

Hi,

Here Héctor from www.blogcanadiense.com, although my blog is in Spanish, I wanted to share some material that I used for preparing myself for the citizenship testing. I took my exam on April 28th 2009.

I prepared this sort of guide when studying for the test. **I think that it's necessary to study the booklet in order to pass the exam; if you do not study it and understand it you may fail the exam, so please study the booklet "A Look at Canada".**

I do recommend reading the booklet (A Look at Canada) and then, only then, using this notes for reviewing what you have learned from the booklet.

Please take into account that I prepared these for my own use and I did actually use this material for studying; Be aware that although I made my best to avoid any errors, and that in fact I did pass my exam with the highest possible mark for the exam (20 points!), understand that the objective of this notes were for my own use and I won't be liable for any errors in the transcription, content, etc. So, make sure you read the booklet "A look at Canada". Here is the link to it:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/publications/look/index.asp>

You will notice that I answered the questions and for each answer I added the reference to the page where the answer can be found within the booklet "A Look at Canada". This will facilitate your reviewing of the answers.

If there is any mistake in these notes please let me know by sending an email to: [blogcanadiense\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:blogcanadiense@gmail.com)

Taken from the book **A Look at Canada**

(<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/pub/look.pdf>)

A Look at Canada

Citizenship test: Questions

The questions in the citizenship test are based on information provided in this booklet. The test includes questions about

- the right to vote in elections in Canada;
- the right to run for elected office;
- voting procedures in Canada and how to register yourself as a voter;
- Canada's main historical and geographical features;
- the rights and responsibilities of a citizen;
- the structure of Canadian government; and
- Confederation.

You should also be ready to answer more specific questions about your region's economy, geography and history. Use the questions below to prepare for your test. All the answers to the questions in Section I can be found in this booklet.

[Section II](#) contains questions about your region. You will have to find the answers to these questions yourself.

Section I: Questions about Canada

Aboriginal peoples

1. Who are the Aboriginal peoples of Canada?

The Aboriginal peoples were the first people to live in Canada. (Page 14)

2. What are the three main groups of Aboriginal peoples?

The Constitution Act of 1982 recognizes three main groups of Aboriginal peoples in Canada: the First Nations, the Inuit and the Métis. (Page 14)

3. From whom are the Métis descended?

Many early French fur traders and some English traders married First Nations women. Their descendants are called the Métis people. (Page 15)

4. Which group of Aboriginal peoples make up more than half the population of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut?

I did not find a very direct answer to this question, but it can be obtained from page 15, page 27 and the table in page 28 called Population (approximate).

5. Why are the Aboriginal peoples of Canada working toward self-government?

The Canadian government continues to negotiate with Aboriginal peoples so that they can regain control over decisions that affect them and manage their own affairs. This is known as self-government. Canada is also working with them to improve their economic situation and general quality of life (page 15).

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

1. Where did the first European settlers in Canada come from?

French settlers, who became known as Acadians, were the first Europeans to settle permanently in Canada (page 18).

2. Why did the early explorers first come to Atlantic Canada?

Early European explorers first came to this part of Canada to fish and trade with Aboriginal peoples (page 18).

3. What three industries helped the early settlers build communities in the Atlantic region?

Later, settlers built strong communities that thrived on farming, fishing and shipbuilding (page 18).

4. Who were the United Empire Loyalists?

During and after the American Revolution (1775–1783), thousands of people left the United States. They became known as United Empire Loyalists (page 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 (page 20).

6. Which trade spread across Canada, making it important to the economy for over 300 years?

For this one I did not find the direct answer in the booklet but it's Fur trade.

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 (page 20).

8. What important trade did the Hudson's Bay Company control?

The Hudson's Bay Company controlled the northern lands and fur trade for 300 years (page 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 (page 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 (page 12).

2. What is the Canadian Constitution?

Canada's Constitution is the system of laws and conventions that we Canadians use to govern ourselves (page 13).

3. What year was Confederation?

Confederation was made official by the British North America Act of 1867 (page 12)

4. When did the *British North America Act* come into effect?

Confederation was made official by the British North America Act of 1867 (page 12)

5. Why is the *British North America Act* important in Canadian history?

Because Confederation was made official, which made official the creation of Canada when the provinces know as **Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia** joined together (page 12).

6. Which four provinces first formed Confederation?

Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia joined together (page 12).

