

# Script for Mock U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Naturalization Interview and Test

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## Notes for Teachers

- In this scenario, an interviewer arrives in the waiting area, calls out the applicant's name and/or number (given at check-in), introduces themselves, and accompanies or directs the applicant to a private office.
- Due to the pandemic, the USCIS requires applicants to wear a mask the entire time they are in the building, including during the interview itself. The officer is also masked.
- In addition, the applicant may be given a COVID-19 screening form to fill out. The form consists of questions which require only "no" answers.
- Feel free to use this script as a guide, and to add and/or remove items during practice interviews.

## Advice for Your Students

- Feel free to ask the interviewer to **repeat**, **repeat slowly** or **rephrase** any question you don't understand. If you are still confused, say that you don't remember, you don't know or you don't understand.
- **Do not guess.** A terribly wrong answer can signal a lack of comprehension.
- **Do not lie!**
- You must bring your **appointment letter**, **green card** and **passport** to the interview. Depending on your history, we may also advise you to bring other documents, including your certificates of marriage, divorce and birth, as well as the birth certificates of your children.

## Introduction and Personal Information

The officer calls out the applicant's name and/or number in the waiting room. The officer directs the applicant to an office.

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<b>Officer</b>	Please remain standing and raise your right hand. Do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	What did you just promise?
<b>Applicant</b>	

At some point, the officer will ask for the applicant's appointment letter, green card and passport. The officer will then take a photo and fingerprints. To take the photo, the officer will ask the applicant to briefly remove their mask.

<b>Officer</b>	Please place your <b>left</b> index finger here. Now place your <b>right</b> index finger here. Why are you here today?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Why do you want to become an American citizen?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	When did you come to live in this country?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	What was your port of entry?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	When did you get your green card?
<b>Applicant</b>	

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## Introduction and Personal Information (continued)

<b>Officer</b>	Who was the sponsor for your green card?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	What is your full legal name?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Is that the name on your green card? Your passport?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	What is your country of origin? Country of nationality? <b>(Student Page 4 of 19)</b>
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	What is your date of birth?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Are you married? If yes, what is your husband's/wife's name and date of birth?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Where did you meet your husband/wife? Where did you get married?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	When did you get married?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Is your husband/wife a U.S. citizen? If yes, when did he/she become a citizen?
<b>Applicant</b>	

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## Introduction and Personal Information (continued)

<b>Officer</b>	Do you have children?	<b>(Student Page 5 of 19)</b>
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	How many children? Sons and daughters? What are their first names and ages?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Where were your children born? Are any of your children U.S. citizens?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Do you have grandchildren?	<b>(Student Page 6 of 19)</b>
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	How many? Grandsons and granddaughters?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	What is your home address? Who lives with you? What is your phone number? What are the last four digits of your SSN?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	How many trips have you taken outside the U.S. in the past five years?	<b>(Student Page 7 of 19)</b>
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	What countries did you visit? When did you go there? What was the purpose of your visit(s)? What is the total number of days you spent outside the U.S.?	
<b>Applicant</b>		

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## Introduction and Personal Information (continued)

<b>Officer</b>	Do you and/or your husband/wife work? <span style="float: right;"><b>(Student Page 7 of 19)</b></span> If so, full-time or part-time? What is your job? Your husband's/wife's job?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	If neither of you work, how do you support yourselves financially? <span style="float: right;"><b>(Student Page 8 of 19)</b></span> Do you receive any public benefits (for example, food stamps, cash, housing)?
<b>Applicant</b>	

## Reading

Applicants must correctly read one sentence from a maximum of three options.

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<b>Officer</b>	Please read this sentence: <b>Who was the first president?</b>
<b>Applicant</b>	

## Writing

Applicants must correctly write one sentence from a maximum of three options.

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Due to the narrow width of the tablet, applicants may be instructed to write one word per line with a stylus or finger. The tablet will also be used for signatures, and by the officer for comparison of the applicant's answers with those in the application.

<b>Officer</b>	Please write this sentence: <b>Washington was the first president.</b>
<b>Applicant</b>	

## Civics

The officer will ask up to 10 questions from the list of 100 civics questions. Applicants must answer six questions correctly to pass. Feel free to substitute the questions below with others from the list. Students may want to practice using our Study Table.

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<b>Officer</b>	Who makes federal laws?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Why does the flag have 50 stars?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	What is freedom of religion?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the United States?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	What was one important thing that Abraham Lincoln did?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Name one war fought by the United States in the 1900s.
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	What do we call the first 10 amendments to the Constitution?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	What ocean is on the west coast of the United States?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	In what year was the Constitution written?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Name one state that borders Canada.
<b>Applicant</b>	

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## N-400 Part 12 Questions

The following is a long but not complete list of the Part 12 questions. Some of the wording is simplified. During practice interviews, applicants should also be asked to define the words in bold. For example:

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“Have you ever **claimed** to be a U.S. citizen?”

