

Name: _____

Date: _____

K-W-L-S

Topic: Census 2020

- Directions:**
1. Use the K-W-L-S chart below to organize information about the U.S. census.
 2. First, complete the two left columns (K and W) before you read about the census.
K: What do you already know or think you know about the census?
W: What do you want to know?
 3. Second, complete the L column, after you read about the census.
 4. Finally, if you still have questions after reading the passage, write them in the S column.

K What I Know or Think I Know	W What I Want to Know	L What I Learned	S What I Still Want to Know

United States Census Facts



Directions: Read the [U.S. Census Facts](#). Use the information to complete the two right columns of the K-W-L-S chart.

What is the U.S. census?

The census is a count of people who live in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas. It is required by the U.S. Constitution¹. The count is taken every 10 years.

Why do we need the census?

Census data are used in many ways. They help the government decide how and where to spend money. That money goes to new roads, schools, and hospitals. It also goes to services for children and seniors. The data are also used to decide how many seats each state can have in the House of Representatives².

How is the census taken?

Census Day is April 1, 2020. In March 2020, all households in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas³ will receive an invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census (some households will also receive paper questionnaires). A member of each household will fill out the form. The form has about ten questions. It should be completed immediately and mailed in by the end of April 2020. In May 2020, census workers, called enumerators, will visit households who have not completed the census to help them.

Who is counted in a household?

- All adults
- Babies, children, roommates, and relatives
- People living with you who have no other place to stay
- People living in your home most of the time, even if they have another place to stay

Who is not counted in a household?

- People who live or stay at another place most of the time
- Students living away from home while attending college or boarding school
- People in the military living somewhere else

How does the U.S. Census Bureau protect my information?

Some people may be unsure about how their personal information will be used. Federal law prohibits the U.S. Census Bureau and its workers from sharing any information they collect from individuals and businesses. It is a punishable crime to share any information that is collected through the census. Other agencies will *not* see the facts about you and your household.

The census is your chance to be counted.

¹The U.S. Constitution: The law of the land in the United States

²The House of Representatives: one of the two chambers of the U.S. Congress; the other chamber is the Senate.
https://www.ducksters.com/history/us_government/house_of_representatives.php

³Island Areas: Guam, U.S. Virgin Island, American Samoa

Census Vocabulary

Word	Definition
boarding school (n.)	a school where students live during the school year
census	an official count of all the people living in the United States
data (plural n.)	facts or information
fact (n.)	information that is true
prohibit from + verb _{ing}	order someone <u>not</u> to do or use something
require (v.)	make it necessary for someone to do something, for example, a law or rule says that you must do something
respond (v.)	answer
questionnaire (n.)	a list of questions given to people in order to collect information

Reading Comprehension Questions

The U.S. census is only for people who were born in the United States. True False

How often is the population counted? _____

Why is it important to complete the census form? _____

What are two ways a household member can complete the census?

1 _____

2 _____

If there are five members in your household, who should complete the census?

- a** All five members **b** Only one adult **c** Only parents **d** Only the oldest person

If your son or daughter attends college in Texas, should he or she be counted?

- Yes No

Your mother-in-law owns a house in Los Angeles, but she lives with you most of the time. Should she be counted?

- Yes No

What will happen if you do *not* complete the census form?

List at least two ways the government uses census data.

Activities taken from a different Int text that I'd like to delete. Do they work?

Write T (true) or F (false) next to the sentences below about "Everyone Counts!"

1. ___ Only citizens can participate in the Census.
2. ___ The Census happens every 10 years.
3. ___ Heads of household must answer the Census questions online.
4. ___ You have only one chance to respond to the Census.
5. ___ You can answer the questions in person, if you don't respond online or by phone.
6. ___ "Everyone counts" means that every person is included and important in the Census.

Circle the best answer to the following questions about the reading.

1. What is the goal of the 2020 Census?
 - a. The goal is to count every person in the United States.
 - b. The goal is to count people citizens and people who are here legally.
2. Who fills out the Census form?
 - a. Everyone in the household fills out the form.
 - b. Only the head of household fills out the form.
3. How will most people respond to the Census in 2020?
 - a. Most people will complete the Census face-to-face.
 - b. Most people will do it online.
4. Can a person choose to answer the Census questions on paper?
 - a. Yes.
 - b. No.
5. If you don't respond to the Census online, by mail, or by phone, what will happen?
 - a. You will get a phone call from the Census office.
 - b. A Census enumerator will come to your house to ask you questions in person.
6. If a person comes to your house to ask questions about the Census, how can you be sure he or she is really a Census worker?
 - a. He or she will show you their badge.
 - b. He or she will look like a government worker.

Think / Pair / Share

During the last Census in 2010, more than a million people were not counted because they did not fill out the Census form that was mailed to their house. When people are not counted, what could happen to the community?

Vocabulary

available	easy to get or use
elderly	old person
enumerator	a person who counts people for the Census
glossary	a list of definitions of words
noncitizen	a person who is not a citizen
participate	to join in an activity
residence	the place where you live

translation	words that have been changed from one language to another language
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