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G. Paul Nardo, Clerk of the House of Delegates

Answer Sheet! Use your smartphone to scan the QR code. You will need a free QR code reader app to view. You can also view the answer sheet at http://tiny.cc/hodab_answers
Virginia History

As citizens of The United States of America, it is important to understand the nation's past and present.

In 1606, King James I gave charters to the Virginia Company of London to establish a settlement. The Susan Constant, the Godspeed, and the Discovery set sail and landed in the New World in 1607. The colonists named the settlement Jamestown, in honor of King James I.

As Jamestown grew, a government was formed. In 1619, the Governor called a meeting of the General Assembly. The Assembly included two citizen representatives (called “burgesses”) from each of the 11 settlements in the Virginia colony, the Governor, and the Governor’s Council.

Today, there are three branches of government in Virginia: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial. The Governor leads the agencies that are contained in the executive branch. The General Assembly manages the legislative, and the state Supreme Court is head of the judicial branch.

For Teachers and Parents:

Virginia Social Studies SOLs covered in this book:

- K.1
- K.2
- 1.2
- 1.4
- 2.11
- 3.10
- 3.11
- VS.2c
- VS.3b
- VS.3c
- VS.3d
- VS.4c
- VS.6a
- VS.6b
- VS.10a
- USL.5a
- USL.6c
- USL.7b
- USL.7d
- USII.2c
- CE.2b
- CE.3d
- CE.6b
- CE.7a
- CE.7b
- CE.8a
- CE.8b
- VUS.2
- VUS.5b
- VUS.5d
- GOVT.2c
- GOVT.2d
- GOVT.8a
- GOVT.8b
- GOVT.9c

The complete text of these standards can be found on the Virginia Department of Education website.

In addition, the House of Delegates Legislative Education and Development (LEAD) Office has additional resources for teachers, parents, and students regarding the legislative process and Virginia’s rich history.

Richmond Capitol

Jamestown Capitol

Williamsburg Capitol
About the General Assembly

Today, the General Assembly of Virginia is made up of two houses, the House of Delegates and the Senate. All members of the General Assembly are elected by the voters from their respective districts. The primary duties of the General Assembly are to make, amend, and pass laws.

The General Assembly meets annually starting on the second Wednesday in January. The Sessions are scheduled to last for 60 days in even-numbered years and 30 days in odd-numbered years. Often, the odd-numbered year session is extended to 46 days. The Governor may call a Special Session when he thinks it is necessary or when asked by two-thirds of the members of both the House and the Senate. A Reconvened Session is held after adjournment of each Regular or Special Session to consider the Governor’s recommendations and vetoes to legislation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House of Delegates</th>
<th>Senate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 members</td>
<td>40 members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>serves a two-year term</td>
<td>serves a four-year term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the presiding officer is the Speaker</td>
<td>the presiding officer is the Lieutenant Governor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Clerk is responsible for the administration of the House</td>
<td>the Clerk is responsible for the administration of the Senate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Government Word Builder

Use only the letters in the word GOVERNMENT to make as many words as you can. There are 198 possible words. How many can you make?

G O V E R N M E N T
Law Squad

If there were no laws, things would be a mess in our cities and towns — just like in this picture. But you and I can join the Law Squad and clean up the mess. All we need are a few good laws.

Below are close-ups of the big picture for you to study. And here’s a list of the kinds of laws that are missing. Write the letter of the law under each picture that would fix the problem it shows.

A. Leash Law: Keep pets on a leash in public places
B. Litter Law: Place trash in proper containers.
C. Zoning Law: Businesses serving alcohol must not be placed near school buildings.
D. Public Nuisance Law: Do not disturb the peace of others in public.
E. Traffic Law: Drivers and pedestrians must obey street lights and traffic signs.
F. Graffiti Law: Do not damage or deface the property of others.
G. Assembly Law: Do not block public entrances while demonstrating.
H. Shoplifting Law: Customers must pay for any merchandise they take from a store.

How a Bill Becomes a Law

The following steps are the typical process by which bills become laws:

1. **Drafting and Introduction**
   A legislator has an IDEA FOR A BILL, usually from a constituent.

   The legislative member presents the idea and requests that it be DRAFTED INTO A BILL. In January, when the General Assembly meets, the Delegates and Senators introduce their bills in their respective chambers.

2. **Committee Action**
   The bill is REFERRED to a committee. The members of the committee consider the bill and decide what action to take. This is when the public may speak.

   After listening to the testimony, the committee will vote to recommend the passage or defeat of the bill. They may also offer changes (called amendments). If the committee recommends passage of the bill, it then goes back to the chamber where it was introduced.

