CHAPTER 1

Section 1: Who Americans Are
Although American population patterns such as location, age, and occupation are changing, America remains a nation known for its diversity.

Section 2: America: A Cultural Mosaic
Immigrants from Europe, Africa, Latin America, and Asia, coming to America for a variety of reasons, continue to enhance our national culture.

Section 3: The Values That Unite Us
The basic American belief in equal respect for all, along with the basic values of equality, freedom, and justice, unite us as a nation.

CHAPTER 2

Section 1: Groups and Institutions: Meeting Needs and Sharing Values
Every society has major groups—called social institutions—whose systems of values and rules determine how the society is organized. In American society, the five major social institutions are the family, religion, education, the economy, and government.

Section 2: Family, Religion, and Education: Society's Training Grounds
The family is the most basic social institution. It provides food, clothing, shelter, and a sense of security and belonging. It also teaches values and rules important in society. Religion helps meet spiritual needs and is a source of support and guidance. Education provides basic skills and prepares students for their roles as citizens and workers.

Section 3: The Economy: Satisfying Wants
The economy helps people meet their wants through the distribution of goods and services. In the American economy, people have the freedom to buy or sell, to compete, to make a profit, to own property, and to choose an occupation.

Section 4: Government: Meeting Society's Needs
The government meets society's needs by establishing law and order, protecting individual rights and security, providing public services, and helping to maintain other institutions such as schools and health care.

CHAPTER 3

Section 1: What It Means to Be a Citizen
A citizen is a person with certain rights and duties under a government. In the United States the people hold the power of government. They elect representatives, who speak and act for them.
These representatives make decisions and pass laws. However, each individual holds our society's most important office—the "office of citizen."

**Section 2: The Rights, Duties, and Responsibilities of Citizens**
The rights of American citizens are based on American values and beliefs and include the rights of freedom of religion and speech. The duties of citizens include obeying laws and defending the nation. When these duties are performed, the citizens help the government meet society's needs. The most basic responsibility of citizens is ensuring that the rights and freedoms of all Americans are protected.

**Section 3: Citizenship and Our Other Roles in Society**
There are seven basic social roles, which are roles people play in real life. They are the roles of self, family member, social group member, friend, consumer, citizen, and worker. Every person has many social roles and may play more than one role at a time. When roles come into conflict, a person must decide which role is most important at that time.

**CHAPTER 4**

**Section 1: The Colonial Experience**
Many American traditions have their roots in the colonial period. Many of our beliefs such as representative government, freedom of religion, and freedom of the press were established during this time. These core beliefs form the foundation of American government and society.

**Section 2: Roots of American Government**
The colonists looked to history to help them form ideas of government. They drew from Greek and Roman political theory, as well as English documents such as the Magna Carta and the English Bill of Rights.

**Section 3: Moving Toward Nationhood**
Heightening tensions between Britain and the colonies forced the colonists to take action. The 13 colonies sent delegates to the Continental Congress, where it was agreed that they should fight for independence. The delegates stated their intentions in the Declaration of Independence.

**CHAPTER 5**

**Section 1: The Constitutional Convention**
When the Articles of Confederation proved too weak to meet the challenges of the new nation, delegates from the 13 states met to write a new constitution that would make the national government stronger. After much disagreement and debate, the delegates accepted the Great Compromise that resolved the critical problem of the number of representatives per state. The delegates then created a Constitution that divided powers between legislative, executive, and judicial branches of a national government.

**Section 2: The Struggle for Ratification**
Before the Constitution could go into effect, it was necessary for it to be ratified by at least nine states. Heated debates between Federalists and Anti-Federalists raged throughout the new nation. With the promise of the addition of a bill of rights, the conflict was resolved and the United States Constitution was ratified.
Section 3: The Supreme Law of the Land
The Constitution creates a government with powers limited by consent of the people. It is based on the idea of popular sovereignty—letting the people rule. Three main principles limit the government's power: federalism, separation of powers, and checks and balances.

