

Lesson 1 - Thought Catcher

Name: _____

Date: _____

What is unique about Washington, D.C.?

Consider what you know about the lack of federal representation in Washington, D.C. What impact does this lack of representation in the national political system have on Washington, D.C. residents?

Lesson 1 - Thought Catcher (for teacher reference)

Name: _____

Date: _____

What is unique about Washington, D.C.?

Student answers will vary.

- *Washington, D.C. is not a state.*
- *The capital of the United States is located in Washington, D.C.*
- *The President of the United States lives in Washington, D.C.*
- *There are many National Monuments in Washington, D.C.*
- *Many political protests and rallies occur in Washington, D.C.*
- *Lawmakers travel to and from Washington, D.C. very often.*

Consider what you know about the lack of federal representation in Washington, D.C. What impact does this lack of representation in the national political system have on Washington, D.C. residents?

Student answers will vary.

Residents of Washington, D.C.

- *Do not have a voice in Congress*
- *Elect only a non-voting Delegate to the House of Representatives*
- *Pay the highest average per capita federal income taxes in the United States*

Lesson 1 - Exit Ticket (for teacher reference)

Name: _____

Date: _____

What makes D.C. unique as a district? Focus specifically on how D.C. lacks representation in the national political system.

Answers will vary.

D.C. residents do not have the same rights as all American citizens in the 50 states do. Because representatives to Congress are elected only by Americans living in the 50 states, residents of Washington, D.C. do not have a voice in Congress, in the House or in the Senate. D.C. elects a non-voting Delegate to the House of Representatives; however, that delegate can only draft legislation. Additionally, the citizens of Washington, D.C. pay the highest average per person federal income taxes in the United States and pay more in total federal income tax than the residents in 22 other states. Therefore, D.C. contributes to funding the operation of the federal government, but does not have any power to direct how those tax dollars are spent.

Lesson 1 - Exit Ticket

Name: _____

Date: _____

What makes D.C. unique as a district? Focus specifically on how D.C. lacks representation in the national political system.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.