

Dear WTP Massachusetts teachers,

As part of the authentic assessment experience of the We the People program, the Center for Civic Education has released their State Hearing Questions for the academic year 2021-2022. All teachers have access to utilize these questions in assessing their student's understanding of the fundamental principles of our government. You may use one or all questions for your students in any way that you believe would best assess the student's understanding and engagement in the material.

A panel of experts gathers each week to discuss ideas and resources related to the 2021-22 WTP State hearing questions. The sessions are recorded and posted on a YouTube channel called "The Four B's." The Four B's consist of Mike Williams, Chris Cavanaugh, David Richmond, and Tim Moore each having an extensive background in the WTP programs and competitions.

Many teachers over the past year have found these recorded discussions to be helpful to their students. The Four B's do not answer the hearing questions so much as discuss and dissect the ideas contained within the questions. Each session is approximately an hour in length, includes time stamps, and provides links to additional resources.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,
Roger

Four B's Videos for Fall 2021

Unit I Philosophical and Historical Foundations of the American Political System

Q 1 Humans Nature and Political Power <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vK0kunUs2no&t=79s>

Q 2 Pillars of American Constitutionalism <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDpfFE0Nnc>

Q 3 Benign Neglect <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AEo9Ng7uJ94>

Unit II Creation and Ratification the Constitution

Q 1 Federalism and the Founding Period <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=304qbpeAnMQ&t=37s>

Q 2 The Articles of Confederation <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dsmg5cZORnc&t=2486s>

Q 3 Representation and the Ratification Debates <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lotCuR4wYAM>

Unit III Constitutional Change over Time

Q 1 Citizenship and Equality <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEaYSdM9mtM>

Q 2 Political Parties https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=66z4XJF_G9A

Q 3 Amendment Process https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FJ1oJG_Ftbc

Unit IV Constitutional Values and Principles and Institutions and Practices

- Q 1 Elections and Federalism <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghVMWgdkT4U&t=1673s>
Q 2 The Electoral College <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OBRfY2gqhbA>
Q 3 Judicial Review <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4SlyxXXog-c>

Unit V Protections in the Bill of Rights

- Q 1 Freedom of Speech and Schools <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yr6m6Bu-s-E&t=24s>

Unit VI Challenges Facing American Constitutional Democracy in the Twenty-first Century

- Q 1 Citizenship and Protest <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=66PvRhSL3uY>
Q 2 American Exceptionalism https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_-n_XqAJAI