7. Which was the last province to join Canada?

Last Province was Newfoundland in 1949. Nunavut joined later but Nunavut is not a province (page 12).

8. When is Canada Day and what does it celebrate?

Each year on July 1, we celebrate Canada Day, the anniversary of Confederation (page 13).

9. Who was the first Prime Minister of Canada?

In 1867, Sir John A. Macdonald became the first Prime Minister of Canada. His picture is on the ten-dollar bill (page 12).

10. Why is the *Constitution Act*, 1982 important in Canadian history?

Because it gave the Parliament of Canada the power to change our constitution. 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 (page 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 (page 38).

2. When did the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* become part of the Canadian Constitution?

The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms also became part of the Canadian Constitution in 1982 (page 13).

3. Name two fundamental freedoms protected by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

Fundamental freedoms, such as freedom of religion, thought, belief, opinion and expression; (page 37)

4. Name three legal rights protected by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

Legal rights, including the right to life, liberty and security of the person;
(page 37)

Legal rights, such as the right to a fair trial; equality rights, such as the
right to protection against discrimination (page 38);

5. List three ways in which you can protect the environment.

Check out pages 10 & 11.

6. Who has the right to apply for a Canadian passport?

Canadian citizens (page 39)

7. What does equality under the law mean?

Equality under the law. Every Canadian has an equal right to the
protection and services of the police and the courts (page 37).

8. Name six responsibilities of citizenship.

All Canadian citizens have the responsibility to

- 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; and
- eliminate discrimination and injustice. (page 39)

9. Give an example of how you can show responsibility by participating in your community.

- join a community group such as an environmental group;
- volunteer to work on an election campaign for a candidate of your choice;
- Help your neighbours;
- Work with others to solve problems in your community; and

- Become a candidate in an election (page 39).

10. List four rights Canadian citizens have.

- 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; and
- Enter and leave Canada freely (page 39).

11. What will you promise when you take the Oath of Citizenship?

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. (page 40)

Languages

1. What are the two official languages of Canada?

English and French are Canada's two official languages. (page 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; (page 8)

3. Where do most French-speaking Canadians live?

In Quebec

4. Which province has the most bilingual Canadians?

Over one-third of the population in Quebec speak both French and English, making it the province with the highest number of bilingual Canadians. (page 20)

5. Which province is the only officially bilingual province?

New Brunswick is the only officially bilingual province in Canada.(page 18)

Symbols

1. What does the Canadian flag look like?

In 1965, Canada adopted its official red and white flag with the maple leaf. All federal government buildings fly the Canadian flag. (page 13)

2. What song is Canada's national anthem?

O Canada

O Canada! Our home and native land!

True patriot love in all thy sons command

With glowing hearts we see thee rise

The true North strong and free!

From far and wide, O Canada

We stand on guard for thee

God keep our land glorious and free!

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee

(page 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

4. Where does the name "Canada" come from?

Read page 13, section Where does the name Canada come from.

5. Which animal is an official symbol of Canada?

The beaver is one of the symbols of Canada. It appears on the five-cent coin. (page 12)

6. What is the tower in the centre of the Parliament buildings called?

The Parliament buildings are in Ottawa, Ontario, the capital of Canada. The tower in the centre of the buildings is called the Peace Tower (page 12)

Geography

1. What is the population of Canada?

Canada has a fairly small population, About 31 million people live here. (page 16)

2. What three oceans border on Canada?

Three oceans line Canada's borders: the Pacific Ocean on the west, the Atlantic Ocean on the east, and the Arctic Ocean to the north. (page 16)

3. What is the capital city of Canada?

The national capital of Canada is Ottawa, Ontario (page 16)

4. Name all the provinces and territories and their capital cities.

Study table on page 17.

5. Name the five regions of Canada.

Study table on page 17.

6. Which region covers more than one-third of Canada?

Canada's northern region is divided into the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. Together, they cover more than one-third of Canada. (page 27)

7. In which region do more than half the people in Canada live?

Central Canada is made up of Ontario and Quebec. 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. (page 20).

