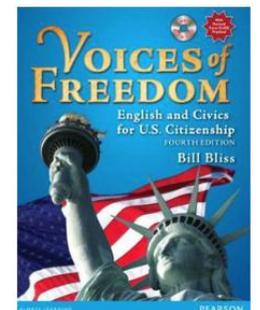


# Passing the Updated Citizenship Test



# The US Citizenship Test

- Speaking/listening (the interview)
- Literacy
- Civics (128 questions)



# The Civics Test

- oral Q and A format retained
- 128 study questions
- 12 out of 20 correct answers needed to pass
- same history & government topics (no more geography)
- more advanced language and concepts



## 128 Civics Questions and Answers (2020 version)

### Important Updates to the Naturalization Test

USCIS has revised the civics portion of the naturalization test. All applicants for naturalization with a filing date on or after December 1, 2020, will be required to take the 2020 version of the civics test.

The naturalization test has two components:

- English
- Civics

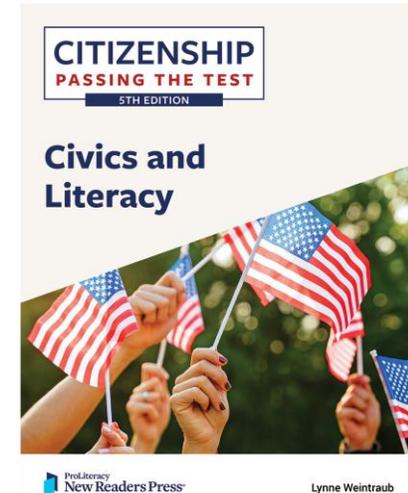
The English portion has not changed.

For more information about the 2020 version of the civics test, visit [uscis.gov/citizenship/2020test](https://uscis.gov/citizenship/2020test).

Listed below are the 128 civics questions and answers for the 2020 version of the civics test. These questions cover important topics about American government and history. The civics test is an oral test and the USCIS officer will ask you to answer 20 out of the 128 civics test questions. You must answer at least 12 questions (or 60%) correctly to pass the 2020 version of the civics test.

On the civics test, some answers may change because of elections or appointments. Visit [uscis.gov/citizenship/testupdates](https://uscis.gov/citizenship/testupdates) to find any answers that may have changed on the civics test. You must answer the question with the name of the official serving at the time of your naturalization interview.

Although USCIS is aware that there may be additional correct answers to the civics questions, applicants are encouraged to respond to the questions using the answers provided below.



