

Know The USA® cards - Answer Key

Card #	Title	Question	Answer
1	Pre-European Contact	What caused a reduction of Indian populations?	wars, disease brought by Europeans, famine, forced labor
2	Early Contacts and Settlements	When did lasting European contact begin in North America?	late 1400s
3	Land Acquisition	What islands were known as the "Sandwich Islands"?	Hawaiian Islands (Hawaii)
4	Indian Wars I	Who did the Indians form alliances with?	French, Spanish, English, Colonists, other Indian tribes & nations
5	Indian Wars II	Who fought in the <i>Battle of Little Bighorn</i> ?	Cheyenne and Sioux Indians vs. US Calvary and Lt. Colonel George Custer
6	Continental Congresses	Why did the 2nd Continental Congress take place?	King George did not respond to the petition of the 1st Continental Congress
7	Declaration of Independence	What is the purpose of the 2 body sections?	1 st Section - Lists the grievances against King George III 2 nd Section - States that the Colonists have appealed in vain
8	Revolutionary War	What event made France decide to join the war?	Colonial (now called the US) victory against the English at Saratoga, NY in 1777
9	Articles of Confederation	List 2 reasons why the Articles failed.	see card back for list of reasons
10	Constitutional Influences I	Why did the Colonists raise arms?	To preserve liberties that they felt were denied to them
11	Constitutional Influences II	What was the Magna Carta?	Bound the King and heirs to grant rights and liberties to freemen
12	Federalist Essays	Why were they written?	To convince the public (mostly NY State) to ratify the Constitution
13	US Constitution	Can the Constitution be changed? How?	Yes. By Amendment.
14	Distribution of Powers	What is a Republic?	Supreme power resides in the citizens. The power is given to representatives elected by the people.
15	List of States	Name the first and last states admitted.	First: Delaware. December 07, 1787 Last: Hawaii. August 21, 1959
16	Separation of Powers	How many branches of government are there?	3 branches - Executive, Legislative, Judicial
17	Executive Branch	How many years can a President serve?	10 years - up to 2 years of taking over for another President and 2 more 4-year terms.
18	List of Presidents	Which President served 2 non-consecutive terms?	Stephen Grover Cleveland, elected as the 22nd and the 24th President
19	Electoral College	Does the Electoral College have to follow popular opinion?	Constitutionally, the electors can vote for any candidate and do not have to follow the popular vote.
20	Legislative Branch	Why is this branch called 'bicameral'?	<i>Bicameral</i> is a Latin word and means '2 chambers'. The 2 chambers are The House of Representatives and The Senate
21	Congressional Houses	How long can Representatives and Senators serve?	A Representative can serve unlimited 2-year terms and a Senator can serve unlimited 6-year terms

22	How a Law is Made	What can the President do with a bill?	1. Sign it and it becomes a law 2. veto it (reject it) 3. not act on it
23	Judicial Branch	How long can Supreme Court judges serve?	"during good behaviour", interpreted as "for life"
24	Supreme Court Decisions	Was segregation ever legal?	Yes. 1896 - <i>Plessy vs. Ferguson</i> allowed separate but equal facilities for blacks
25	Checks & Balances	What is the purpose of Checks & Balances?	To create barriers to tyranny and a concentration of power. It prevents a majority from ruling without restrictions.
26	Bill of Rights	What does the Bill of Rights do?	They provide protection (rights) to the people.
27	US Flag	What do the strips and stars represent?	Stripes represent the 13 Original Colonies. Stars represent the States, 1 for each State.
28	Pledge of Allegiance	When was the Pledge written?	1892
29	Great Seal of the USA	What does 'E Pluribus Unum' mean?	Latin for "From many one", "Out on many comes on"
30	National Anthem	During what war was this poem written?	War of 1812
31	Statue of Liberty	Why did the French give the Statue to the US?	To commemorate the 100th anniversary of US independence and US friendship with France.
32	Liberty Bell	How did the bell achieve its name?	Abolitionists used the bell as a symbol for their movement in 1839.
33	Slavery	When and how was slavery abolished in the US?	The 13th Amendment abolished slavery in 1865.
34	War of 1812	Name 2 causes of the war?	see card back for list of reasons
35	War with Mexico	Name 2 causes of the war?	see card back for list of reasons
36	Civil War I	Name 2 causes of the war?	see card back for list of reasons
37	Civil War II	What struggles remained after the war?	National struggles on how to admit formerly rebellious states; who had the power to set policy (President or Congress); how to reintegrate slaves into a non-slave society; granting of full or partial rights to blacks
38	Buffalo Soldiers	Why were these soldiers given this name?	The Indians gave the soldiers this name because of the soldiers fighting spirit, combat prowess, bravery, tenacity, and valor. (Like a Buffalo)
39	Spanish - American War	Explain the significance of the <i>Battleship Maine</i> .	The US used the excuse of the explosion of the Maine to declare war on Spain.
40	Women's Rights and Suffrage	What is important about Seneca Falls?	It was the location of the 1 st women's rights convention.
41	World War I	When and why did the US join the war?	The US joined in 1917. See card back for list of events that led to US involvement.
42	Great Depression	What did President Roosevelt do to help recovery?	He enacted a series of acts and programs (called the "New Deal") and increased social spending from \$3.9 billion to \$4.6 billion.
43	World War II-Overview	When and why did the US enter the war?	After the December 7, 1941 Japanese surprise attack on the US Naval Fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

44	World War II - Pacific and European Theatres	When did Germany declare war on the US?	Several days after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.
45	Cold War	What was the Berlin Airlift?	The Allies airlifted food to W. Berlin which was blockaded by E. Germany.
46	Korean War	When was the peace treaty signed to end the war?	A peace treaty was never signed. An armistice was signed in 1953.
47	Vietnam War - Beginnings	How did Vietnam become divided?	1945, after WWII, when France tried to reclaim its colonial possession.
48	Vietnam War - Endings	What President began to end US involvement? How?	President Nixon began troop withdrawal and began to train and use more Vietnamese troops.
49	Gulf War	Why did the US want to remove Iraqi troops from Kuwait?	Regional stability, human rights, control of oil in the region
50	Other US Military Interventions	Name 3 reasons for US intervention.	see card back for list of reasons
51	Civil Rights	What technology helped support for civil rights?	Television - broadcasts of protests and violence shocked the nation and increased support for civil rights.
52	Civil Rights Leaders and Groups	Name 2 groups and their methods used?	see card back for list of groups and methods
53	Authors I	Name 3 authors and 1 of their works.	see card back for authors and their works
54	Authors II	Name 3 authors and 1 of their works.	see card back for authors and their works
55	Building America	What groups helped make the US a world power?	Spanish, American Indians, Chinese, Irish, Italians, Germans, Civil War Veterans, Women, Men, slaves, migrant workers, child labor, Mexicans, etc.
56	US Facts	Name the longest river and largest city in the US.	Missouri River, New York City
57	Outlaws - Gangsters	Name 3 outlaws and one aspect of their crime.	see card back for list of outlaws and their crimes
58	Industrialists & Entrepreneurs	Name 3 entrepreneurs and what they created.	see card back for list of entrepreneurs and what they created
59	Inventors	Name 3 inventors and what they invented.	see card back for list of inventors and what they created
60	Important People and Legends	Who helped develop the Declaration of Human Rights?	Eleanor Roosevelt