

# Civics and Government: Grade 7

Adopted 2009

## Principles and Documents of Government

### Rule of Law

- A. Cite functional examples of how the rule of law protects property rights, individual rights, and the common good. [5.1.7.A](#)

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### Laws and Government

- B. Identify the different types of government and the processes they use in making laws. [5.1.7.B](#)

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### Principles and Ideals that Shape Government

- C. Explain how the principles and ideals shape local, state, and national government.  
<ul><li>Liberty/Freedom</li><li>Democracy</li><li>Justice</li><li>Equality</li></ul> [5.1.7.C](#)

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### Documents and Ideals that Shape Pennsylvania and US Government

- D. Summarize the basic principles and ideals within documents and the roles played by the framers as found in significant documents:<ul><li>Declaration of Independence</li><li>United States Constitution</li><li>Bill of Rights</li><li>Pennsylvania Constitution</li></ul> [5.1.7.D](#)

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### Individual Rights

- E. Compare and contrast the individual rights guaranteed by the PA Constitution versus the U.S. Constitution. [5.1.7.E](#)

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### Symbols

- F. Describe how the media uses political symbols to influence public opinion. [5.1.7.F](#)

## Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

### Civics Rights and Responsibilities

- A. Compare and contrast rights and responsibilities of citizenship in the community, state, and nation. [5.2.7.A](#)

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### Conflict and Resolution

- B. Compare the methods citizens use to resolve conflicts in society and government. [5.2.7.B](#)

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**Leadership and Public Service**

C. Describe the role of political leadership and public service. 5.2.7.C

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**Competent and Responsible Citizens**

D. Describe the citizen's role in the political process. 5.2.7.D

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**How Government Works****Branches of Government**

A. Compare and contrast the responsibilities and powers of the three branches of government. 5.3.7.A

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**Structure, Organization, and Operation of Governments**

B. Define and compare the role and structure of local, state, and national governments. 5.3.7.B

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**Government Services**

C. Describe how local, state, and national governments provide services. 5.3.7.C

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**Leadership and Political Elections**

D. Identify leadership positions and the role of political party affiliation at the local, state, and national levels. 5.3.7.D

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**Elements of the Election Process**

E. Describe the closed primary voting process in Pennsylvania. 5.3.7.E

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**Conflict and the Court System**

F. Identify the different levels of the court system. 5.3.7.F

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**Interest Groups**

G. Explain the role of interest groups in local and Pennsylvania governments. 5.3.7.G

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**Media Influences**

H. Describe the influence of mass media on society. 5.3.7.H

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**Taxes**

I. Identify types of local, state, and national taxes. 5.3.7.I

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**Systems of Government**

J. Identify various types of governments. 5.3.7.J

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**How International Relationships Function****Countries and Conflicts**

A. Identify how countries have varying interests. 5.4.7.A

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**Tools of Foreign Policy**

**B.** Describe how countries coexist in the world community. **5.4.7.B**

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**Media and its Influence**

**D.** Identify mass media sources and how they report world events. **5.4.7.D**