8. One-third of all Canadians live in which province?

Ontario is the Canadian province with the largest population. Over 12 million people, or roughly one third of Canada's population, live in Ontario. (page 21)

9. Where are the Canadian Rockies?

In southern Alberta, the open prairies gradually rise to meet the Rocky Mountains along the border of British Columbia. (page 23)

10. Where are the Great Lakes?

There are five Great Lakes between Canada and the United States. They are Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan and Lake Superior. (page 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. (page 23)

12. Where are the Parliament buildings located?

The Parliament buildings are in Ottawa, Ontario, the capital of Canada. (page 12)

13. Which country borders Canada on the south?

Look at the map on page 16 – 17 (It's United States of America)

14. What are the Prairie provinces?

Study table on page 17.

15. Which province in Canada is the smallest in land size?

Study map on page 16 – 17 (It's Prince Edward Island)

16. What is a major river in Quebec?

There is no the typical straight forward answer, but you can get it from your reading of the book (It's St. Lawrence River, here some reading supporting that) Page 20

The first people to live in Quebec were the First Nations people and the Inuit. The Aboriginal peoples who lived near the St. Lawrence River were fur traders who taught the early settlers how to survive. There are still many Aboriginal communities throughout Quebec today.

17. On what date did Nunavut become a territory?

The people in the Northwest Territories voted to make the eastern region into a new, separate territory called Nunavut. It came into existence on April 1, 1999. (Page 27)

Economy

1. What are the three main types of industries in Canada?

Canada's economy is made up of many different industries. There are three main types of industries in Canada: natural resources, manufacturing and services. (page 9)

2. In what industry do most Canadians work?

Service industries provide thousands of different jobs in areas like transportation, education, health care, construction, banking, communications, retail services and government. More than 70 percent of working Canadians now have jobs in service industries. (page 9)

3. What country is Canada's largest trading partner?

Our largest international trading partner is the United States. (page 9)

4. Which region is known as the industrial and manufacturing heartland of Canada?

Central Canada is made up of Ontario and Quebec. 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. This area is the industrial and manufacturing heartland of Canada. Together, Ontario and Quebec produce more than three-quarters of all Canadian manufactured goods. (page 20)

5. Which region of Canada is known for both its fertile agricultural land and valuable energy resources?

Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are called the Prairie provinces. This region of Canada is known for its fertile agricultural land and valuable energy resources. (page 23)

Federal government

1. Who is Canada's Head of State?

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is our Head of State. (page 29)

2. Who is the Queen's representative in Canada?

The Governor General of Canada is the Queen's representative in Canada. (Page 29)

3. What is the name of the Governor General?

Michaëlle Jean (be aware that depending on when you read this notes this question needs to be reviewed, please investigate this one by yourself)

4. What do you call the Queen's representative in the provinces?

The provinces also have representatives of the Queen, known as lieutenant governors. (Page 13)

5. What is Canada's system of government called?

Canada is a democracy. It has a system of **parliamentary government.** (Page 29)

6. What are the three parts of Parliament?

Parliament has three parts: the Queen, the House of Commons and the Senate. (Page 29)

7. Explain how the levels of government are different.

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 high - ways. 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. (Page 29)

8. What do you call a law before it is passed?

When the government proposes a new law to Parliament, it is called a bill. (Page 29)

9. How are members of Parliament chosen?

The people in each electoral district vote for the candidate of their choice. The candidate who receives the most votes becomes the member of the House of Commons for that electoral district. (Page 32)

10. Who do members of Parliament represent?

A member of the House of Commons represents everyone who lives in his or her electoral district, even the people who did not vote for him or her. (Page 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. (Page 29)

12. What are the three levels of government in Canada?

There are federal, provincial, territorial and municipal (or local) levels of government in Canada. (Page 29)

13. Name two responsibilities for each level of government.

Read answer to question 7 in this same section also understand table on page 30

14. What is the government of all of Canada called?

Federal

In general, the federal government takes major responsibility for matters that affect all of Canada. (Page 29)

Canada is a large country with a small population. We have developed a unique federal style of government that is based on compromise and coexistence. We value our democracy, and every citizen is encouraged to do his or her share. Our laws are based on our democratic values. (Page 7)

Federal elections

1. How many electoral districts are there in Canada?

Canada is divided into 308 electoral districts.

An electoral district is a geographical area represented by a member of the House of Commons. (Page 32)

2. In what electoral district do you live?

Check it out at <http://www.elections.ca/>

3. Who has the right to vote in federal elections?

You are eligible to vote in a federal election or cast a ballot in a federal referendum if you are

- a Canadian citizen; and
- at least 18 years old on voting day; and
- on the voters list.

