

# Citizenship: Just the Facts

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*allegiance* - loyalty to a person, country, or belief

## The Oath of *Allegiance*

*abjure* - reject

I hereby declare, on oath,

*potentate* - ruler

that I absolutely and entirely renounce and ***abjure*** all ***allegiance*** and fidelity to any foreign prince, ***potentate***, state, or sovereignty of whom or which I have ***heretofore*** been a subject or citizen;

*heretofore* - until now

that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic;

*noncombatant service* - duties other than fighting

that I will *bear true faith* and ***allegiance*** to the same;

that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law;

that I will perform ***noncombatant service*** in the Armed Forces of the United States when required by the law;

*reservation* - doubt about something

that I will perform work of national importance under *civilian direction* when required by the law;

and that I take this obligation freely without any *mental reservation* or purpose of ***evasion***, so help me God.

*evasion* - avoiding the truth

**Is it in the Oath?** First, put an X next to the lines that are required by the Oath of Allegiance.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Giving loyalty to the Constitution of the United States.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Giving loyalty to vegetables. Vegetables are the best.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Protecting and supporting the Constitution and laws of the U.S. against any attack.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Promising to always take care of the environment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Promising all these things without hesitation and without lying.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Fulfilling duties other than fighting to support the Armed Forces.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Serving both my new country and my old country.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Swearing to say the Pledge of Allegiance every day.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Doing things that are important to the nation when the law requires it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Serving in the military to protect the United States when the law says I need to.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Promising to take care of my family and friends.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Completely rejecting all loyalty that I have to another country or ruler.



# The Oath of Allegiance



## EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

### Why Do You Think? — Responsibilities

There are many responsibilities of U.S. citizens. Why do you think these responsibilities are considered important? Write a sentence about each one and discuss your ideas with the class.

Remember: These are **your** opinions – there is no right or wrong answer.

1. Be loyal to the Constitution.

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2. Obey the laws of the United States.

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3. Register for the Selective Service.

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4. Pay federal taxes.

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5. Serve on a jury.

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6. Vote in elections.

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