

FALL
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LVCC Learner News

The Dream that Many Want to Reach by Federico Sanchez *Federico earned his US citizenship in May, 2008. Congratulations!*

I remember the day that I had my appointment in Phoenix. It was a big day for me.

I had with me everything I needed for that day. We left early my wife, daughter and sister. We had to wait outside 30-40 minutes because we got there early. When they finally let us in, I got very nervous. There was a lot of people inside still studying the questions. An officer approached us and told us to relax and we would be called one at a time by our names. When one person would go in the officer stayed and talk to us by asking us questions just to be prepared for when we went in. After that we started to feel more comfortable with his help.

Finally it was my turn. I was assigned to a very kind officer. He asked me if I was ready and not to worry because everything was going to be fine. It was very simple and fast. It would only take like ten minutes. He told me he was going to ask me ten questions, and I would have to write down something that he asks me to. Everything came out fine. He told me that I had to move on to another officer. He was going to ask me more questions. He asked me questions related to me like where I worked, how old I was, how many children I had. He also asked if I would go the war. After I just waited like ten more minutes and they told me everything went great.

Federico's Letter to His Tutor

Seldon,

I am very pleased with you and all your effort that you gave in to me. You have helped me learn many new things I did not know. I am very glad I met you. All of your techniques helped me to pass my US Citizenship test, and I could not thank you enough for that. I hope you continue to volunteer and help others who need it just like I did.

Thank you for all your help,
Federico Sanchez, 7-22-08



Tips on Becoming a US Citizen

Shahdokht Neematollahi, who took her oath in July 2007, offers these suggestions to those who are preparing to become U.S. citizens:

1. Get help. You can read the book and practice the questions, but you need someone to help you understand. The hardest part for me was learning about the government. A teacher or tutor can explain. Talk to librarians too. They are very nice. They can help you find books and audiotapes. They can help you use computers.
2. Learn English from everyone you can. Get tutoring at Literacy Volunteers. Take ESL classes. Go to CCC. Practice reading, writing and speaking.
3. Try to speak in English, even if people laugh or make you nervous. I want people to correct me, and if they laugh, maybe next time I try harder.
4. Read a citizenship book first. It helps a lot.
5. Know more than the 100 questions. You need to understand the ideas. See the new questions at <http://www.uscis.gov/files/nativedocuments/100q.pdf>
6. Watch the video from Literacy Volunteers. It gives you an idea of what the test and interview will be like and how the immigration officials talk to the people.
7. Don't wait until you get the letter for your appointment. You need lots of time to learn about U.S. history and government.
8. Have good character. Live a regular life. Be careful. Don't do anything illegal! Don't lie on your form or during your interview. It's better to tell the truth.
9. Try to be relaxed.
10. Get to your appointment early.



Do you have any tips to add?

What do you think is the most important tip?