No.

“What does **claimed** mean?”

<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever <b>claimed</b> to be a U.S. citizen?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever <b>registered to vote</b> in the U.S.?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever voted in a U.S. election? If not, why not?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Do you now have, or did you ever have, a hereditary title in any foreign country?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever been declared legally incompetent or confined to a mental institution?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Do you owe any <b>overdue</b> taxes?
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Do you file your taxes every year?
<b>Applicant</b>	
Note: The tax questions are not asked this straightforwardly, but the applicant, if employed, must be prepared to acknowledge being a faithful taxpayer.	
<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever been a member of, or in any way associated with, the <b>Communist</b> Party? Any other totalitarian party? Any terrorist organization?
<b>Applicant</b>	

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## N-400 Part 12 Questions (continued)

<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever advocated (either directly or indirectly) the overthrow of any government by force or violence?	<b>(Student Page 14 of 19)</b>
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever persecuted anyone because of race, religion or national origin?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever been involved in <b>genocide</b> ? Torture? Killing someone? Badly hurting someone? Not letting someone practice their religion?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever served in a military unit? Paramilitary unit? Police unit? Self-defense unit? Vigilante unit? <b>Rebel group</b> ? Guerilla group? Militia? Insurgent organization?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever worked in a prison or jail? Prison camp? Labor camp? Any place where people are forced to stay?	
<b>Applicant</b>		

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## N-400 Part 12 Questions (continued)

<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever used a weapon or threatened to use a weapon against anyone?	<b>(Student Page 15 of 19)</b>
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever sold or given weapons to anyone?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever received military or weapons training?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever committed a crime, assisted in committing a crime or attempted to commit a crime?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever been arrested, cited or detained? Charged with a crime? Convicted of a crime?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever been in jail or prison?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever been a <b>habitual drunkard</b> ?	
<b>Applicant</b>		

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## N-400 Part 12 Questions (continued)

<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever been a prostitute?	(Student Page 16 of 19)
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever sold or smuggled illegal drugs?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever been married to more than one person at the same time?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever married someone to gain an immigration benefit?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever helped anyone to enter the U.S. illegally?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever failed to support your <b>dependents</b> ?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever given any U.S. government officials any information or documentation that was <b>false, fraudulent</b> or <b>misleading</b> ?	(Student Page 17 of 19)
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever lied to any U.S. government officials to gain an immigration benefit?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever been excluded or <b>deported</b> from the U.S.?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Have you ever served in the U.S. armed forces?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Are you a male who lived in the U.S. at any time between the ages of 18 and 26? If yes, did you register with the Selective Service?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Do you support the Constitution and <b>form of Government of the U.S.</b> ?	
<b>Applicant</b>		

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## N-400 Part 12 Questions (continued)

<b>Officer</b>	Do you understand the full <b>Oath of Allegiance</b> to the U.S.?	<b>(Student Page 18 of 19)</b>
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	Are you willing to take the full Oath of Allegiance to the U.S.?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	If the law requires it, are you willing to <b>bear arms</b> on behalf of the U.S.?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	If the law requires it, are you willing to perform <b>noncombatant</b> services in the U.S. armed forces?	
<b>Applicant</b>		
<b>Officer</b>	If the law requires it, are you willing to perform <b>work of national importance</b> under civilian direction?	
<b>Applicant</b>		

### Note

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This script is not a static document and may be modified during practice depending on the background and fluency of the student. In fact, USCIS officers do not follow any one specific approach. However, this version does represent our best, up-to-date synthesis of the most common questions. Please note that, in the past but not recently, officers have also asked for definitions of terms such as “jail,” “prison,” “arrested,” “cited,” “detained,” “immigration benefits” and “armed forces.” Teachers and students may opt to include them as appropriate.

# Final Instructions for the Applicant

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At the end of the interview, you will be asked to read and sign off on your personal information displayed by the officer on the tablet. Be sure to review the information carefully. It is simple to change it at the office, but more difficult and time-consuming after the fact. You may also be asked if you wish to change your name. This too is more easily done at the interview.

In addition, if you are not invited to be sworn in on the same day, be sure to read the results form you are given at the end of the interview before leaving the office. If the interviewer passes you, but checks the B box on the form, stipulating the need for one or more additional actions, insist on being told exactly what is needed in writing.

At the swearing-in, you will exchange your green card for a citizenship certificate.