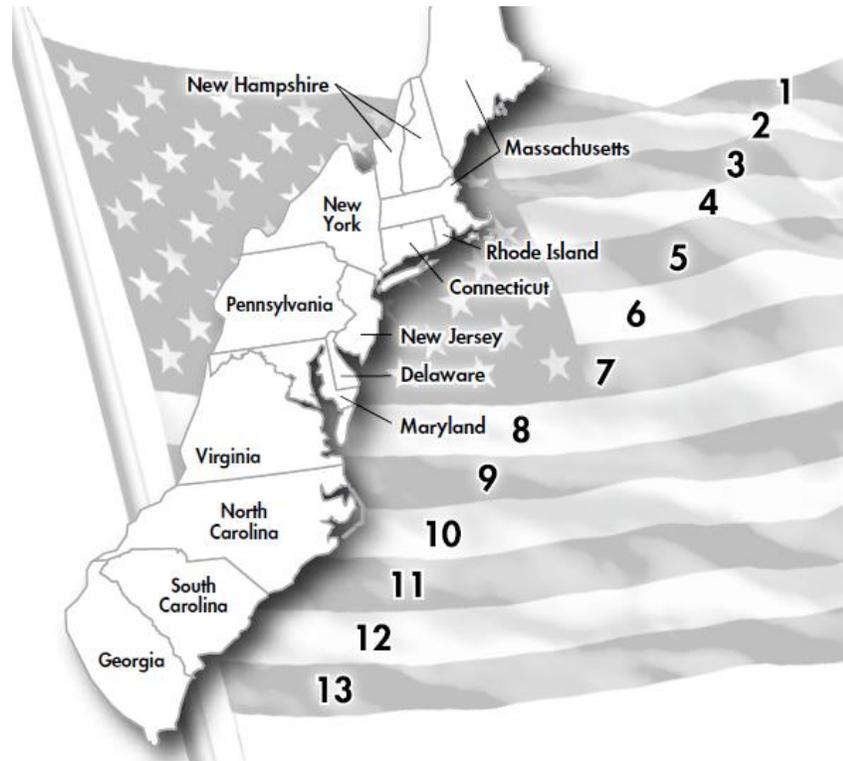
Understand  
and  
remember



Rote  
memorization



# Limit Content



The cover of the 'Learn About the United States Quick Civics Lessons for the Naturalization Test' booklet. The top half features a photograph of the Statue of Liberty's head and crown, with the text 'IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776' and 'DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE' visible. Below the photograph is a red banner with the title 'Learn About the United States Quick Civics Lessons for the Naturalization Test' in white text. At the bottom left is the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services logo, and at the bottom right is the text 'U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' and 'M-100 (Rev. 12/09)'.

## LEARN ABOUT THE UNITED STATES

With the words "We the People," the Constitution states that the people set up the government. The government works for the people and protects the rights of people. In the United States, the power to govern comes from the people, who are the highest power. This is called "popular sovereignty." The people elect representatives to make laws.

### 4. What is an amendment?

- ★ a change (to the Constitution)
- ★ an addition (to the Constitution)

An amendment is a change or addition to the Constitution. The Framers of the Constitution knew that laws can change as a country grows. They did not want to make it too easy to modify the Constitution, the supreme law of the land. The Framers did not want the Constitution to lose its meaning. For this reason, the Framers decided that Congress could pass amendments in only two ways: by a two-thirds vote in the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives or by a special convention. A special convention has to be requested by two-thirds of the states. After an amendment has passed in Congress or by a special convention, the amendment must then be ratified (accepted) by the legislatures of three-fourths of the states. The amendment can also be ratified by a special convention in three-fourths of the states. Not all proposed amendments are ratified. Six times in U.S. history, amendments have passed in Congress but were not approved by enough states to be ratified.

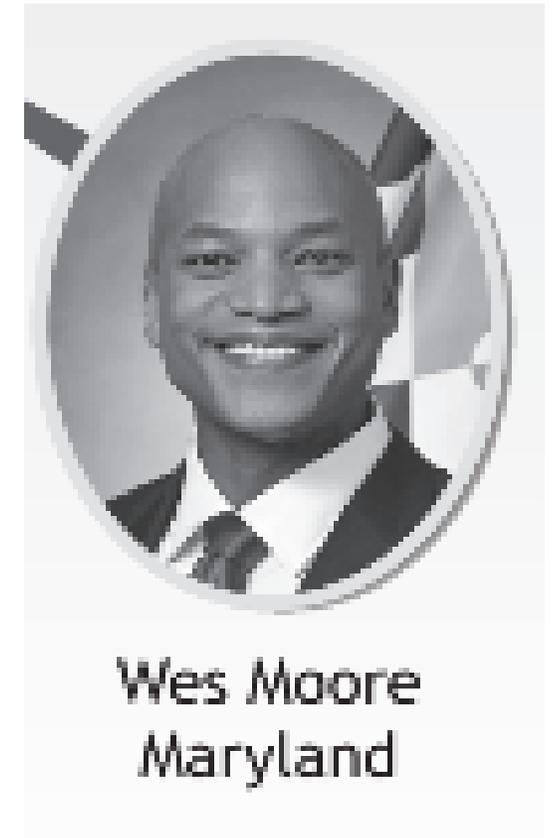
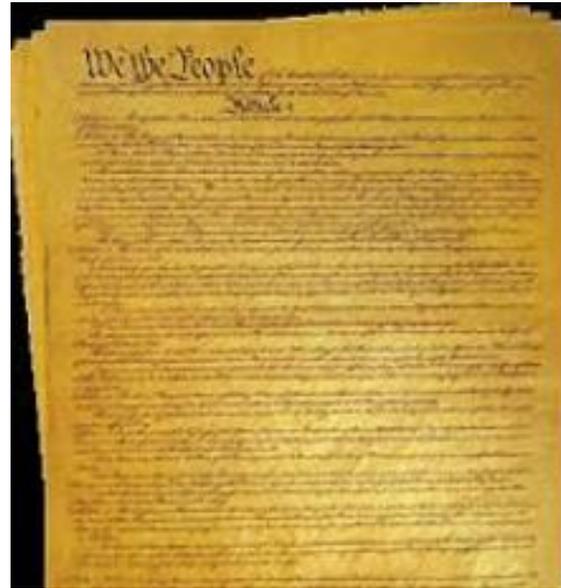
### 5. What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution?

