



Expansion of Voting Rights Answer Key

Colonial American Voters

Early British colonies shared the same view as the Greeks and Romans. They believed that property owners could participate in politics and would act in the public's best interest.

15th Amendment

The 15th Amendment was added to the Constitution in 1870 after the Civil War. It is considered one of the Reconstruction Amendments. It granted African American men the right to vote.

19th Amendment

The amendment was added to the Constitution in 1920, granting women the right to vote.

Indian Citizenship Act of 1924

Congress passed legislation allowing all "Indians born within the territorial limits of the United States" the right to vote.

24th Amendment

The amendment was added to the Constitution in 1964, eliminating the poll tax and any other tax on voting.

Voting Rights Act 1965

Congress passed legislation outlawing discrimination against all minorities and banning the literacy test.

26th Amendment

The amendment was added to the Constitution in 1971, lowering the voting age from 21 to 18.

William Jefferson

- Age: 24
- White male
- Lives in Virginia in 1765
- Owns 50 acres of land

Abraham Northrop

- Age: 27
- Black male
- Lives in Massachusetts in 1875
- Works as a blacksmith

Salley Fredricks

- Age: 25
- White female; Mother and Suffrage Organizer
- Lives in New York in 1922

Chaske

- Age: 33
- Native American Cherokee male
- Lives on Oklahoma Cherokee Reservation in 1928
- Tribal Leader

Jennifer Jackson

- Age: 38
- White female
- Lives in Texas in 1967
- Nurse; Hasn't paid her poll taxes in two years

Bao Nyugen

- Age: 27
- Vietnamese-American female
- Lives in Washington in 1968
- Grocery store clerk who attends night classes for English and reading

Juan Carlos

- Age: 20
- Mexican-American male; Soldier
- Lives in New Mexico in 1972