

# Citizenship Test

## EPL Answer Key



*Questions and Answers (unless otherwise specified)  
from 2007 edition of A Look at Canada*

For more information go to [www.epl.ca](http://www.epl.ca)  Guide by subject

Government  Citizenship and Immigration

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**Section 2**- Questions about your region: Prepared by Edmonton Public Library Staff Sept/15/2008.

**\* Indicates Questions:**

- Not in A Look at Canada that must be answered on a per region basis
- Information that is based on where you live in Edmonton
- Government information that changes

## Section 1: Questions about Canada

### ***Aboriginal Peoples***

1. Who are the Aboriginal peoples of Canada?  
**The Aboriginal peoples were the first people to live in Canada. (pg. 14)**
2. What are the three main groups of Aboriginal peoples?  
**The three main groups are the First Nations, the Inuit, and the Métis. (pg. 14)**
3. From whom are the Métis descended?  
**The Métis are descended from early French and some English fur traders who married First Nations women. (pg. 15)**
4. Which group of Aboriginal peoples make up more than half of the population of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut?  
**Inuit are Aboriginal people who live in Canada's North, which includes Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, Northern Quebec and Labrador. (pg. 15)**
5. Why are the Aboriginal peoples of Canada working toward self-government?  
**The Aboriginal people of Canada are working toward self-government so that they can regain control over decisions that affect them and manage their own affairs. (pg. 15)**

### ***History (answers can be found in the sections on regions of Canada)***

1. Where did the first European settlers in Canada come from?  
**The first European settlers in Canada came from France and became known as Acadians. (pg. 18)**
2. Why did the early explorers first come to Atlantic Canada?  
**The early explorers first came to this part of Canada to fish and trade with Aboriginal peoples. (pg. 18)**
3. What three industries helped the early settlers build communities in the Atlantic region?  
**Settlers built strong communities that thrived on farming, fishing and shipbuilding. (pg. 18)**
4. Who were the United Empire Loyalists?  
**The United Empire Loyalists were early settlers in the Atlantic region who left the United States during and after the American Revolution (1775-1783). (pg. 18)**
5. When did settlers from France first establish communities on the St. Lawrence River?  
**Settlers from France first established communities along the St. Lawrence River in the early 1600s. (pg. 20)**

6. Which trade spread across Canada, making it important to the economy for over 300 years?  
**Europeans first came to the North in the late 1600s because of the fur trade. The Hudson's Bay Company controlled the northern lands and fur trade for 300 years. (pg. 27)**
7. What form of transportation did Aboriginal peoples and fur traders use to create trading networks in North America?  
**The Great Lakes have been an important waterway for thousands of years. Aboriginal peoples and fur traders first used them to create trading networks in North America. (pg. 20)**
8. What important trade did the Hudson's Bay Company control?  
**The Hudson's Bay Company controlled the fur trade. (pg. 27)**
9. What did the government do to make immigration to western Canada much easier?  
**During the late 1800s, the Canadian government built a railway across the Prairies to the Pacific coast. This made immigration to western Canada much easier. (pg. 23)**

### ***Confederation / Government***

1. What does Confederation mean?  
**On July 1, 1867, the provinces we now know as Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia joined together to create the new country of Canada. This is known as Confederation. (pg. 12)**
2. What is the Canadian Constitution?  
**Canada's Constitution is the system of laws and conventions that we Canadians use to govern ourselves. (pg. 13)**
3. What year was Confederation?  
**Confederation was in 1867. (pg. 12)**
4. When did the *British North America Act* come into effect?  
**The *British North America Act* came into effect in 1867. (pg. 12)**
5. Why is the *British North America Act* important in Canadian history?  
**The *British North America Act* is important in Canadian history because it made Confederation official. (pg. 12)**
6. Which four provinces first formed Confederation?  
**Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia first formed Confederation. (pg. 12)**
7. Which was the last province to join Canada?  
**Newfoundland was the last province to join Canada (1949) and Nunavut was the last territory to join Canada (1999). (pg. 12)**

