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**2nd grade** | Unit 10

# HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

# REVIEW UNITED STATES HISTORY

## HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 210

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# REVIEW UNITED STATES HISTORY

This year, you studied much about the United States. You learned that America was settled by colonists. You also learned how the colonists fought a war with Great Britain and won their independence.

The Founding Fathers wrote the Constitution to form a new government. The United States has federal, state, and local governments. They work together to run the country.

The boundaries of the United States changed over time. Today, the country includes 50 states and a number of territories. People created maps as they explored the land. Maps continue to change as people learn more about the world.

# Objectives

**Read these objectives.** They will tell what you will be able to do when you have finished this workbook.

1. Know that people live in communities.
2. Recall how the first Europeans arrived on the shores of the New World.
3. Identify the three branches of the U.S. government.
4. Recognize the current boundaries of the United States.
5. Describe the symbols used on maps.



# 1. THE UNITED STATES BEGINS

## Communities

In ancient times, people learned ways to use the land and water on Earth. Families grew bigger and started working together as communities. They came up with great ideas that became important inventions. Using new ideas and inventions, communities grew and spread throughout the world.

All people live in communities. The first community you live in is your family. A family may have a father, mother, brother, sister, and grandparents.



Families also live in communities. Some people live in large cities. Their neighbors may live in the same building as they do. Other people live in towns. Their neighbors may live in homes next to theirs. Still other people may live on farms or ranches. These people may not be able to see their neighbors' homes.

Communities need workers. They need people such as doctors and nurses to take care of people who are sick. Teachers are needed to work with students. Some workers are up all night working in factories or on the police force. Together, all these people work to make their communities strong.



**Circle Yes if the sentence is correct or No if it is wrong.**

- 1.1** When families started working together, they became communities.  
Yes                      No
- 1.2** All families have brothers and sisters.  
Yes                      No
- 1.3** People in cities and the country live in communities.  
Yes                      No
- 1.4** People need to work together to make a community strong.  
Yes                      No



# The Thirteen Colonies

In 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed to America. Soon after, settlers came to this New World. They built colonies along the coast of the Atlantic Ocean. These Europeans met the Native Americans who already lived in the New World.

People from countries in Europe traveled to North America to start new lives. They settled in what would become the eastern United States. One of the early colonies was Jamestown in Virginia. The Pilgrims came to America so they could freely practice their religion. They started the colony of Plymouth in Massachusetts.

The settlers formed thirteen colonies. In time, the colonists became unhappy with the laws of Great Britain.



| The 13 colonies



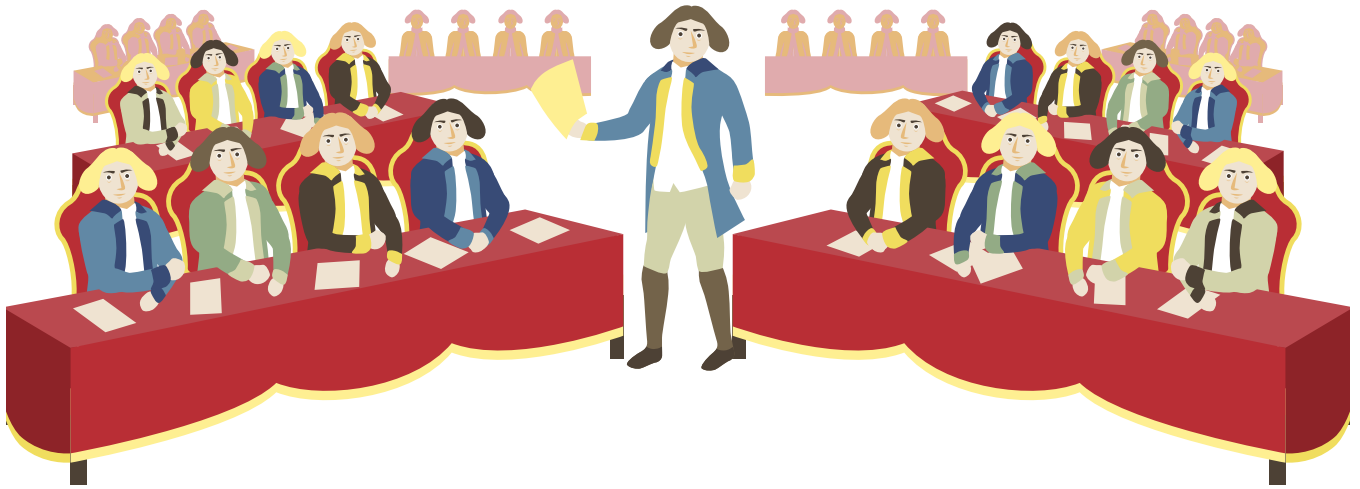
| The Boston Tea Party showed Great Britain the colonists were unhappy with British laws.