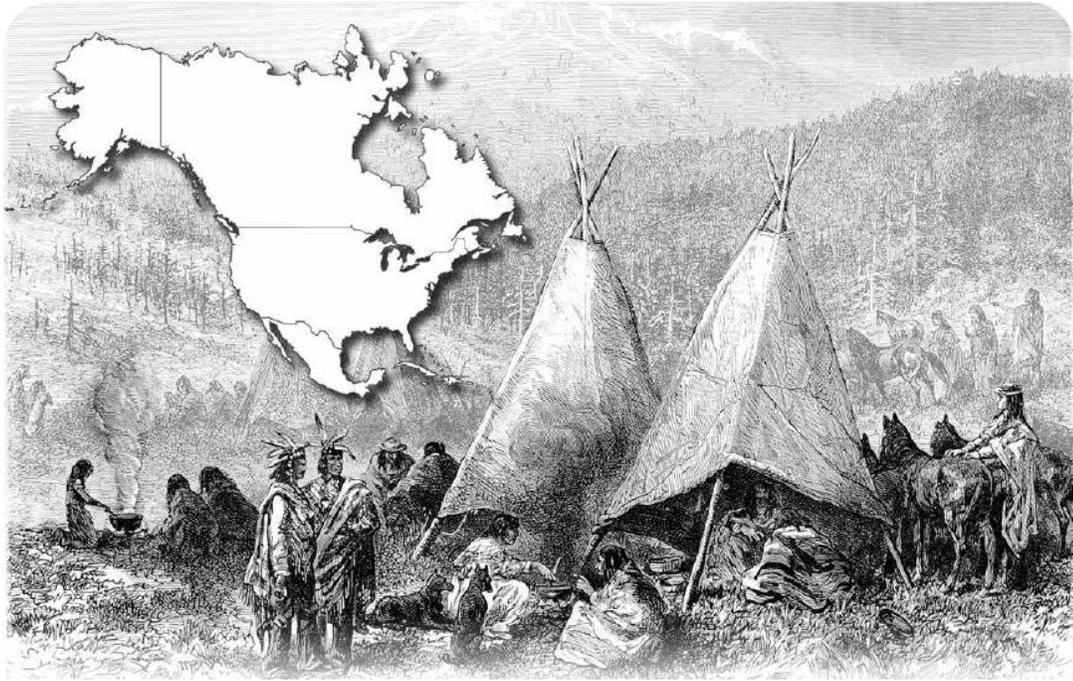
- ★ the Bill of Rights

The Bill of Rights is the first 10 amendments to the Constitution. When the Framers wrote the Constitution, they did not focus on individual rights. They focused on creating the system and structure