8. When is Canada Day and what does it celebrate?  
**Each year on July 1, we celebrate Canada Day, the anniversary of Confederation. (pg. 13)**
9. Who was the first Prime Minister of Canada?  
**Sir John A. Macdonald was the first Prime Minister of Canada. (pg. 12)**
10. Why is the *Constitution Act*, 1982 important in Canadian history?  
**Until 1982, changes to the Constitution had to be approved by the British Parliament. The *Constitution Act*, 1982 gave the Parliament of Canada the power to change our Constitution. The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* also became part of the Canadian Constitution in 1982. (pg. 13)**

### ***Rights and Responsibilities***

1. What part of the Constitution legally protects the basic rights and freedoms of all Canadians?  
**The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* legally protects the basic rights and freedoms of everyone in Canada. (pg. 38)**
2. When did the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* become part of the Canadian Constitution?  
**The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* became part of the Canadian Constitution in 1982. (pg. 13)**
3. Name two fundamental freedoms protected by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*?  
**Including all listed in A Look at Canada:  
Basic freedoms, such as freedom of thought, speech, religion and peaceful assembly. (pg. 38)**
4. Name three legal rights protected by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.  
**Including all listed in A Look at Canada:**
  - Legal rights, such as the right to a fair trial.
  - Equality rights, such as the right to protection against discrimination.
  - Mobility rights, such as the right to live and work anywhere in Canada.
  - Aboriginal peoples' rights. (pg. 38)
5. List three ways in which you can protect the environment.  
**Including all listed in A Look at Canada:**
  - Throw waste paper or other garbage in designated public garbage containers.
  - Compost, recycle and reuse as many products as possible, such as paper, glass and cans.
  - Conserve energy and water by turning off lights and taps when they are not being used.
  - Walk, join a car pool, or use a bicycle or public transit whenever possible.
  - Use products that are environmentally friendly.

- **Plant trees and grow a garden. Avoid using chemicals.**
  - **Get involved with a local group to protect our natural and cultural heritage.**  
(pg. 10-11)
6. Who has the right to apply for a Canadian passport?  
**Canadian citizens have the right to apply for a Canadian passport. (pg. 39)**
7. What does equality under the law mean?  
**Every Canadian has an equal right to the protection and services of the police and the courts. (pg. 37)**
8. Name six responsibilities of citizenship.
- **Vote in elections.**
  - **Help others in the community.**
  - **Care for and protect our heritage and environment.**
  - **Obey Canada's laws.**
  - **Express opinions freely while respecting the rights and freedoms of others.**
  - **Eliminate discrimination and injustice. (pg. 39)**
9. Give an example of how you can show responsibility by participating in your community.  
**Including all listed in A Look at Canada:**
- **Join a community group such as an environmental group.**
  - **Volunteer to work on an election campaign for a candidate of your choice.**
  - **Help your neighbors.**
  - **Work with others to solve problems in your community.**
  - **Become a candidate in an election. (pg. 39)**
10. List four rights Canadian citizens have.  
**Including all listed in A Look at Canada:**
- **Be candidates in federal, provincial and territorial elections.**
  - **Be educated in either official language.**
  - **Apply for a Canadian passport.**
  - **Vote in federal and provincial or territorial elections.**
  - **Enter and leave Canada freely. (pg. 39)**
11. What will you promise when you take the Oath of Citizenship?  
**I swear (or affirm) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Canada, Her Heirs and Successors, and that I will faithfully observe the laws of Canada and fulfil my duties as a Canadian citizen. (pg. 40)**

## ***Languages***

1. What are the two official languages of Canada?  
**English and French are Canada's two official languages. (pg. 8)**

2. Give an example of where English and French have equal status in Canada.  
**English and French have equal status in the Parliament of Canada, in federal courts and in all federal institutions. (pg. 8)**
3. Where do most French speaking Canadians live?  
**Quebec and Ontario. More than three-quarters of the Canadians who live in Quebec speak French as their first language. Most people in Ontario speak English but the province also has the largest French-speaking population outside Quebec (pg. 20-21)**
4. Which province has the most bilingual Canadians?  
**Quebec. Over one-third of the population in Quebec speak both French and English, making it the province with the highest number of bilingual Canadians. (pg. 20-21)**
5. Which province is the only officially bilingual province?  
**New Brunswick is the only officially bilingual province in Canada. (pg. 18)**

