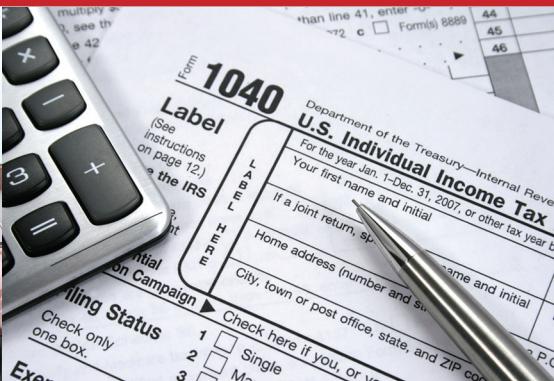




Citizens' Responsibilities



People in the United States have rights, and they also have responsibilities.

People should obey the law.

The "rule of law" is a basic principle of American democracy.

Everyone must follow the law.

No one is above the law.

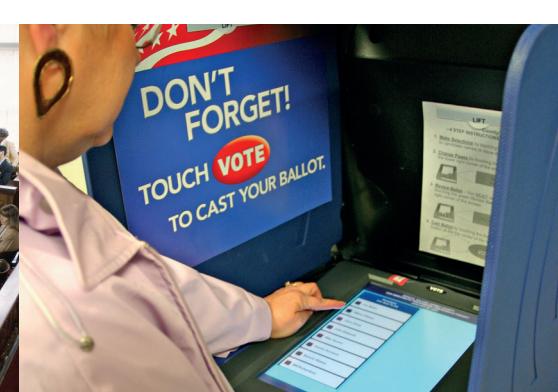
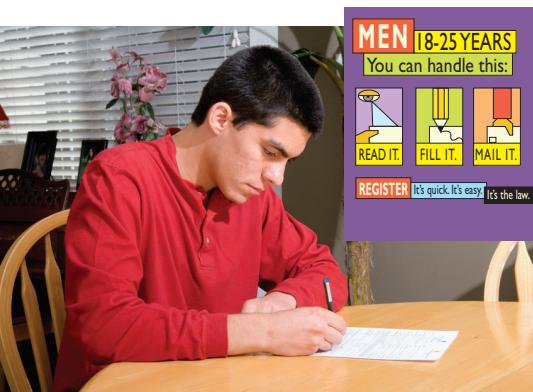
People in the United States should pay taxes.

They should send in federal income tax forms and pay income taxes.

April 15 is usually the last day you can send in federal income tax forms.

In many states, people also pay state income taxes.

In some cities and counties, people also pay local income taxes.



Men in the United States must serve in the military if they are needed.

All men must register for the Selective Service at age eighteen—citizens and non-citizens.

Men who are older than age eighteen when they enter the United States must register before their 26th birthday.

Some responsibilities are only for United States citizens.

Citizens should serve on a jury.

Citizens should vote in a federal election.





Check-Up

Vocabulary Check

jury law register taxes vote

1. Everyone should obey the _____.
2. Citizens should serve on a _____.
3. April 15 is the last day you can pay federal _____.
4. At age 18 men must _____ for the Selective Service.
5. Citizens should _____ in elections.

Civics Check

Practice the questions and answers.*



1. What is the “rule of law”?	Everyone must follow the law. Leaders must obey the law. Government must obey the law. No one is above the law.
2. When is the last day you can send in federal income tax forms?	April fifteen (15)
3. What is one responsibility that is only for United States citizens?	Serve on a jury Vote in a federal election
4. When must all men register for the Selective Service?	At age eighteen (18) Between eighteen (18) and twenty-six (26) ** ** This is the official civics test answer. However, men must actually register before their 26th birthday.

* Some questions have more than one possible answer. Only one answer is required unless the question asks for more.

Discussion

1. What taxes do you pay? How does the government use the money?
2. Why is the “rule of law” important?
3. Why should people vote in elections?
4. In your opinion, what is the most important *right* that Americans have? Why?
5. In your opinion, what is the most important *responsibility* that Americans have? Why?

