

EL/Civics Lesson Plan

Program Name C-TEC ABLE--ESOL

Staff Responsible for Lesson: Barbara Moore

Date(s) Used	September 19, 2007
Civics Category	Government and Law
Civics Objective	I.7.-Identify basic features of the local, state, and federal legal system including individual rights, laws, and ordinances as well as procedures for obtaining legal help.
Time Frame to Complete Lesson	45 minutes
EFL(s)	B—A
Standard(s)/Components of Performance	Identify how and when to obtain social and governmental services; Interpret information about social issues
Benchmark(s)	2.5.2; 2.7.3
Materials	<u>On Common Ground</u> , Textbook A, pgs. 1, 3, 8, 9 (Available through www.neablelibrary.org)
Activities	<u>On Common Ground</u> , Textbook A, pgs. 1, 3, 8, 9 What is government? Why is government important? What are law and order, national security, public service and basic ideals? Vocabulary: government, common good, law and order, security, democracy, individual rights, collective effort, authoritarian government, citizens, subordinate, totalitarian governments, power and authority.
Assessment/ Evidence	List student responses and examples to above on board.

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Reflection	
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ON COMMON GROUND

Chapter 1, pgs. 1, 3, 8, 9

Vocabulary

- **Government:** people and institutions in a society with the authority to make, carry out and enforce laws, and settle disputes about the laws.
- **Common good:** what is best for the entire society.
- **Law and order:** situation in which people respect the law, and crime is controlled by the police and the court system.
- **Security:** protection against law-breaking; the things government does to keep the people of the nation safe.
- **Democracy:** form of government in which political control is exercised by the people, either directly or indirectly through their elected representatives.
- **Individual rights:** personal, political, and economic rights of citizens.
- **Collective effort:** attempt to achieve a goal shared by members of a group.
- **Authoritarian government:** government that demands absolute obedience to its rules and laws, whether or not they are right; power usually concentrated in one person or small group.
- **Citizens:** member of a country or state; one who owes allegiance to the government and has a right to its protection and to

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political rights.

- Subordinate: to put in a position of less importance.
 - Totalitarian governments: political system in which one political group controls everything and does not allow opposing groups to exist.
 - Power: ability to direct or control something or someone.
 - Authority: legitimate right to use power.
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1. What is government?
2. Why is government important?
3. Law and Order: government makes and enforces laws that protect our individual rights to ensure that people can have peaceful, orderly lives. Through the court system, the government also settles disputes and punishes lawbreakers.
4. National Security: federal government provides for the common defense of the nation against outsider attack
Home Land Security
5. Public Service: government provides the services that cannot be accomplished with a collective effort-national, state, and/or local.
6. Basic Ideals: the government protects the personal, political, and economic rights of citizens. It guarantees rights such as freedom of religion and the right to a fair trial. It provides many services from health care to environmental safety standards.

ON COMMON GROUND

Chapter 2, pgs. 17, 22, 23, 24

Vocabulary

- Rule of law: set of established, known, and accepted rules that provide order and security.
- (the) law: system of rules that people in a country, state, or city must obey.
- Constitution: set of customs, traditions, rules, and laws that set forth the way a government is organized and operated.
- Dictator: leader of a country who has total power and controls everything.
- Delegates: person chosen to act for or represent others, as at a Political convention.
- Preamble: introduction to the Constitution of the United States.
- Perfect union: best possible organization or joining of forces; Group of states with the same central government.
- Framers: delegates to the Constitutional Convention held in Philadelphia in 1787.
- Legislative branch: branch of government that makes the laws. The legislative branch is the U.S. Congress—House of Representatives and the Senate.
- Executive branch: branch of government that carries out the laws made by the legislative branch; in the United

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States, it includes the President and his or her advisors.

- Judicial branch: branch of government that interprets and applies the laws and settles disputes through a system of courts.
 - Executive power: powers of the executive branch of the federal government.
 - Supreme court: highest court in the United States; has authority to interpret laws and settle conflicts between states.
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1. What does “the rule of law” mean?
2. What is the purpose of a constitution?
 - describes the purpose and organization of government.
 - establishes government for the common good and protects the rights of people.
 - limits the power of government
 - provides the framework, or structure, for the rule of law
3. What are the purposes of government in the United States?
 - form a more perfect union
 - establish justice
 - insure domestic tranquility (keep peace within the country)
 - provide for the common defense
 - promote the general welfare
 - secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our children
4. How is government in the United States organized?
 - three branches of government: legislative branch: Congress
executive branch: President
judicial branch: Supreme Court

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