



Task Title: Learning About Canadian Citizenship

OALCF Cover Sheet – Practitioner Copy

Learner Name: _____

Date Started: _____

Date Completed: _____

Successful Completion: Yes ☐ No ☐

Goal Path: Employment ☐ Apprenticeship ☐

Secondary School ☐ Post Secondary ☐ Independence ☐

Task Description: The learner will read about the rights and responsibilities of Canadian citizenship and write an opinion paragraph about the importance of one responsibility.

Main Competency/Task Group/Level Indicator:

- Find and Use Information/Read continuous text/A1.2
- Communicate Ideas and Information/Write continuous text/B2.3

Materials Required:

- Pen/pencil and paper and/or digital device

Learner Information

Every Canadian needs to understand the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Newcomers to Canada learn about rights and responsibilities before writing a test as part of the Canadian citizenship application process.

Read "Rights and Responsibilities of Canadian Citizenship".

Rights and Responsibilities of Canadian Citizenship

Canadian citizens have rights and responsibilities. These come to us from our history, are secured by Canadian law, and reflect our shared traditions, identity and values.

Canadian law has several sources, including laws passed by Parliament and the provincial legislatures, English common law, the civil code of France and the unwritten constitution that we have inherited from Great Britain.

Together, these secure for Canadians an 800-year-old tradition of ordered liberty, which dates back to the signing of Magna Carta in 1215 in England (also known as the Great Charter of Freedoms), including:

- freedom of conscience and religion;
- freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of speech and of the press;
- freedom of peaceful assembly; and
- freedom of association.

The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* summarizes fundamental freedoms while also setting out additional rights. The most important of these include:

- Mobility Rights — Canadians can live and work anywhere they choose in Canada, enter and leave the country freely, and apply for a passport.
- Aboriginal Peoples' Rights — The rights guaranteed in the Charter will not adversely affect any treaty or other rights or freedoms of Aboriginal peoples.
- Official Language Rights and Minority Language Educational Rights — French and English have equal status in Parliament and throughout the government.
- Multiculturalism — A fundamental characteristic of the Canadian heritage and identity. Canadians celebrate the gift of one another's presence and work hard to respect pluralism and live in harmony.

Task Title: LearningAboutCanadianCitizenship_S_A1.2_B2.3

In Canada, rights come with responsibilities. These include:

- Obeying the law — One of Canada's founding principles is the rule of law. Individuals and governments are regulated by laws and not by arbitrary actions. No person or group is above the law.
- Taking responsibility for oneself and one's family — Getting a job, taking care of one's family and working hard in keeping with one's abilities are important Canadian values. Work contributes to personal dignity and self-respect, and to Canada's prosperity.
- Serving on a jury — When called to do so, you are legally required to serve. Serving on a jury is a privilege that makes the justice system work as it depends on impartial juries made up of citizens.
- Voting in elections — The right to vote comes with a responsibility to vote in federal, provincial or territorial and local elections.
- Helping others in the community — Millions of volunteers freely donate their time to help others without pay—helping people in need, assisting at your child's school, volunteering at a food bank or other charity, or encouraging newcomers to integrate. Volunteering is an excellent way to gain useful skills and develop friends and contacts.
- Protecting and enjoying our heritage and environment — Every citizen has a role to play in avoiding waste and pollution while protecting Canada's natural, cultural and architectural heritage for future generations.

[Sourced from: Discover Canada: The Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship]

Work Sheet

Task 1: List the four (4) types of freedoms guaranteed for Canadians.

Answer:

Task 2: Which Canadian Charter Right specifically discusses Canada's two (2) official languages?

Answer:

Task 3: What is the responsibility a Canadian citizen has if called to serve on a jury?

Answer:

Task Title: LearningAboutCanadianCitizenship_S_A1.2_B2.3

Task 4: Select one of the responsibilities listed in the article. Write a short paragraph of five (5) to eight (8) sentences. Explain why this is an important responsibility for Canadians.

Answer:

Answers

Task 1: List the four (4) types of freedoms guaranteed for Canadians.

Answer:

- freedom of conscience and religion;
- freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of speech and of the press;
- freedom of peaceful assembly; and
- freedom of association.

Task 2: Which Canadian Charter Right specifically discusses Canada's two (2) official languages?

Answer: Official Language Rights and Minority Language Educational Rights — French and English have equal status in Parliament and throughout the government.

Task 3: What is the responsibility a Canadian citizen has if called to serve on a jury?

Answer: When called to do so, you are legally required to serve on a jury.

Task 4: Select one of the responsibilities listed in the article. Write a short paragraph of five (5) to eight (8) sentences. Explain why this is an important responsibility for Canadians.

Answers will vary. For example, a learner who selects "voting in elections" may explain that this is important because:

- When people don't vote, then the government (and governing party chosen) may not reflect the values of all Canadians and, therefore, decision-making (e.g. passing of laws, priorities for funding, etc.) may not be in the best interest of all Canadians.
- If people don't vote in elections, then Canadians may not believe the process of electing representatives is important, and may be disengaged from political decisions.

Task Title: LearningAboutCanadianCitizenship_S_A1.2_B2.3

- Lack of voting and disinterest in politics could also lead to Canadians being less aware of how decisions are made at all levels of government, and how these decisions impact their daily lives.
- Voting in different elections helps Canadians understand the responsibilities of each level of government (federal, provincial, municipal).
- Etc.

Performance Descriptors

Levels	Performance Descriptors	Needs Work	Completes task with support from practitioner	Completes task independently
A1.2	scans text to locate information			
	locates multiple pieces of information in simple texts			
	makes low-level inferences			
	makes connections between sentences and between paragraphs in a single text			
	reads more complex texts to locate a single piece of information			
	follows the main events of descriptive, narrative and informational texts			
	obtains information from detailed reading			
	begins to identify sources and evaluate information			
B2.3	writes texts to present information, summarize, express opinions, present arguments, convey ideas or persuade			
	manages unfamiliar elements (e.g. vocabulary, context, topic) to complete tasks			

Task Title: LearningAboutCanadianCitizenship_S_A1.2_B2.3

B2.3 cont.	selects and uses vocabulary, tone and structure appropriate to the task			
	organizes and sequences writing to communicate effectively			

This task: Was successfully completed ☐ Needs to be tried again ☐

Learner Comments:

--

Instructor (print):

Learner (print):
