

American Government & Politics: A Christian Worldview.
Snappy Answers to Government Questions, Part 5 (20–25 Minutes)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

Goal

This activity helps students come up with Biblical, informative answers to government questions asked by hypothetical friends/acquaintances/critics/random strangers who accost them on street corners.

Instructions!

1. Read the instructions together.
2. Give students 10–12 minutes to answer the questions INDIVIDUALLY (**reminder: students' answers must be 20 words or fewer!**). You can go a few minutes over the suggested time limit if the students are really getting into their answers, of course!
3. Tell students: **“Don’t let anyone see your answers!”**
4. When time’s up, collect the answer sheets.
5. Tell students: “You’re going to vote for the best, most-accurate, and snappiest-without-being-rude answers to these five questions. **DO NOT VOTE FOR YOUR OWN ANSWERS.**”
6. Read Question #1 out loud, followed by all the answers students wrote to that question.
7. Ask students one at a time to vote for the answer to Question #1 that they thought was the best, and tally up the votes.
8. Announce: “The winner to Question #1 is [answer here], which was written by [student name here]!”
9. Continue with Questions #2 – #5 until all votes are taken.
10. (If you want, you can award bonus points to winners.)

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Snappy Answers to Government Questions, Part 5

Come up with an answer to these five questions that a friend/acquaintance/critic asks you about American government topics we've discussed. Each answer must be...

- (a) snappy (**20 words or fewer**),
- (b) correct/accurate, and
- (c) polite—no rude insults (but feel free to use humor to make your point 😊).

The Questions:

1. “Well, it’s not really clear exactly how many powers the U.S. government has, since it depends on how you interpret the Constitution, doesn’t it?”

2. “Of *course* Congress should make medical care free for senior citizens! Doesn’t the ‘general welfare clause’ give them that power, since having healthy Americans promotes the general welfare?”

3. “I can’t believe you’re defending the Constitution’s three-fifths clause! So you think that a slave was only three fifths of a human being?”

4. “The U.S. government should force all employers to pay employees at least \$25 per hour. Doesn’t the Constitution’s ‘commerce clause’ give them that right?”

5. “The U.S. government needs to get more involved in education. We have the ‘necessary and proper clause’ in the Constitution, and isn’t education necessary and proper for a good society?”



Now, go back and make sure your answers are all 20 words or fewer!