In 1775, the American colonists fought the Revolutionary War and gained freedom from Great Britain in 1783. The colonists wrote the Declaration of Independence in 1776 to tell Great Britain they were now an independent country. They called themselves the United States of America.



**Circle the correct answer.**

- 1.5** Columbus sailed to the New World in \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. 1312                      b. 1492                      c. 1776
- 1.6** The Jamestown Colony was located in \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Maine                      b. Florida                      c. Virginia
- 1.7** The Plymouth Colony was located in \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Pennsylvania  
b. New York  
c. Massachusetts
- 1.8** The colonies gained independence from \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Great Britain      b. Spain                      c. France
- 1.9** There were \_\_\_\_\_ original U.S. colonies.  
a. 13                      b. 10                      c. 50

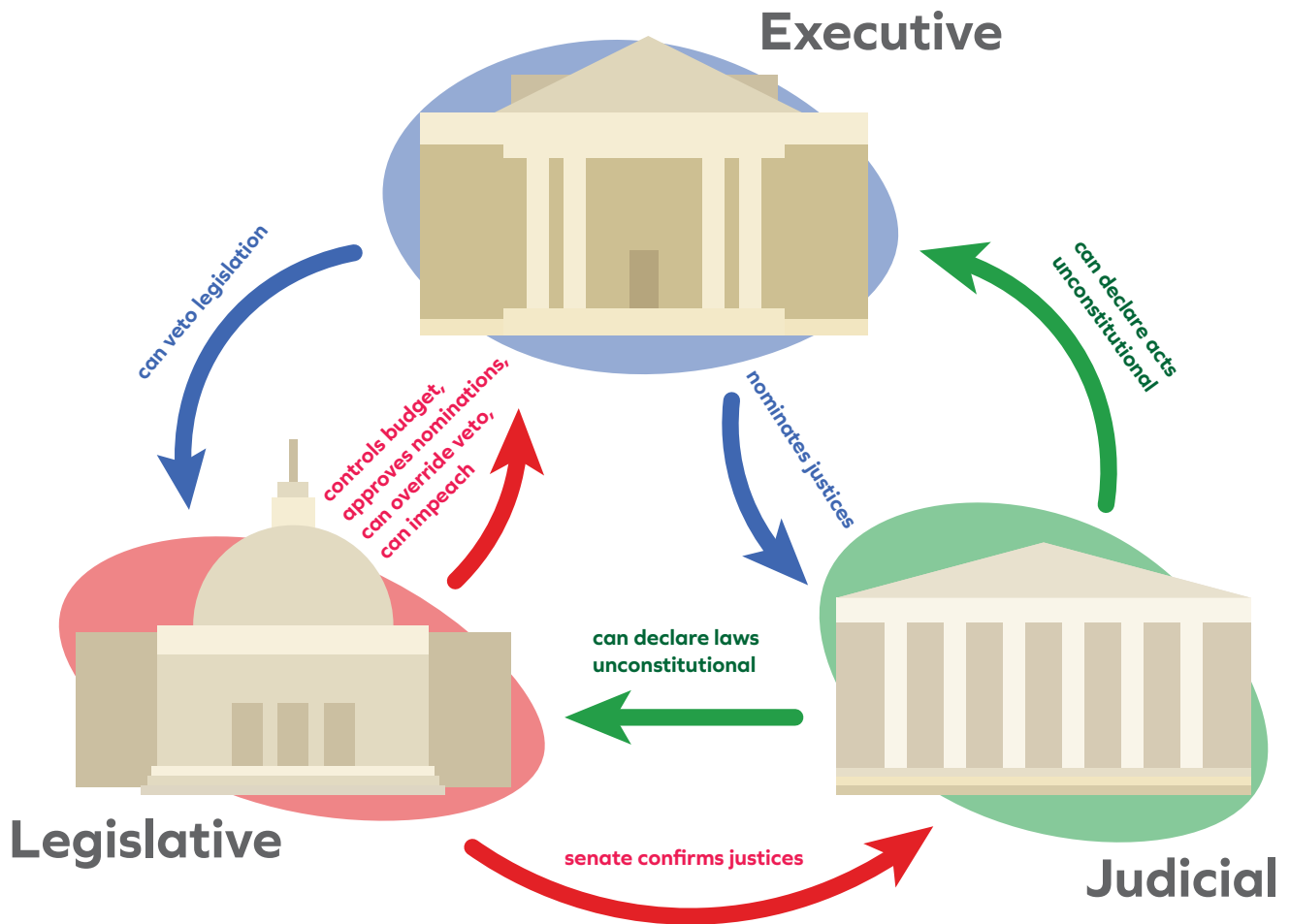


## The Constitutional Convention

The United States needed to form a government. The people did not want a government ruled by a king such as Great Britain had. They wanted a government where the people chose their leaders.

In 1786, leaders from the United States met to write the Constitution. This meeting is called the Constitutional Convention. George Washington and Benjamin Franklin were two of the 55 men at the Constitutional Convention. These delegates worked to create a system of government for the country.

The delegates decided on three divisions of government. They were the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. Each branch would have its own set of powers. These powers would be balanced so that one branch would have no more power than the others.



The small states worried the big states would have too much power in the new government. The delegates decided to split the legislative branch into two houses. In the Senate, all states have the same number of representatives. The House of Representatives is based on population. Larger states have more representatives than the smaller states. In this way, both the large and small states were happy.

The thirteen states voted to pass the Constitution. The United States government was formed.



**Circle the correct answer to finish the sentence.**

- 1.10** The colonies did not want a government such as Great Britain had, where a \_\_\_\_\_ ruled.  
a. president                      b. king                      c. governor