# Supporting comprehension:

images and replicas

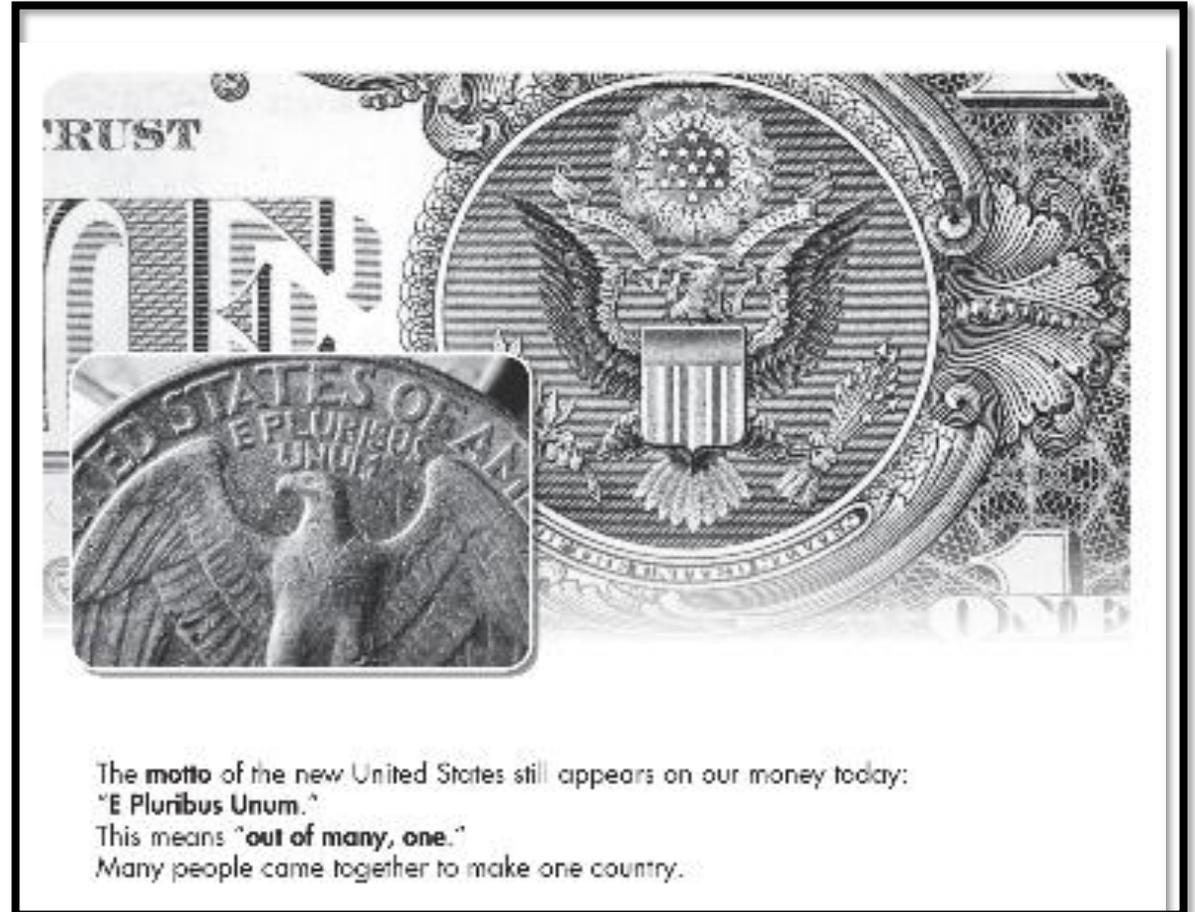




# Supporting comprehension: Draw connections to students' lives



## Drawing connections to students' lives



The **motto** of the new United States still appears on our money today:  
"E Pluribus Unum."  
This means "**out of many, one.**"  
Many people came together to make one country.