## ***Symbols***

1. What does the Canadian flag look like?  
**The Canadian flag is white with a red border on each end and a red maple leaf in the centre. (pg. 13 looking at the picture)**
2. What song is Canada's national anthem?  
**Canada's national anthem is "O Canada." (pg. 13)**
3. Give the first two lines of Canada's national anthem.  
**O Canada! Our home and native land!  
True patriot love in all thy sons command. (pg. 13)**
4. Where does the name "Canada" come from?  
**In 1535, two Aboriginal youths used the Huron-Iroquois word "kanata," which means "village" or "settlement," to tell Jacques Cartier the way to Stadacona (site of present-day Québec City). Cartier used "Canada" to refer not only to Stadacona, but also to the entire area subject to Donnacona, Chief at Stadacona. (pg. 13)**
5. Which animal is an official symbol of Canada?  
**The beaver is one of the symbols of Canada. (pg. 12)**
6. What is the tower in the centre of the Parliament buildings called?  
**The tower in the centre of the Parliament buildings is called the Peace Tower. (pg. 12)**

## **Geography**

1. What is the population of Canada?  
**Canada has a population of about 31 million people. (pg. 16)**
2. What three oceans border on Canada?  
**Canada is bordered by the Pacific Ocean on the west, the Atlantic Ocean on the east, and the Arctic Ocean to the north. (pg. 16)**
3. What is the capital city of Canada?  
**Ottawa, Ontario, is the capital city of Canada. (pg. 16)**
4. Name all the provinces and territories and their capital cities.  
**Alberta - Edmonton  
British Columbia - Victoria  
Manitoba - Winnipeg  
New Brunswick - Fredericton  
Newfoundland and Labrador - St. John's  
Northwest Territories - Yellowknife  
Nova Scotia - Halifax  
Nunavut – Iqaluit  
Ontario - Toronto  
Prince Edward Island - Charlottetown  
Quebec – Québec  
Saskatchewan - Regina  
Yukon Territory- Whitehorse. (pg. 17)**
5. Name the five regions of Canada.  
**The five regions of Canada are the Atlantic Region, Central Canada, the Prairie Provinces, the West Coast, and the North. (pg. 16)**
6. Which region covers more than one-third of Canada?  
**Canada's northern region, comprised of the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, covers more than one-third of Canada. (pg. 27)**
7. In which region do more than half the people in Canada live?  
**More than half the people in Canada live in cities and towns in southern Quebec and Ontario, close to the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River. (pg. 20)**
8. One-third of all Canadians live in which province?  
**Over 11 million people, or roughly one third of Canada's population, live in Ontario. (pg. 21)**
9. Where are the Canadian Rockies?  
**The Canadian Rockies are located along the border between Alberta and British Columbia. (pg. 23)**

10. Where are the Great Lakes?  
**The Great Lakes are located along the border between Canada (in southern Ontario) and the United States of America. (pg. 17, 20)**
11. Which mountain range is on the border between Alberta and British Columbia?  
**In southern Alberta, the open prairies gradually rise to meet the Rocky Mountains along the border of British Columbia. (pg. 23)**
12. Where are the Parliament buildings located?  
**The national capital of Canada is Ottawa, Ontario. This is where the federal government and the Parliament buildings are located. (pg. 16)**
13. Which country borders Canada on the south?  
**The United States of America (USA) borders Canada on the south. (pg. 16-17)**
14. What are the Prairie provinces?  
**Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are called the Prairie Provinces. (pg. 23)**
15. Which province in Canada is the smallest in land size?  
**Prince Edward Island is Canada's smallest province in land size. (pg. 17)**
16. What is a major river in Quebec?  
**The St. Lawrence River is a major river in Quebec. (pg.17)**
17. On what date did Nunavut become a territory?  
**Nunavut became a territory on April 1, 1999. (pg. 27)**

