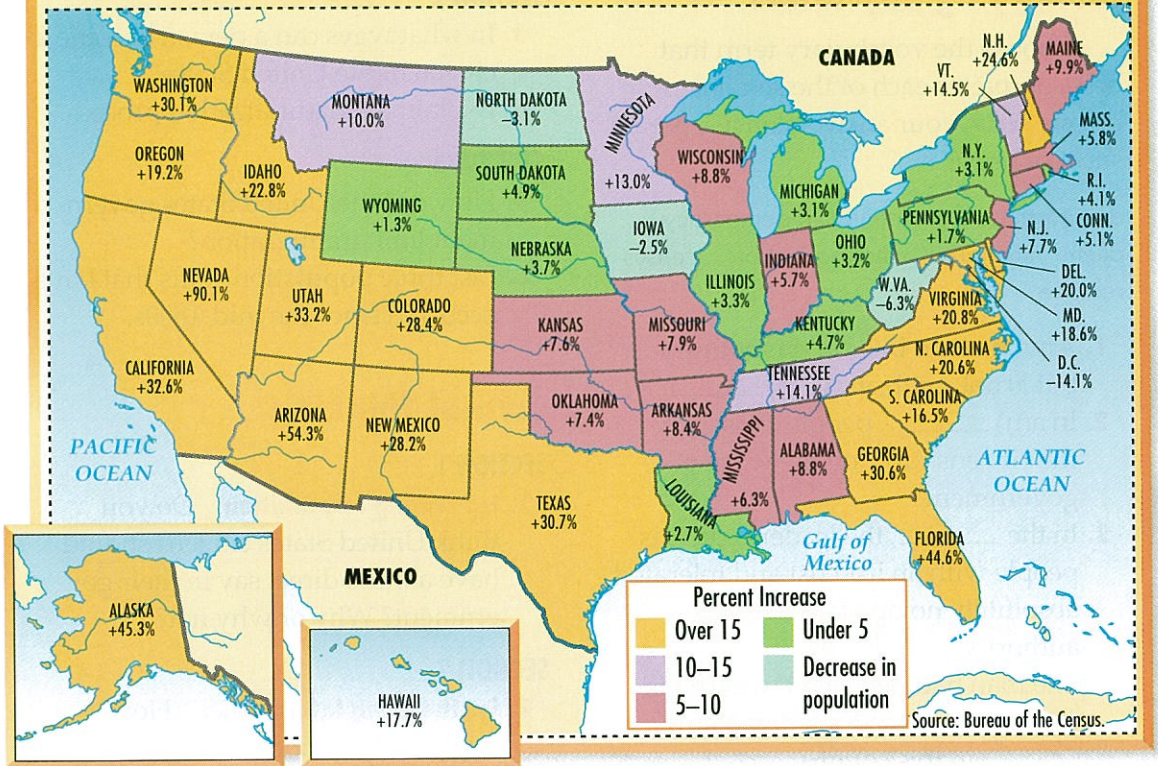
The population of cities has also changed. Some of the nation's older cities have lost population while younger cities have grown. Residential areas of New York, Chicago, Detroit, and other cities of the Northeast or Midwest have deteriorated as a result. In many cities, it is often difficult to find decent housing at affordable prices. For many years, people have been moving from the centers of cities to the surrounding areas, or suburbs. These suburbs, in turn, have spread out in ever-larger rings around the cities. In the Northeast, this suburban growth



MAP STUDY

Population Shifts in the United States, 1980–1995

The map shows how the nation's population centers have shifted in recent years. Which four states have shown the most growth since 1980?



has changed much of the region into a single, large, dense metropolitan—or city and suburbs—area.

the year 2000, Americans will continue to look for new challenges, find new roles, and search for better ways of living.

A Changing Nation

Census Bureau information has revealed other ways in which the nation's population is changing. Because most Americans are living longer than they used to, there are more elderly and retired Americans than ever before. More women are taking jobs outside the home, and women now own 30 percent of all businesses.

The picture we see is of a growing, changing United States. It is a country where people refuse to stand still and where new ideas constantly come into view. As we move toward the census in

★ SECTION 3 REVIEW ★

UNDERSTANDING VOCABULARY

Define census, quota, refugee, migration.

REVIEWING OBJECTIVES

- 1 How has immigration to America changed since the 1500s?
- 2 What were the reasons for the rapid growth of America's population?
- 3 What shifts in United States population have occurred since the 1800s?

