

The USCIS 96: Questions 9-11

Key Words: 4th of July, Independence, England, Revolutionary War



Question 9: What do we celebrate on the 4th of July?

Answer 9: Independence Day

Congress voted for the United States to become independent from Great Britain on July 2, 1776. However, we celebrate Independence Day on July 4th. This is because it took two days for Congress to vote to accept an official Declaration of Independence. This Declaration was written by Thomas Jefferson and edited by Congress. It explained why the American colonies were separating from their British ruler. The 4th of July is now considered to be the birthday of America. We celebrate with parades, fireworks, the playing of patriotic songs, and live readings of the Declaration of Independence.

Question 10: Independence Day celebrates independence from whom?

Answer 10: Independence from England

If you are asked this question on the exam, you should answer "England." However, England is actually just one part of the Kingdom of Great Britain. Scotland and Wales are also part of Great Britain.



Question 11: What country did we fight during the Revolutionary War?

Answer 11: We fought England in the Revolutionary War.



The American colonists' anger had been building for years before the Revolutionary War began. The Americans fought this war because they wanted freedom from colonial rule. The fighting of the war ended in 1781, after the Battle of Yorktown. The Americans, with French help, won this battle. It was not until 1783 that the British fully accepted United States independence.



See: http://www.elcivics.com/esl_fourth_of_july.html
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independence_Day_\(United_States\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independence_Day_(United_States))
http://usinfo.state.gov/scv/life_and_culture/holidays/july_4.html