3. **“Floor” Action**
   The title of the bill must be read or printed in the calendar three times.

   FIRST READING: The bill is printed in the calendar or is read by the Clerk.

   SECOND READING: The bill may be amended after it has been read a second time. In the House of Delegates, the bill will be debated.

   THIRD READING: In the Senate, the bill may be debated. A final vote is taken during the third reading.

4. **Voting**
   If the bill passes, it is then SENT TO THE OTHER CHAMBER where it follows a similar process of committee action, floor debate, amending, and voting. If the bill passes both houses in the same form, it then goes to the Governor. If the bill is amended by the other house, it is then returned to the body from which it originated for approval of the amendment.

   A COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE is usually created to resolve any differences between the House of Delegates and the Senate.

5. **Governor’s Action**
   Once passed in the same form, the bill is then sent to the Governor for his approval.

   The GOVERNOR may:
   • sign the bill into law.
   • amend the bill and return it to the General Assembly for their approval.
   • veto the bill and return it to the General Assembly, where the House of Delegates and Senate may override the Governor’s veto by a two-thirds vote of both houses.
   • take no action and the bill becomes law without his signature.

6. **Law**
   Bills that become law during a Regular Session (or the Reconvened Session that follows) are effective on July 1st, unless otherwise specified.

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**Symbols and Emblems**

**State Seal**
The state seal symbolizes victory over tyranny. It shows Virtue, dressed as an Amazon, triumphing over Tyranny. She holds a spear and a sheathed sword. Tyranny grasps a broken chain, and his crown lies fallen nearby.

**State Flag**
The state flag and the state seal are similar. The flag has a dark blue background with the front side of the state seal in the middle.

**State Motto**
Sic Semper Tyrannis is Latin meaning “Thus Always to Tyrants.” It appears at the bottom of the state seal.

**State Flower and Tree**
The state flower and tree is the American Dogwood. It blooms in early spring. Its blossom is a tiny cluster of flowers that look like petals. The wood is so hard that it can be used for furniture. The bark is even used as pigment in black ink!

**State Bird**
The Cardinal is the state bird of Virginia. You can spot it in the trees because of its bright red feathers.

**State Insect**
The state insect is the Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly. Its yellow and black stripes look like a tiger’s stripes. These butterflies can have wingspans of 3 to 4 inches!

**State Fish**
The Brook Trout is the state fish. It can be found in the clear, cold waters of mountain rivers and streams.

**State Shell**
The state shell is the oyster. Sometimes pearls are formed in oysters because of a tiny grain of sand!

**State Dog**
The American Foxhound is the state dog. These dogs are descendants of English foxhounds that were brought over from England to hunt.

**State Beverage**
Milk is the state beverage. Milk can also be used to make cheese and butter.

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**Virginia Word Search**

- ADJOURN
- AMEND
- BILL
- BURGESSSES
- CAPITAL
- CARDINAL
- CITIZEN
- CLERK
- COMMITTEE
- CONVENE
- DELEGATE
- DOGWOOD
- EASTERN SHORE
- EXECUTIVE
- GENERAL ASSEMBLY
- GOVERNMENT
- JAMES RIVER
- JAMESTOWN
- JEFFERSON
- JUDICIAL
- KING JAMES
- LEGISLATIVE
- LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
- MADISON
- MONROE
- RICHMOND
- SPEAKER
- TAYLOR
- VETO
- VIRGINIA
- VOTE
- WASHINGTON
**Mother of Presidents**

Virginia is known as the “mother of presidents” because eight U.S. presidents were born here. Using the alphabet code, see if you can find out the names of the Presidents who were born in Virginia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>H</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>J</th>
<th>K</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Print the number in the Virginia map that best describes one of the locations down below.

- Appalachian Mountains
- Allegheny Mountains
- Atlantic Ocean
- Chesapeake Bay
- James River
- Kentucky
- Maryland
- North Carolina
- Richmond
- Tennessee
- Washington, D.C.
- West Virginia
- Eastern Shore
- Roanoke River
**Virginia Crossword**

**ACROSS**
1. The first permanent English settlement.
2. Student helper who runs errands.
3. To change a bill.
4. The highest state elected official.
5. The rejection of a bill by the Governor.
6. The month when Regular Session begins.
7. To end the day’s session or meeting.
9. Delegates serve a term of ___ years.
10. One of the ships that landed in Jamestown.
11. Name given to the entire group of Virginia state lawmakers.
12. The state bird of Virginia.
13. A “rule” passed by the legislature.
14. Number of states that border Virginia.
15. The 10th state.
16. To assemble for an official meeting.
17. Represents citizens in the Senate.
18. A proposed idea presented to the legislature for consideration.
19. There are ___ branches of government.
20. The 10th state.

