Name:

Date:

**Who is a Citizen? Law of Soil vs. Law of Blood**

The Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution says…

*Section. 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside...*

In your own words, a citizen is: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Instructions: Read each example of a natural born citizen in the table below. In the column on the left, write “S” if the situation is an example of “Law of the Soil.” Write a “B” if the situation is an example of “Law of the Blood.”***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Soil/Blood?** | **The following shall be nationals\* and citizens of the United States at birth:** |
|  | 1) A person born in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof |
|  | 2) A person born in the U.S. to a member of an Indian, Eskimo, Aleutian, or any other aboriginal tribe (as long as citizenship does not impact the person’s status as a citizen of the tribe) |
|  | 3) A person born outside of the United States and U.S. possessions of parents both of whom are citizens of the United States and one parent has had a residence in the U.S. or a U.S. possession prior to the birth of the person |
|  | 4) A person born outside of the United States and its outlying possessions to a parent who is a citizen of the United States who has been physically present in the United States or one of its possessions for a continuous period of one year prior to the birth of such person, and the other of whom is a U.S. national, but not a citizen of the United States |
|  | 5) A person born in a U.S. possession of parents one of whom is a U.S. citizen and was physically present in the U.S. or a U.S. possession for at least one continuous year prior to the birth of the person |
|  | 6) A person of unknown parentage found in the United States while under the age of five years, until shown, prior to his attaining the age of twenty-one years, not to have been born in the United States |
|  | 7) A person born outside the United States and its outlying possessions to one parent who is a foreign national and the other parent is a U.S. citizen and the U.S. citizen parent was physically present in the United States for at least 5 years, including at least 2 years after 14 years of age |
|  | 8) A person born before noon (Eastern Standard Time) May 24, 1934, outside the limits and jurisdiction of the United States of an alien father and a mother who is a citizen of the United States who, prior to the birth of such person, had resided in the United States |

*\*U.S. citizens are also U.S. nationals. Persons born in American Samoa and Swains Island are generally considered nationals but not citizens of the United States.*

**Citizen Scenarios**

*Instructions: Read the scenarios below. Based on the situation, decide if the person is:*

*1. A natural born citizen*

*2. A naturalized citizen*

*3. Not a United States citizen*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Scenario** | **Citizen Status (Write in the correct option in the box below):**   1. **Natural Born** 2. **Naturalized** 3. **Not a US Citizen** |
| 1) Nadia and her husband, U.S. Soldier Lt. Mike Peters, have a son (Thomas) while they are stationed at Aviano Air Base, Italy. Both parents are United States citizens. What is Thomas’ citizenship status in the United States? |  |
| 2) Cecilia was born in Ecuador to her mother Consuela, a citizen of Ecuador, and her father, Alejandro, a United States citizen, who has been working for the United States Embassy in Ecuador for 10 years. Prior to moving to Ecuador, Alejandro lived in Washington D.C. for 10 years. What is Cecilia’s citizenship status in the United States? |  |
| 3) Mei Ling is 14 years old. She and her mother moved from Thailand two years ago. Her mother has received her permanent resident status in the United States and intends on applying for citizenship. What is Mei Ling’s citizenship status? |  |
| 4) Silvu has recently moved to the United States from Romania to attend college. His mother voluntarily renounced her U.S. Citizenship to become a citizen of Romania before Silvu was born and his father is a Romanian citizen. What is Silvu’s citizenship status? |  |
| 5) Ivan Petrov was born and raised in Russia. After attending college in the United States, he decided to seek U.S. citizenship. He has passed the written and oral portions of the U.S. Citizenship test, has been evaluated and determined to be of good moral character, established residency, and demonstrated knowledge of basic U.S. history and government. He has sworn an oath of allegiance to the United States. What is Ivan’s citizenship status? |  |
| 6) Marion Fletcher was born in Austin, Texas, where she lives with her husband. Her parents were also born and raised in Austin, Texas. What is Marion’s citizenship status? |  |
| 7) Matthew Robinson was born in Munich, Germany. His father, Gary Robinson, is a businessman from the United States who works in Munich, but he is originally from Oklahoma, where he was born and raised. His mother, Cynthia Robinson, was born in American Samoa and is a U.S. National. What is Matthew’s citizenship status? |  |