Identifying Key Terms

Choose the vocabulary term that best completes each of the sentences below. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

dictatorship representative democracy
alien immigrant naturalization census
refugee

1. Anyone who lives in this country but is not a citizen is a(n) _____.
2. In a(n) _____, people chosen by the citizens carry on the work of government.
3. In the _____, the leader ruled his people with an iron fist and tolerated absolutely no opposition to his authority.
4. The man had fled a civil war in his country and was considered a(n) _____ in this country.
5. The government takes a(n) _____ every 10 years to count the population.
6. Because the woman had arrived in the country legally to become a citizen, she was considered a(n) _____.
7. _____ is the process by which a person not born a citizen can become one.

Reviewing the Main Ideas

SECTION 1

1. Explain why governments are necessary.
2. What is the difference between a direct democracy and a representative democracy?

SECTION 2

3. In what ways can a person become a citizen of the United States?
4. Explain the naturalization process.

SECTION 3

5. How did the United States government limit immigration?
6. List three population shifts that have occurred since the mid-1800s.

Critical Thinking

SECTION 1

1. **Evaluating Information** Do you think United States citizens should have a more direct say in their government? Why or why not?

SECTION 2

2. **Synthesizing Information** How might feelings about citizenship differ among people who are born citizens and others who are naturalized citizens?

SECTION 3

3. **Analyzing Information** The character of the United States is based, in part, on its multicultural heritage. How do you think the country would be different without this heritage?

Reinforcing Citizenship Skills

Find a recent newspaper or magazine photograph that shows immigrants entering this country. Look at the photo carefully. Write a description of what you see and your impressions. Then write a few sentences explaining what you think the photographer was trying to say.

Immigration to the United States

SOURCE	1891–1910	1911–1930	1931–1950	1951–1970	1971–1995
Europe	11,611,392	6,785,081	968,713	2,449,219	2,316,661
Asia	398,405	359,295	53,623	580,891	5,919,221
Latin America	218,323	993,687	236,596	1,922,056	7,676,322
Africa	7,718	14,729	9,117	43,046	410,621
Canada	182,537	1,666,700	278,245	791,262	405,177

Source: United States Immigration and Naturalization Service.

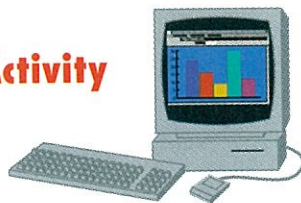
Focusing on Your Community

Investigate the different groups of people in your community. What immigrant groups originally settled there? How has the character of the population changed over the years? Have there been any significant population shifts? Interview some elderly citizens about the changes they have observed in the community. Prepare an informal report for your class on the character of your community and how it has changed.

Technology Activity

Using the Internet

Search the Internet to find the home page for the Immigration and Naturalization Service. You may want to use the following key words to focus your search: **immigration, naturalization, citizenship**. Once you reach the home page, search through the sites referenced to find the most recent statistics on immigration to the United States. List the five countries that sent the most immigrants to the United States and the number each sent.



Cooperative Learning

In groups of four, find out the location of the nearest immigration office. Call the office and ask for information on becoming a naturalized citizen. Try to find out what types of questions an immigrant will be asked during the application and interview processes. If possible, ask a naturalized citizen to speak to your class about his or her experiences in becoming a United States citizen.

Analyzing Visuals

Immigration to this country has changed a great deal during the nation's history. The table above shows the numbers of immigrants who have come from Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas in the past 100 years. Use this table to help you answer the following questions.

1. Which immigrant groups have declined since 1970?
2. Which immigrant groups have grown in size since 1970?
3. During which period did the largest number of immigrants come to the United States?

Roots of American Democracy

CIVIC PARTICIPATION

When this nation's Founders met in Philadelphia to establish a new government, they drew inspiration from ancient Greece and Rome and from the democratic institutions of Great Britain. Using these ideas and others, they created a democracy well suited to the needs of generations of Americans. Contact a local historical society to learn about your

community's history. Collect information about its founders, charter, and history.

Working in Your Community

Interview people in your neighborhood to learn about their roots in the community. Find out when their families first settled there. Write a history of the community, and give a copy of it to the historical society. ■

Your Civics Journal

Imagine that you are living in the 1770s on the eve of the American Revolution. Record your observations and feelings about such events as the writing of the Declaration of Independence. Include your feelings about independence and how people opposed to it might feel.

