

Table of Contents

Pass The Paper And Pen _____	7
Freedom And Rights _____	9
Good Citizenship _____	11
Making A Difference _____	13
Conservatives And Liberals _____	16
Political Parties _____	20
The Ideals Of Democracy: The Pursuit Of Happiness _____	22
Picking A Perfect President _____	24
The Electoral College _____	26
Senate Simulation _____	29
Planning Our Nation's Budget _____	32
How Do You Feel About Your School _____	34
Rating Your Community _____	37
AIDS And The Aids Virus _____	39
Civil Rights And The Progress Of Blacks _____	41

California Social Science Standards

Topic	Standards
Freedom and Rights	12.1,
Good Citizenship	12.2, 12.3
Making A Difference	12.2, 12.3
Conservatives And Liberals	12.6, 12.10
Political Parties	12.6
The Ideals of Democracy	12.1
Picking a Perfect President	12.4, 12.6
The Electoral College	12.6
Senate Simulation	12.4
Planning Our Nation's Budget	12.4
How Do You Feel About Your School	12.7
Rating Your Community	12.7

Government
Pass The Paper And Pen

Name_____

Date _____

Period _____

Introduction:

Our society has traditionally put a premium on self-reliance. Schools and businesses alike have practiced a Social Darwinian survival of the fittest mentality in theory. Today our life styles have brought about more and more service industries. Our ability to work with others and communicate effectively has become essential. Skills such as being a good listener, being polite, sharing responsibility, and having a good sense of humor are just as important as your competence. This class will incorporate activities in which you will work in groups. The success of your group and your own grade will be determined by your ability to cooperate. As in all businesses and athletic teams, your success can be impaired by just one weak link. With this in mind, it is in your best interest to be dependable. There are a few important considerations for you to remember when working in your group. First of all, there will be no putdowns. Do not belittle your team members' ideas. All of us work best with encouragement. When individuals in your group make good suggestions, tell them so. Second, you need to be a good listener. Let your colleagues finish their explanations before commenting. Often times, the people who are considered the best conversationalists are those that do little more than listen.

Directions:

Before a group or team can work efficiently, camaraderie or good feelings must be built up amongst the group. In order to promote this we are going to periodically play extra credit games called "Pass The Paper And Pen." Each group will have one of these papers and a pen. I will ask you, for example, to list all the different name brands of clothing your group can think of in one minute. The two groups with the most on their list will get extra credit. The rules are that you must pass the paper and pen to another group member after you have written an entry on your list. If your team member cannot think of anything, the other group members can help. However, you should be relatively quiet so other groups do not hear your answers. This type of activity will be done several times before your group works on an official cooperative learning lesson. In addition, we will periodically play "Pass The Paper And Pen" to keep your group working cohesively.

List:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____
- 9. _____
- 10. _____
- 11. _____
- 12. _____
- 13. _____
- 14. _____
- 15. _____

- 16. _____
- 17. _____
- 18. _____
- 19. _____
- 20. _____
- 21. _____
- 22. _____
- 23. _____
- 24. _____
- 25. _____
- 26. _____
- 27. _____
- 28. _____
- 29. _____
- 30. _____

Government
Freedom And Rights

Name -----
 Date -----
 Period _____

Introduction:

The Declaration of Independence has become one of history's most cherished statements. For 200 years freedom-seeking people all over the world have been inspired by its noble ideas and remarkable eloquence. Thomas Jefferson stated clearly the principles of democracy when he wrote: "... all men are created equal, ... they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, ... among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

These ideals are beautifully expressed. However, over the years it has become increasingly difficult to allow people liberty in all matters. At times, one person's freedom can infringe on the rights of others. Many people believe that your "rights end where my nose begins." There are many issues today where the government has suspended personal liberties. Theoretically this is done for the common good of every one.

Directions:

Below are listed some areas where people find restrictions in their personal lives. You are to, first, decide whether these restrictions are protections for the majority or unnecessary infringements on your freedom. Then explain why you feel the way you do.

Explanation

1. Laws which prohibit marijuana smoking

Protection_ Unnecessary Infringement_

2. Laws which prohibit drinking and driving

Protection_ Unnecessary Infringement_

Explanation

3. No gum chewing in class

Protection_ Unnecessary Infringement_

4. Mandatory use of seat belts law

Protection_ Unnecessary Infringement_

5. Laws which prohibit smoking in public places

Protection_ Unnecessary Infringement_

6. Laws that require helmets for bikers and cyclists

Protection_ Unnecessary Infringement_

7. Laws that limit your car's speed to 65 M.P.H.

Protection_ Unnecessary Infringement_

8. Closed campus policies at lunch

Protection_ Unnecessary Infringement_

Conclusions:

1. One of the inalienable rights that Thomas Jefferson spoke of in the Declaration of Independence was the pursuit of happiness. What are some ways that the freedoms in America allow you to pursue happiness that would not be allowed in a more restrictive country?

2. Americans today enjoy liberty as much as Thomas Jefferson intended for them to experience it. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Government
Good Citizenship

Name _____
 Date _____
 Period _____

Introduction:

Often times it is said that one of the goals of a government class and schools, in general, is to produce good citizens. What does it mean to be a good citizen and display good citizenship? It can involve a variety of endeavors from charity to active involvement in making your community, state, and country better places to live.

Directions I:

Discuss the following questions in a group and be prepared to discuss them with the rest of the class.

1. List as many responsibilities and characteristics as you can think of that are related to being a good citizen.

2. Our country tries to create a loyal and patriotic citizenry by having a country in which to take pride. Do you feel loyalty to your country? Why?

3. Do you feel a sense of pride and loyalty to your school? Why? What would you do to create more loyalty and pride in your school?