



WE THE PEOPLE HEARING QUESTIONS



We the People
THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT LEVEL

2023-2024 Michigan We the People District Questions

Welcome to the 2023-2024 We the People Year!

MCCE will ask one (1) pre-established district question for the 2023 districts. A full list of district questions may be found here:

https://civiced.org/images/stories/WeThePeople/The_Program/Hearings/districtlevelhearingquestionshs.pdf.

Looking ahead to the January 2024 state finals, MCCE will pre-select two (2) of the three questions.

That will be online in a different document. A full list of state hearing questions can be found:

<https://files.civiced.org/pdfs/WTP/StateHearingQuestions2023-24.pdf>.

Also of note, CCE released a new scoring rubric. MCCE will adapt and post its online by October 1, 2023. Look for the CCE scoring rubric here: <https://www.civiced.org/we-the-people/hearing-questions>.

As always, thank you for championing meaningful civic education!

Unit One: What Are the Philosophical and Historical Foundations of the American Political System?

2. What are the fundamental characteristics of a constitutional government?

- In what ways does constitutional government mean limited government?
 - Describe at least three provisions of the Constitution that provide a means of preventing the abuse or misuse of governmental power. Explain how these provisions work in our system of government today.
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Unit Two: How Did the Framers Create the Constitution?

2. What were the major conflicts at the Philadelphia Convention and how were they resolved?

- What arguments can you make for and against giving each state the right to send the same number of members to the Senate?
 - What arguments can you make for and against including the three-fifths clause and the fugitive slave clause in the Constitution?
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Unit Three: How Has the Constitution Been Changed to Further the Ideals Contained in the Declaration of Independence?

2. How and why has suffrage been expanded in the United States?

- Why has the expansion of suffrage been controversial?
- How have advocates of expanded suffrage used their rights under the First Amendment to achieve their goals?



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Unit Four: How Have the Values and Principles Embodied in the Constitution Shaped American Institutions and Practices?

2. How and why has presidential power expanded since the ratification of the Constitution?
- How have wars, emergencies, and the media contributed to the expansion of presidential powers?
 - How have the other branches of government responded to the expansion of presidential power? Do you think they have done so adequately? Explain.
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Unit Five: What Rights Does the Bill of Rights Protect?

2. How are individual rights protected in the body of the Constitution?
- Given the protection of rights in the body of the Constitution, would you have agreed or disagreed with the Anti-Federalists' argument for the addition of a bill of rights? Why?
 - What additional rights, if any, do you think should be added to the Constitution? Why?
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Unit Six: What Challenges Might Face American Constitutional Democracy in the Twenty-First Century?

2. What do you think are the greatest challenges of American citizenship today?
- Why and how does constitutional democracy in the United States depend on the active participation of its citizens?
 - What are the advantages and disadvantages, if any, of being a citizen of both the United States and the state in which you reside?

Thank you. See you at Districts!