Citizenship and Sovereignty

How tribal and U.S. citizenship work together

6.C.5.1.C "Analyze the historical development of American Indian citizenship and constitutional rights in the United States of America, including the passage of the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the two dates that show changes in U.S. citizenship, and circle two powers of tribal governments. Write T beside one tribal citizen's right or duty and U beside one U.S. citizen's right or duty.

More Than One Citizenship

1. In 1868, the Fourteenth Amendment did not automatically make members of tribal nations U.S. citizens. Some American Indians gained U.S. citizenship through treaties, military service, or other laws, but many did not. The Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 granted U.S. citizenship to all American Indians born in the United States who were not already citizens. It did not take away tribal citizenship. Citizenship also did not immediately bring equal voting access. Some states kept barriers that prevented American Indian citizens from voting for years afterward.

2. Today, a person may be a citizen of a tribal nation and of the United States at the same time. Tribal sovereignty means tribal nations have the authority to govern themselves, although federal law can limit that authority. Each tribal nation sets its own citizenship rules, so membership cannot be assumed from a person's address or family story. Eligible tribal citizens may vote in their nation's elections and must follow its laws when those laws apply. Tribal governments can run courts and provide services, such as schools or health programs.

3. U.S. citizenship brings national rights, such as voting in federal elections if eligible, and duties, such as obeying federal laws. Living in a state also gives eligible citizens a voice in state elections and requires them to obey state laws when those laws apply. Tribal citizenship adds a different government connection, not a replacement for U.S. citizenship. In 1968, Congress passed the Indian Civil Rights Act. It requires tribal governments to protect certain individual rights, including free speech and due process, while they exercise their governing powers.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 change the citizenship situation described for 1868?

2. Why did the 1924 act not mean that every new citizen could vote right away?

3. Compare one voting right and one duty connected to tribal citizenship with a voting right and duty connected to U.S. citizenship.

4. How does the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 affect the way tribal governments use their authority?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A student says, "If someone is a U.S. citizen, their tribal nation cannot govern them." Write four sentences that correct this idea, name a tribal power, compare a tribal and U.S. citizenship right or duty, and explain why the Indian Civil Rights Act matters.

ANSWER KEY

Citizenship and Sovereignty

GRADE 6 · 6.C.5.1.C

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the two dates that show changes in U.S. citizenship, and circle two powers of tribal governments. Write T beside one tribal citizen's right or duty and U beside one U.S. citizen's right or duty. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 change the citizenship situation described for 1868?	**In 1868, tribal nation members did not automatically become U.S. citizens. The 1924 act granted citizenship to American Indians born in the United States who were not already citizens.**
2	Why did the 1924 act not mean that every new citizen could vote right away?	**Some states kept barriers that prevented American Indian citizens from voting.**
3	Compare one voting right and one duty connected to tribal citizenship with a voting right and duty connected to U.S. citizenship.	**Eligible tribal citizens may vote in tribal elections and must follow tribal laws when they apply. Eligible U.S. citizens may vote in federal elections and must obey federal laws.**
4	How does the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 affect the way tribal governments use their authority?	**It requires tribal governments to protect certain individual rights, including free speech and due process, as they govern.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Being a U.S. citizen does not cancel a person's tribal citizenship or the tribal nation's authority. A tribal government can set citizenship rules and run courts. An eligible tribal citizen may vote in tribal elections, while an eligible U.S. citizen may vote in federal elections. The Indian Civil Rights Act requires tribal governments to protect rights such as free speech as they govern.

Accept other accurate tribal powers and rights or duties named in the passage. Responses should distinguish tribal authority from U.S. citizenship without claiming that either cancels the other.