(Page 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 or cast a ballot in a federal referendum if you are

- a Canadian citizen; and
- at least 18 years old on voting day; and
- on the voters list.

(Page 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. (Page 34)

6. What do you mark on a federal election ballot?

Mark the ballot by writing an "X" in the circle beside the name of your chosen candidate. (Page 34)

7. How is the government formed after an election?

After an election, the party with the most elected representatives becomes the party in power. The leader of this party becomes the Prime Minister. (Page 35)

8. How is the Prime Minister chosen?

After an election, the party with the most elected representatives becomes the party in power. The leader of this party becomes the Prime Minister. (Page 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. (Page 32)

10. Name all the federal political parties in the House of Commons and their leaders.

At the time when I took the exam they were:

Party in power (Conservative) Stephen Harper, Michel Ignatieff (Liberal Party), Jack Layton (NDP – New Democratic Party), Gilles Duceppe (Bloc Quebecois)

(Please, be aware that depending on when you read this notes this question needs to be reviewed, please investigate this one by yourself). You can ask for help at the Public Library

11. Which party becomes the official opposition?

The opposition party with the most members of the House of Commons is the official opposition. (Page 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. (Page 35)

13. Which party is the official opposition at the federal level?

The Liberal Party (Please, be aware that depending on when you read this notes this question needs to be reviewed, please investigate this one by yourself).

14. Name the Prime Minister of Canada and his party.

Stephen Harper – Conservative Party

15. Name your member of Parliament and the party he or she belongs to.

You can check in www.elections.ca or at the public library

16. What is a voter information card?

... 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. (Page 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. (Page 32)

18. Who do Canadians vote for in a federal election?

Canadians vote in elections for the people they want to represent them in the House of Commons. (Page 32)

19. What do political parties do?

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. (Page 33)

20. Which federal political party is in power?

Conservative Party

(Please, be aware that depending on when you read this notes this question needs to be reviewed, please investigate this one by yourself).

21. How are senators chosen?

The people who serve in the Senate are chosen by the Prime Minister and appointed by the Governor General. They are called senators. (Page 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 your local elections office to make sure you are on the voters list. If you do not have the number, call Elections Canada, in Ottawa, at 1 800 463-6868. (Page 36)

23. After a federal election, which party forms the new government?

After an election, the party with the most elected representatives becomes the party in power. (Page 35)

Section II. Questions about your region

1. What is the capital city of the province or territory in which you live?

This depends where you live in. Visit the Booklet section called: "For more information". There you can see where/how to get more information for answering these questions (Page 41)

2. List three natural resources important to your region's economy today.

This depends where you live in. Visit the Booklet section called: "For more information". There you can see where/how to get more information for answering these questions (Page 41)

3. Who is your city councillor, alderperson, reeve or regional councillor?

This depends where you live in. Visit the Booklet section called: "For more information". There you can see where/how to get more information for answering these questions (Page 41)

4. What is the name of your mayor?

This depends where you live in. Visit the Booklet section called: "For more information". There you can see where/how to get more information for answering these questions (Page 41)

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)?

This depends where you live in. Visit the Booklet section called: "For more information". There you can see where/how to get more information for answering these questions (Page 41)

6. What is the name of the premier of your province or territory?

This depends where you live in. Visit the Booklet section called: "For more information". There you can see where/how to get more information for answering these questions (Page 41)

7. Which political party is in power in your province or territory?

This depends where you live in. Visit the Booklet section called: "For more information". There you can see where/how to get more information for answering these questions (Page 41)

8. What is the name of the leader of the opposition in your province?

This depends where you live in. Visit the Booklet section called: "For more information". There you can see where/how to get more information for answering these questions (Page 41)

9. What is the name of your lieutenant governor or commissioner?

This depends where you live in. Visit the Booklet section called: "For more information". There you can see where/how to get more information for answering these questions (Page 41)

These questions have been developed as a study guide. Your citizenship test is made up of similar questions.

Remember study and get prepared for the exam.

The exam is easy once you passed it!!!

But, it's necessary to learn the information from the booklet.

If you have worked so hard to become permanent resident, becoming a Canadian Citizen will deserve the extra effort and dedication, so do not drop the ball before you reach the finish line.

GOOD LUCK

Héctor @ www.blogcanadiense.com