

## 2024-2025 We the People State Hearing Questions: Middle School Division

Directions: The following state-level We the People...the Citizen and the Constitution hearing questions are for middle school use with the mock congressional hearings. For each unit, students will prepare a four-minute presentation addressing all bullet points contained in the unit. The judges will read the full set of questions for each unit and the response for four minutes must address all bullet points. Following the prepared testimony, judges will have six minutes to ask a variety of follow up questions. Students will not know the follow up questions in advance.

### Unit 1

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## Unit 4

How was the Constitution used to establish our government?

- How did the Constitution create a federal system of government?
- How did the people approve the new Constitution?
- What are political parties and how did they develop? What were some of James Madison's fears about political parties or factions?
- What is judicial review and how does it apply to laws passed by the state and federal governments?

## Unit 5

How does the Constitution protect our basic rights?

- What rights are protected in the First Amendment?
- How have voting amendments to the U.S. Constitution affected participation in the political process? What groups can vote because of constitutional amendments?
- Which amendment to the Constitution has been most significant? Why?

## Unit 6

What are the responsibilities of citizens?

- What are the greatest responsibilities of citizens?
- What are the most important ways citizens can participate in government? How can we improve the participation of citizens in government?
- At your age, how can you participate in government?
- What means of participation in government is at greatest risk today?