

Social Studies

Chapter 2 Study Guide

- 1) According to some scientists, the first Americans walked from Siberia to Alaska across the Bering Strait.
- 2) Explorers and settlers came to North America to spread Christianity, find gold, and claim land for their rulers.
- 3) The purpose of Christopher Columbus's first voyage to North America was to find a short route by sea to Asia.
- 4) New territory was added to the United States by purchasing land from Spain and France, and by taking territory Britain gave up.
- 5) The United States expanded its territory from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans by signing treaties, buying lands, and fighting wars.
- 6) A constitution is a written plan for the nation's laws.
- 7) Voters elect a mayor at the local level of government.
- 8) The legislative branch of government makes the nation's laws.
- 9) The President is the head of the executive branch of government.
- 10) The United States Constitution can be changed by an amendment approved by the states.
- 11) One way a person can become a citizen of the United States is by being born in the United States.
- 12) Services paid for by taxes include maintaining roads, making new parks, and building schools.
- 13) United States citizens are responsible for paying taxes, obeying laws, and serving on a jury.
- 14) American children are responsible for going to school and learning about the government and our history.
- 15) It is important for Americans to vote because it makes sure that the government represents the will of the people.