- 1.11** The leaders of the United States met to write the Constitution in \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. 1786                      b. 1886                      c. 1686
- 1.12** There were \_\_\_\_\_ men at the Constitutional Convention.  
a. 50                      b. 75                      c. 55
- 1.13** The U.S. government had \_\_\_\_\_ branches of government.  
a. 3                      b. 2                      c. 1



**Before you take the Self Test, study what you have read and done.** The Self Test will check what you remember.

# SELF TEST 1

Each answer = 1 point

Write the correct number in the blank.

2

3

13

55

1492

1775

1786

- 1.01** Columbus sailed to the New World in \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.02** The colonies went to war with Great Britain in \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.03** There were \_\_\_\_\_ men at the Constitutional Convention.
- 1.04** The Constitutional Convention was held in the year \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.05** There are \_\_\_\_\_ branches in the U.S. government.
- 1.06** The legislative branch has \_\_\_\_\_ houses.
- 1.07** The United States started with \_\_\_\_\_ colonies.

Circle **Yes** if the sentence is correct or **No** if it is wrong.

- 1.08** People used new ideas and inventions to stay in one place.  
                     Yes                      No
- 1.09** People work together to make their communities strong.  
                     Yes                      No

**1.010** Communities can be found in the city but not in the country.

Yes

No

**1.011** Columbus sailed to France.

Yes

No

**1.012** The Jamestown Colony was located in New York.

Yes

No

**1.013** The Pilgrims started the Plymouth Colony.

Yes

No

**Circle the correct answer.**

**1.014** The \_\_\_\_\_ was written to tell Great Britain why the colonies should be free.

- a. Declaration of Independence
- b. Constitution
- c. Bill of Rights

**1.015** George Washington and \_\_\_\_\_ were members of the Constitutional Convention.

- a. William Clark
- b. Abraham Lincoln
- c. Benjamin Franklin

**1.016** The \_\_\_\_\_ is *not* one of the branches of government.

- a. mayor
- b. judicial
- c. executive

- 1.017** At the Constitutional Convention, the small states were afraid the large states would have too much \_\_\_\_\_ .
- a. power                      b. land                      c. money



Teacher Check

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initial      Date



**My Score**





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