## ***Economy***

1. What are the three main types of industries in Canada?  
**The three main types of industries in Canada are natural resources, manufacturing and services. (pg. 9)**
2. In what industry do most Canadians work?  
**More than 70% of working Canadians now have jobs in service industries. (pg. 9)**
3. What country is Canada's largest trading partner?  
**Our largest international trading partner is the United States. (pg. 9)**
4. Which region is known as the industrial and manufacturing heartland of Canada?  
**Central Canada, which is made up of Ontario and Quebec, is the industrial and manufacturing heartland of Canada. (pg. 20)**
5. Which region of Canada is known for both its fertile agricultural land and valuable energy resources?  
**The Prairie Provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta) are known for their fertile agricultural land and valuable energy resources. (pg. 23)**

## ***Federal Government***

1. Who is Canada's Head of State?  
**Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is Canada's Head of State. (pg. 13, 29)**
2. Who is the Queen's representative in Canada?  
**The Governor General is the Queen's representative in Canada. (pg. 13, 29)**
- \* 3. What is the name of the Governor General?  
**Rt. Hon. Michaëlle Jean.**  
**Source: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)**
4. What do you call the Queen's representative in the provinces?  
**The provinces have representatives of the Queen, known as the lieutenant governors. (pg. 13)**
5. What is Canada's system of government called?  
**Canada has a system of parliamentary government. (pg. 29)**
6. What are the three parts of Parliament?  
**The three parts of Parliament are the Queen, the House of Commons and the Senate. (pg. 29)**
7. Explain how the levels of government are different.  
**The three levels of government have different areas of responsibility. The responsibilities of the federal and provincial governments were first defined in 1867 in the British North America Act.**  
  
**In general, the federal government takes major responsibility for matters that affect all of Canada. These include national defence, foreign policy and citizenship.**  
  
**Provincial and territorial governments look after such matters as education, health care and highways. They share responsibilities with the federal government in some areas.**  
  
**The municipal (or local) governments of each city or community are responsible for matters such as firefighting, snow removal and recycling programs.**  
  
**Canadian citizens can vote in elections for all levels of government. (pg. 29)**
8. What do you call a law before it is passed?  
**A bill is a law before it is passed. (pg. 29)**
9. How are members of Parliament chosen?  
**Canadians elect representatives, called members of Parliament (or MPs), to sit in the House of Commons. (pg. 29)**

10. Who do members of Parliament represent?  
**An MP represents everyone who lives in his or her electoral district, even the people who did not vote for him or her. (pg. 32)**
11. How does a bill become law?  
**To become law, a bill must be approved by majorities in both the House of Commons and the Senate. Once a majority of MPs and Senators have approved a bill, the Governor General gives final approval and the bill becomes law. (pg. 29)**
12. What are the three levels of government in Canada?  
**The three levels of government in Canada are federal, provincial/territorial and municipal (local). (pg. 29)**
13. Name two responsibilities for each level of government.  
**Including all listed in A Look at Canada:  
Federal - national defence, foreign policy, citizenship.  
Provincial/Territorial - education, health care, highways.  
Municipal (Local) - firefighting, snow removal, recycling programs. (pg. 29)**
14. What is the government of all of Canada called?  
**The government of all of Canada is called the federal government. (pg. 29)**

### ***Federal Elections***

1. How many electoral districts are there in Canada?  
**There are 308 electoral districts in Canada. (pg. 32)**
- \*  
2. In what electoral district do you live?  
**Answer: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)**
3. Who has the right to vote in federal elections?  
**One of the privileges and responsibilities of Canadian citizenship is the right to vote. (pg. 33)**
4. What three requirements must you meet in order to vote in a federal election?  
**You are eligible to vote in a federal election if you are a Canadian citizen; and at least 18 years old on voting day; and on the voters list. (pg. 33)**
5. What is written on a federal election ballot?  
**The ballot lists the names of the candidates in your electoral district in alphabetical order. (pg. 34)**
6. What do you mark on a federal election ballot?  
**You mark the ballot by writing an "X" in the circle beside the name of your chosen candidate. (pg. 34)**