**DOWN**
1. The rejection of a bill by the Governor.
2. To change a bill.
3. The highest state elected official.
4. The month when Regular Session begins.
5. Capital of Virginia.
6. One of the ships that landed in Jamestown.
7. A “rule” passed by the legislature.
8. Number of states that border Virginia.
9. The 10th state.
10. Represents citizens in the Senate.
11. A proposed idea presented to the legislature for consideration.
12. Name given to the entire group of Virginia state lawmakers.
13. The state bird of Virginia.
14. To assemble for an official meeting.
15. There are ___ branches of government.
16. The 10th state.
17. Presides over the House of Delegates.
18. The first permanent English settlement.
19. The rejection of a bill by the Governor.
20. To end the day’s session or meeting.
21. Delegates serve a term of ___ years.
Hey, That’s Our Job!

What are the jobs and powers of the three branches of government? Place an “L” for Legislative, an “E” for Executive, and a “J” for Judicial next to the job that each branch of the state government carries out.

___ tries civil and criminal cases  ___ has power of judicial review
___ prepares the budget  ___ makes laws
___ executes laws of Virginia  ___ grants pardons
___ confirms cabinet officers  ___ approves the budget

The Department of Motor Vehicles registers cars and trucks and issues license plates.

When you buy your own car or truck, what do you want your license plate to say? Use the sample license plate below to create your own. Remember, you may use a combination of 7 letters and numbers for your personalized plate.
The Commonwealth of Virginia

While Virginia may generally be referred to as a state, it is officially designated as a “Commonwealth.” The Virginia Declaration of Rights set forth the idea that government was created to be the servant of the people. Virginia’s founders believed that government was a contract between free people who were united for the common good, or common wealth. As citizens of the Commonwealth, Virginians are encouraged to actively participate in government. This extraordinary form of government depends upon people’s consent and participation.

Three other states also call themselves a Commonwealth. Solve the math problems below and use the decoder key to fill in the letter that corresponds to your answer to find out what other states are Commonwealths.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7+6</th>
<th>2×1</th>
<th>44÷2</th>
<th>4×5</th>
<th>4+1</th>
<th>6+5</th>
<th>23-10</th>
<th>9×2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7-0</td>
<td>4+2</td>
<td>22×1</td>
<td>11+11</td>
<td>9+9</td>
<td>2×5</td>
<td>25-2</td>
<td>1+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2×7</td>
<td>13+9</td>
<td>9+3</td>
<td>4-3</td>
<td>7+10</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>25+1</td>
<td>10+9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6+5</td>
<td>7×3</td>
<td>12-7</td>
<td>33-8</td>
<td>8+4</td>
<td>10+10</td>
<td>100÷5</td>
<td>14+11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Decoder Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A= 1</th>
<th>B= 8</th>
<th>C= 11</th>
<th>D= 16</th>
<th>E= 2</th>
<th>F= 19</th>
<th>G= 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H= 21</td>
<td>I= 3</td>
<td>J= 24</td>
<td>K= 13</td>
<td>L= 10</td>
<td>M= 17</td>
<td>N= 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O= 4</td>
<td>P= 7</td>
<td>Q= 15</td>
<td>R= 26</td>
<td>S= 25</td>
<td>T= 20</td>
<td>U= 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V= 23</td>
<td>W= 6</td>
<td>X= 12</td>
<td>Y= 18</td>
<td>Z= 14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Founding Fathers

From the Word Bank, find my name and fill in the blank. (Names might be used twice.)

Patrick Henry
James Monroe
George Wythe

1. I’ve been a lawyer, statesman, political theorist, musician, planter, architect, and archaeologist. I wrote the first draft of the Declaration of Independence. Oh, I forgot to mention, I was the third President of the United States. Who am I?

2. I was a lawyer and statesman. When I was 25, I became a member of the Continental Congress. I was America’s 5th President. Who am I?

3. I am best known as a patriot, although I was a member of the Continental Congress and the House of Burgesses. I also was a Virginia Governor. Most people probably remember me because of my statement, “Give me liberty or give me death.” Who am I?

4. I was the first law professor in the United States at the College of William and Mary from 1779-1789. Who am I?

5. I was the first President of the United States. Some people call me the “Father of Our Country.” Who am I?

6. My skills at compromise helped bring differing ideas together. This earned me the title “Father of the Constitution.” Who am I?