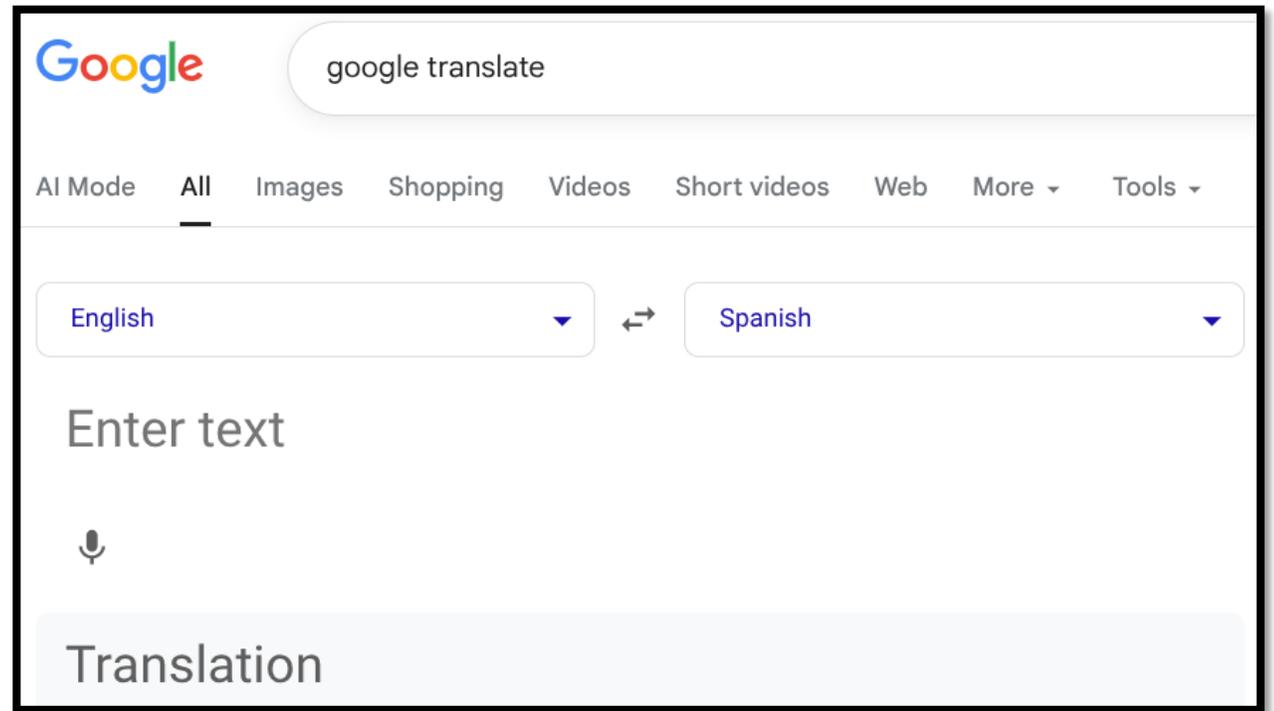


# Supporting comprehension: stories and examples



# Supporting comprehension:

Facilitate translation



Understand  
and  
remember



Rote  
memorization



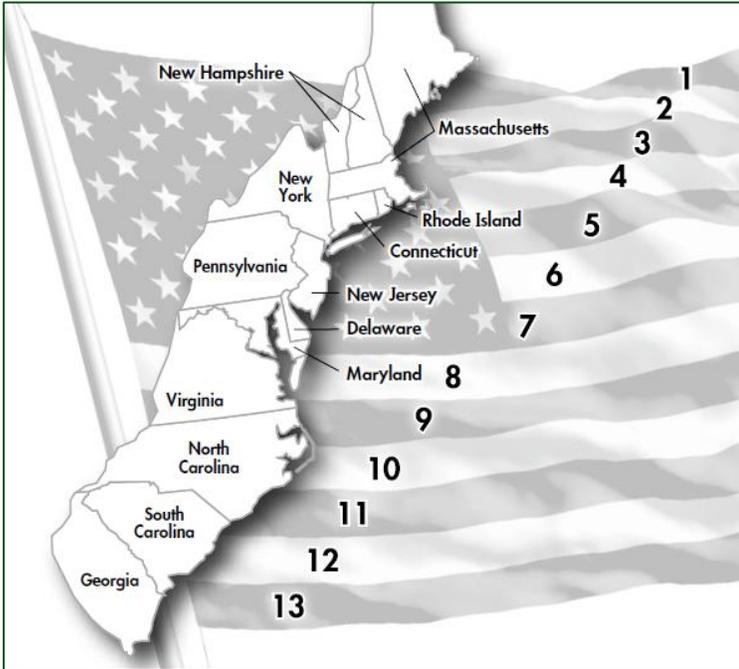
A B C D E F G

## Musical mnemonics

### Brain Engagement & Pathways

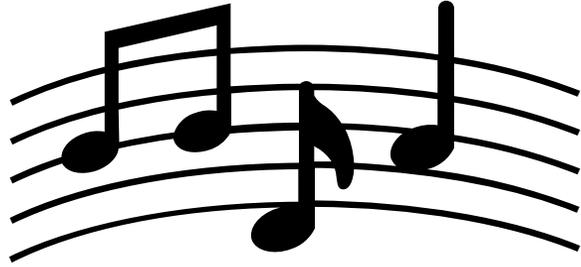
- Dual Coding
- Multi-Sensory
- repetition





## Have you used songs to teach citizenship?

Put an example of a song you've sung with your students in the chat.



- Use cue cards or write words on board
- Sing slow the first time
- Repeat at moderate speed
- Don't worry about who's singing along and who's not
- Let students take the words home





What amendment says all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are U.S. citizens?