7. How is a government formed after an election?  
**After an election, the party with the most elected representatives becomes the party in power. (pg. 35)**
8. How is the Prime Minister chosen?  
**The Prime Minister is the leader of the political party with the most elected representatives. (pg. 35)**
9. When does an election have to be held according to the Constitution?  
**According to Canada's Constitution, an election must be held within five years of the last election. (pg. 32)**
- \* 10. Name all the federal political parties in the House of Commons and their leaders.
- **Conservative Party – Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper.**
  - **Liberal Party – Stéphane Dion.**
  - **Bloc Québécois – Gilles Duceppe.**
  - **New Democratic Party – Jack Layton.**
- Source: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)
11. Which party becomes the official opposition?  
**The parties that are not in power are called the opposition parties. The opposition party with the most members of the House of Commons is the official opposition. (pg. 35)**
12. What is the role of the opposition parties?  
**The role of the opposition parties is to oppose or try to improve government proposals (pg. 35)**
- \* 13. Which party is the official opposition at the federal level?  
**Liberal Party.**  
Source: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)
- \* 14. Name the Prime Minister of Canada and his party.  
**Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper is the Prime Minister and his party is the Conservative Party.**  
Source: [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)
- \* 15. Name your member of Parliament and the party he or she belongs to.  
**Answer: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)**
16. What is a voter information card?  
**Once an election has been called, Elections Canada mails a voter information card to each elector whose name is in the National Register of Electors. The card tells you when and where to vote. If you require an interpreter or other special services, it tells you the number to call. (pg. 34)**

17. Who has the right to run as a candidate in federal elections?  
**Canadian citizens who are at least 18 years old may run in a federal election. (pg. 32)**
18. Who do Canadians vote for in a federal election?  
**In a federal election, Canadians vote for the people they want to represent them in the House of Commons. The people in each electoral district vote for the candidate of their choice. (pg. 32)**
19. What do political parties do?  
**A political party is a group of people who share ideas about how the government should work. Members of political parties hold meetings where they discuss their ideas and opinions. They develop plans for what they would do if their candidates were elected to form the government. The plans they make are called the party platform. (pg. 33)**
- \* 20. Which federal political party is in power?  
**Conservative Party.**  
**Source: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)**
21. How are senators chosen?  
**Senators are chosen by the Prime Minister and appointed by the Governor General. (pg. 29)**
22. What should you do if you do not receive a voter information card telling you when and where to vote?  
**If you do not receive a voter information card, call Elections Canada toll-free at 1-800-463-6868 or visit their web site at [www.elections.ca](http://www.elections.ca). (pg. 34)**
23. After a federal election, which party forms the new government?  
**After an election, the party with the most elected representatives forms the new government. (pg. 35)**

## Section II. Questions about your region \*

1. What is the capital city of the province or territory in which you live?  
**Edmonton is the capital city of Alberta. (pg. 17)**
2. List three natural resources important to your region's economy today.  
**Energy, Agriculture, Forestry, Mining (pg. 23-24)**
3. Who is your city councillor, alderperson, reeve or regional councillor?  
**Answer: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)**
4. What is the name of your mayor?  
**Stephen Mandel.**  
**Source: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)**
5. What is the name of your provincial representative (member of the Legislative Assembly, member of the provincial Parliament, member of the National Assembly or member of the House of Assembly)?  
**Note: In Alberta, provincial representatives are called members of the Legislative Assembly.**  
**Answer: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)**
6. What is the name of the premier of your province or territory?  
**Hon. Ed Stelmach.**  
**Source: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)**
7. Which political party is in power in your province or territory?  
**Progressive Conservative Party.**  
**Source: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)**
8. What is the name of the leader of the opposition in your province?  
**Kevin Taft.**  
**Source: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)**
9. What is the name of your lieutenant governor or commissioner?  
**Hon. Norman L. Kwong.**  
**Source: Use [EPL's Citizenship Test FAQs](#)**