

American Government & Politics: A Christian Worldview.
Snappy Answers to Government Questions, Part 10 (25–30 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 12–15 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 10

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. “Tariffs? What did *that* have to do with the North/South War? Wasn't it fought to end slavery?”

2. “Who cares what the President and Congress think about that case—the U.S. Supreme Court made its decision, and it has the final say on the Constitution, doesn't it?”

3. “How can you *possibly* agree with John C. Calhoun's argument that tariffs robbed the South to benefit the North? Don't you know that guy supported *slavery*?”

4. “Why on earth would James Madison veto that ‘Bonus Bill’? Didn't he realize that the U.S. needed to pay for roads and bridges?”

5. “Of *course* we have to place tariffs on imported computers! We can't just let Americans buy cheaper computers from Germany—that would hurt *American* computer manufacturers, wouldn't it?”

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