CHAPTER 6

Section 1: Adding the Bill of Rights
To overcome Anti-Federalist arguments, the Federalists agreed to add a bill of rights to the Constitution. Knowing that in the future there would in all likelihood be a need to change the Constitution, the Framers provided a way to add amendments.

Section 2: Protections in the Bill of Rights
The Bill of Rights consists of ten amendments to the Constitution. These can be divided into three main categories: individual freedoms, protection against government abuse of power, and the rights of individuals accused of crimes.

Section 3: Interpreting the Bill of Rights
The judges of our nation's courts have the difficult job of interpreting the meaning of citizens' rights. As legal experts, they decide whether people's rights are being violated by the actions of other citizens. They may also decide whether rights have been violated by any existing laws.

CHAPTER 7

Section 1: Changing the Law of the Land
Most amendments added to the Constitution reflect changes in needs and attitudes in American society. Prime examples of this are the amendments providing the right to vote to African Americans and to women. It is due to this flexibility that the U.S. Constitution is such an enduring document.

Section 2: A Flexible Framework
The Constitution has needed few changes because it provides general principles rather than detailed rules. The courts, especially the Supreme Court, can determine if constitutional principles have been followed. Court decisions must be obeyed, but they can be overturned by later amendments or decisions.

CHAPTER 8

Section 1: The Members of Congress
Congress consists of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Legislators make both laws and policy. They are responsible to their constituents, to their political party, to interest groups, and to the nation as a whole.

Section 2: The Powers of Congress
Congress's delegated powers include making laws to regulate business and commerce, collecting taxes, coining money, and making any laws necessary to carry out the powers set out
in the Constitution. However, the Constitution also limits the powers of Congress. The most important limitations protect citizens in dealing with police and the courts.

Section 3: How Congress Is Organized
Over time, Congress has established processes to consider bills. These include dividing the work of preparing bills among committees and choosing leaders to oversee the process of committee work.

Section 4: Following a Bill in Congress
A bill must overcome many hurdles before becoming a law. The Framers of the Constitution wanted Congress to take its time so that every bill would be studied and debated carefully. Any bill that makes it through this process has an excellent chance of being a good law.

CHAPTER 9

Section 1: The Roles of the President
The President is the head of the executive branch, the branch of government responsible for executing the laws. The President's most important duty, however, is to set goals for the nation and to develop policies for reaching those goals. In spite of having many advisors, the President alone is responsible for making the final decisions about many important issues facing the nation.

Section 2: The Organization of the Executive Branch
The executive branch is a huge bureaucracy with many departments, agencies, and offices. To direct the bureaucracy, the President appoints a team of executive officials known as the administration. The executive departments help the President fulfill the duties of the office.

Section 3: Presidents and Power
Despite constitutional limits, the office of the presidency carries with it a great deal of power. Many presidents have attempted to increase the power of the presidency. In some cases, they have been successful. In others, Congress and the courts have acted as a balance to prevent increased presidential power.

CHAPTER 10

Section 1: The Role of the Federal Court
Legal conflicts in our country are resolved by courts of law. All courts perform the same basic function: they apply the law to an actual situation. The courts resolve two kinds of conflicts—civil and criminal. The authority to hear cases appealed from the state court systems gives the United States Supreme Court and the federal judicial branch the leadership role in our legal system.

Section 2: The Organization of the Federal Courts
Federal district courts, courts of appeals, the Supreme Court, and some special courts make up the federal legal system. The Supreme Court serves as the final court of appeals for both state and federal courts. Judges in the federal court system have the responsibility to balance individual rights with the interests of the whole nation.

Section 3: The Supreme Court
The Supreme Court has the final say in cases involving constitutional issues. Through its power of judicial review, the Supreme Court can overturn a law that it decides is unconstitutional. The
President can check the powers of the Supreme Court by appointing judges, while Congress has the ability to check the Court by refusing to confirm the presidential appointments to the Supreme Court.