

# Additional Citizenship Resources List

This resource list contains additional materials that may be of use to citizenship teachers and tutors. The list is organized into the following categories:

- I. **USCIS Resources**
- II. **Citizenship Resources**
- III. **U.S. History and Government Resources**
- IV. **Tools for Creating Classroom Materials**
- V. **Citizenship Textbooks**

**Note:** The resources provided in this Additional Citizenship Resources List are meant to serve as a resource for educators. This listing does not constitute U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services or U.S. Department of Education/Office of Vocational and Adult Education endorsement of the content of these Web sites or of their respective policies or products.

## I. USCIS Resources

---

### **USCIS Web site**

This is the official site for USCIS. It contains a vast amount of information including services and benefits, immigration forms, laws and regulations, educational resources, and more. Check it often as the information on it is frequently updated.

[www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)

### ***A Guide to Naturalization***

*A Guide to Naturalization*, Form M-476, is an excellent resource for understanding the naturalization process. It contains information about who is eligible for citizenship as well as detailed information on the steps in the naturalization process. Of particular note is the section explaining the exemptions to being tested in English, based on age and time as a permanent resident as well as the exemptions for both the English and civics requirements based on medical conditions. The publication also includes frequently asked questions and a glossary.

[www.uscis.gov/natzguide](http://www.uscis.gov/natzguide)

### ***A Promise of Freedom: An Introduction to U.S. History and Civics for Immigrants***

This 12 minute DVD shows the importance of immigration to the United States as well as the rights and responsibilities of new citizens. It is available for purchase through the Government Printing Office or it can play from the USCIS Web site. Also at the Web site is a discussion booklet and a teaching guide to help teachers use this presentation in their classes.

[www.uscis.gov/civicsmultimedia](http://www.uscis.gov/civicsmultimedia)

### ***Becoming a U.S. Citizen: An Overview of the Naturalization Process***

This 10 minute flash presentation on a CD-Rom provides a basic overview of naturalizing including the requirements and steps involved. It is available for purchase through the Government Printing Office or it can play from the USCIS Web site.

[www.uscis.gov/civicsmultimedia](http://www.uscis.gov/civicsmultimedia)

### **Civics Flash Cards for the New Naturalization Test**

These USCIS flashcards are a big hit among teachers and students alike. The full-color cards show the question, answer, and a picture for each of the 100 Civics Questions. Educators and students can print the cards out from the USCIS Web site and then cut and fold them to make their own set. Alternatively, they can purchase sets from the U.S. Government Bookstore. Flashcard sets are sold individually or in packs of ten.

<http://www.uscis.gov/civicsflashcards>

<http://bookstore.gpo.gov/>

### **U.S. Civics and Citizenship Online**

This page has links to many other agencies and organizations that are of interest to civics and citizenship teachers. It also has a collection of web resources on teaching citizenship.

[www.uscis.gov/civicsonline](http://www.uscis.gov/civicsonline)

### ***Welcome to the United States: A Guide for New Immigrants***

This guide has a great deal of useful information for both teachers and students alike. It explains many features of living in the United States to new immigrants. It is available in 12 languages and can be downloaded and printed from the USCIS Web site.

[www.uscis.gov/newimmigrants](http://www.uscis.gov/newimmigrants)

## **II. Citizenship Resources**

---

### ***Citizenship Educators Orientation Packet***

This packet, from the Adult Learning Resource Center, contains information, resources, and activities for citizenship teachers. Materials are organized around the three main components of the USCIS test: the 100 Civics Questions, the Reading & Writing tests, and the Application for Naturalization, Form N-400.

<http://www.thecenterweb.org/alrc/citizenship-pub.html#new>

### **Online Mock Interview Video**

This mock interview is the third installment of a series called Applying for U.S. Citizenship created by the Jewish Family and Vocational Services of Middlesex County, New Jersey. It shows actresses in the role of the interviewer and the citizenship applicant. Teachers can use this video to get ideas of how to conduct their own mock interviews with students.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEqkFhRP1Ws>

### ***Teaching Dictation for the USCIS Citizenship Test***

This document from the Adult Learning Resource Center shows dictation techniques for the citizenship test. It shows teachers how to help their students listen for the function words in dictated sentences, how to build from the word to sentence level, and how to have students practice dictation together.