What amendment says **all persons** born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are U.S. citizens?

**if you hear:**  
**...all persons...**

**say:**  
**14<sup>th</sup> amendment**

## When did all men get the right to vote?

- After the Civil War
- During Reconstruction
- (With the) 15th Amendment
- 1870

## When did all women get the right to vote?

- 1920
- After World War I
- (With the) 19th Amendment

## The President of the United States can serve only two terms. Why?

- (Because of) the 22nd Amendment
- To keep the president from becoming too powerful



**if you hear:**

...all persons  
men...right to vote  
women...right to vote  
(president) **two** terms

**say:**

14<sup>th</sup> amendment  
15<sup>th</sup> amendment  
19th amendment  
**22<sup>nd</sup>** amendment

**Dwight Eisenhower is famous for many things. Name one.**

- General during World War II
- President at the end of (during) the Korean War
- 34th president of the United States
- Signed the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956

Dwight **Eisenhower** is famous for many things. Name one.

- General during World War II
- President at the end of (during) the Korean War
- **34th president** ~~of the United States~~
- Signed the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956

## if you hear:

- George Washington
- [Adams]
- Jefferson
- Madison
- Lincoln
- Eisenhower

## say:

- 1<sup>st</sup> president
- [2<sup>nd</sup> president]
- 3<sup>rd</sup> president
- 4<sup>th</sup> president
- 16<sup>th</sup> president
- 34<sup>th</sup> president

**During the Cold War, what was one main concern of the United States?**

- Communism

**Why did the United States enter the Korean War?**

- To stop the spread of Communism

**Why did the United States enter the Vietnam War?**

- To stop the spread of Communism

**Who is Commander in Chief of the U.S. military?**

**Who signs bills to become laws?**

**Who vetoes bills?**

**Who appoints federal judges?**

**The executive branch has many parts. Name one.**

**Name one war fought by the US in the 1800s.**

**Name the U.S. war between the North and the South.**

**What U.S. war ended slavery?**

**What founding document said the American colonies were free from Britain?**

**The words "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness" are in what founding document?**

**Many documents influenced the U.S. Constitution. Name one.**

## **Name one leader of the women's rights movement in the 1800s.**

- Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- Susan B. Anthony
- Sojourner Truth
- Harriet Tubman
- Lucretia Mott
- Lucy Stone

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- Harriet Tubman
- Lucretia Mott
- **Lucy Stone**

## When did the Great Depression start?

- The Great Crash (1929)
  - Stock market crash of **1929**
- 

**Alexander Hamilton is famous for many things. Name one.**

- One of the writers of the Federalist Papers

## What is Veteran's Day?

- A holiday to honor (soldiers) people in military service

## What is Memorial Day?

- A holiday to honor soldiers who died in military service

## What did the civil rights movement do?

- Fought to end racial discrimination



*“An alien passes the civics test if he or she provides a correct answer or provides an alternative phrasing of the correct answer for at least 12 out of the 20 questions.”*

# 8 Tricks

To help students say and remember multisyllable vocabulary

Why does each state have two senators?

- Equal **representation**

1. Write it

rep·re·sen·ta·tion

2. Model it

rep ree zen tay shun

3. Coach it

 SAY IT: rep ree zen **tay** shun

4. Accent it



5. Reverse it

(backward build-up)



6. Count it out



7. Chant it

8. Check it



- To more closely follow public opinion  
(Why do U.S. representatives serve shorter terms than U.S. senators?)
- Powers not given to the federal government belong to the states or the people. (What is the purpose of the 10th Amendment?)
- They helped people understand the US Constitution.  
(Why were the Federalist Papers important?)

1. Teach any challenging words using the “8 tricks”
2. Model the chant slowly, clapping as you speak (with or without text)
3. Encourage students to chant with you at least 5 times
4. (Remove text and encourage students to chant without it)
5. Stop chanting and call on individual students to answer the test question

# Teacher Resources:

[citizenshipnews.us](http://citizenshipnews.us)



## ECHO for Citizenship Educators

Citizenship

Civics And Government

English And Reading Education

Educational Leadership

English As A Second Language

# Passing the Updated Citizenship Test

