

TCI Social Studies Review Summary

Civics Alive Foundations and Functions - Eighth Grade

Unit 1 Foundations of Government - Summary

Lesson 1 - Citizenship and the rule of law

1. Page 9 - This lesson talks about where naturalization ceremonies usually take place, but because of COVID in 2020, they were held in other places, like a football stadium. **This was an exception, not the rule, and will be irrelevant in the coming years.**
2. Page 10 - In this lesson the text reads “*People who are born in the United States are citizens because of the law of soil. Under the **law of soil**, a person is granted citizenship according to their place of birth. Children born to U.S. citizens outside the United States are also U.S. citizens. The **law of blood** means that a person’s citizenship is determined by their parents’ citizenship*”. **These are more global terms and cannot be found anywhere on the US Citizenship and Immigration Services website and aren’t laws. (see supporting document)**
3. Page 11, 12 - The lesson mentions the Oath of Allegiance as part of the naturalization ceremony but doesn’t give what it is and what it means. **Under U.S. law, a citizen of another country once naturalized as a U.S. citizen may retain their previous citizenship, though they must renounce allegiance to the other country and pledge allegiance to the United States.**
4. Page 11.12 - The picture of professional basketball player Tristan Thompson taking the Oath of Allegiance during his citizenship ceremony in November 2020, **with both he and the judge wearing a mask, is not representative of the millions who take the oath every year.**
5. Page 13, 14 - This lesson includes this statement; *The Constitution bans naturalized citizens from being president or vice president.* This is an inflammatory statement and should be removed. A more appropriate statement would be: Article II, Section 1, Clause 5 of the Constitution states: **No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any Person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.**
6. Page 15, 16 - A cartoon of Richard Nixon as Louis XIV and claiming he was above the law is misleading and not factual. (see supporting document)

7. Page 17, 18 - This lesson is misleading and inaccurate and should clearly state the differences between rights and responsibilities according to the US Immigration Service (see supporting document)
8. Page 19, 21 - The title of this lesson, "Being Responsible by **Supporting the Common Good**," is a term more suited to Communist China or a Marxist ideology and has no place in our civics curriculum. In a US civics class, our civic duties and responsibilities need to take center stage. The volunteerism promoted in this lesson is a choice and a good choice, but this is a civics lesson, not an activism class.