<http://www.thecenterweb.org/alrc/citizenship/teaching-dictation.pdf>

### ***Working with Adult English Language Learners with Limited Literacy***

This brief from the Center for Adult English Language Acquisition (CAELA) highlights the number of adult ESL learners with low literacy skills and the problems they face learning to read and write English. It provides instructional strategies that teachers can use to help these learners and gives sources for teachers to learn more about teaching adults with limited literacy.

[http://www.cal.org/caelanetwork/pd\\_resources/literacy.html](http://www.cal.org/caelanetwork/pd_resources/literacy.html)

### **Writings by Teachers from the New England Citizenship Project (NECP)**

This collection of essays by citizenship teachers highlights the importance of teaching more than just the 100 questions students need to pass the civics portion of the USCIS test. Essays discuss both teaching U.S. history and also helping students to become more active citizens.

<http://www.nelrc.org/cpcc/necpindex.htm>

## **III. U.S. History and Government Resources**

---

*Note: There are also many more resources for teaching students about the United States and its past in the U.S. History and U.S. Government Courses of EL/Civics Online.*

### **America's Historical Documents**

This site from the National Archives gives information about the most important historical documents that shaped the United States into the nation it is today. Many of the documents, such as the U.S. Constitution, have online resources teachers can use to learn more or show their class.

<http://www.archives.gov/historical-docs/>

### **Ben's Guide to U. S. Government for Kids**

This site is designed for children, but it has excellent explanations on how the U. S. government works that are appropriate for adults as well. Teachers can choose the reading level (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, or 9-12) and then access materials about the three branches of government, the election process, how laws are made, and more.

<http://bensguide.gpo.gov/>

### **Harry S. Truman Library and Museum**

The education section of this Web site has comprehensive information and activities about the three branches of government. For each, it has an overview, a worksheet, and an online activity to help students look up their representatives or senators. It is also a nice review for teachers who need to brush up on information about the three branches.

[http://www.trumanlibrary.org/whistlestop/teacher\\_lessons/3branches/front.htm](http://www.trumanlibrary.org/whistlestop/teacher_lessons/3branches/front.htm)

### **Presidents of the United States**

This portion of the official White House Web site provides pictures, bibliographies, and timelines for each U.S. President.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/>

### **USA.gov**

This site provides links to a variety of federal, state, and local government agencies. It also has links for all of the official Web sites of offices and agencies under each of the three branches.

[www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov)

### **Welcome to the USA**

This Web site provides essential information to newcomers to the United States. It has information on citizenship, education, healthcare, finances, benefits, employment, and more. It also has a resources to help immigrants find an English class or volunteer.

<http://www.welcometousa.gov/>

## IV. Tools for Creating Classroom Materials

---

*The following resources provide tools for teachers to create handouts, activities, or games. Citizenship teachers can use these materials to create activities that help students practice and master the 100 Civics Questions and the Reading and Writing vocabulary.*

### **Discovery Education Puzzlemaker**

This free resource allows teachers to make their own puzzles, games, and handouts in a variety of formats for students. Teachers can create crossword puzzles, word searches, scrambled letter activities and more about whatever content or vocabulary they wish.

<http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/>

### **Educational Technology Clearinghouse - Clipart ETC**

This Web site provides free clipart for educators. It is run by the state of Florida's Educational Technology Clearinghouse. It contains a wide database of educational clipart including many images from U.S. history and government.

<http://etc.usf.edu/clipart/>

## V. Citizenship Textbooks

---

*Several publishing companies that create Adult ESL materials have or are in the process of creating citizenship textbooks that teach students the material in the redesigned naturalization test. These textbooks usually have several components including a student textbook, audio files, a teacher's manual, and more.*

*To find citizenship textbooks, contact or visit the Web sites of publishers of Adult ESL materials. A list of some Adult ESL publishers can be found at the CAELA website:*

[http://www.cal.org/caela/esl\\_resources/publishers.html](http://www.cal.org/caela/esl_resources/publishers.html)