7. As U.S. President, I issued the Monroe Doctrine. Who am I?

8. I authorized the purchase of the Louisiana territory when I was President. This was known as the Louisiana Purchase. Who am I?
Virginia is divided into 95 counties and 41 independent cities. Find your county/city on the map and draw a star on its location. Identify and label the five regions of Virginia and then color each one a different color.

**Legislators Have Full-Time Jobs**

Virginia has what is called a part-time citizen legislature. Virginia lawmakers live, work, and raise a family in the district they represent. The state legislature is in session only two to three months a year, which allows lawmakers to spend a great deal of their time at home, in the community they represent.

Here’s a list of some of the various types of work that Virginia’s 100 Delegates do when they are back in their district:

- **Financial**: 5
- **Law Enforcement**: 2
- **Engineer/Architect**: 4
- **Business/Service**: 14
- **Education**: 15
- **Health/Medicine**: 8
- **Technology**: 7
- **Real Estate**: 4
- **Environment**: 3
- **Publishing/Writing**: 3
- **Miscellaneous**: 7
- **Attorney**: 28

Using the circle below, create a pie graph that shows the breakdown of the job fields that Virginia’s 100 Delegates are involved in.
Write Your Own Bill

Every year, hundreds of proposals are written with the hope that they will become new laws. Many of these proposals come from people who don’t work in government, but who have a good idea.

Do you have an idea for a bill? Use the space below to write your bill and how it would affect the citizens of Virginia.

Virginia Question and Answer

Circle the correct answer.

1. Legal cases in Virginia are heard and decided by
   A. the General Assembly.
   B. the legislative branch.
   C. the Senate.
   D. the judicial branch.

2. This branch decides whether or not a law agrees with Virginia's Constitution.
   A. military
   B. judicial
   C. legislative
   D. executive

3. The legislative branch of the Virginia government is known as the
   A. House of Burgesses.
   B. General Assembly.
   C. General Assimilation.
   D. Congress.

4. How many branches make up Virginia's government?
   A. three
   B. seven
   C. two
   D. five

5. The executive branch of the state government is headed by the
   A. Governor.
   B. Attorney General.
   C. Senator.
   D. President.

6. The highest court in the state judicial branch is
   A. the Virginia Supreme Court.
   B. the Governor.
   C. the General Assembly.
   D. the Attorney General.

7. What is the General Assembly?
   A. a building designed by Thomas Jefferson
   B. the legislative branch of Virginia
   C. part of the judicial branch of Virginia
   D. the executive branch of Virginia

8. The Virginia General Assembly is divided into two parts
   A. the Senate and the House of Burgesses.
   B. the Senate and the House of Representatives.
   C. the Senate and the Congress.
   D. the Senate and the House of Delegates.

9. The Virginia Assembly included the governor of Virginia, the governor's council, and
   A. colonists, chosen by the Governor.
   B. the Governor’s family.
   C. representatives elected by the citizens.
   D. the King of England.

10. The primary function of the executive branch is to
    A. make sure that the laws of the state are carried out.
    B. decide cases about people accused of breaking the law.
    C. make the state’s laws.
    D. decide whether or not a law agrees with Virginia’s Constitution.

11. The Virginia Assembly, the House of Burgesses, and General Assembly were, at different times, names for
    A. the executive branch of Virginia government.
    B. the judicial branch of Virginia government.
    C. the legislative branch of Virginia government.
In and Around Virginia
8- Appalachian Mountains
9- Allegheny Mountains
3- Atlantic Ocean
13- Chesapeake Bay
7- James River
4- Kentucky
11- Maryland
12- North Carolina
2- Richmond
10- Tennessee
6- Washington, D.C.
1- West Virginia
5- Eastern Shore
14- Roanoke River

The Commonwealth of Virginia

Legislators Have Full-Time Jobs

Virginia Question and Answer
1. D
2. B
3. B
4. A
5. A
6. A
7. B
8. D
9. C
10. A
11. C

Founding Fathers
1. Thomas Jefferson
2. James Monroe
3. Patrick Henry
4. George Wythe
5. George Washington
6. James Madison
7. James Monroe
8. Thomas Jefferson

Hey, That's Our Job!
J- tries civil and criminal cases
E- prepares the budget
E- executes laws of Virginia
L- confirms cabinet officers
J- has power of judicial review
L- makes laws
L- confirms cabinet officers
E- grants pardons
E- approves the budget

A-Mazing Law

Law Squad

Mother of Presidents
WASHINGTON
JEFFERSON
MADISON
MONROE
HARRISON
TYLER
TAYLOR
WILSON