

**TIC-TAC-TOE
TEXAS
GOVERNMENT
REVIEW
GAME**

Teacher Traffic Safety Academy 2025

MUNICIPAL TRAFFIC SAFETY
INITIATIVES

TIC-TAC-TOE TEXAS GOVERNMENT REVIEW GAME LESSON PLAN

Tic-Tac-Toe Texas Government Review Game - Lesson Plan

Learning Objectives: Students will...

- Discover key differences between the city, state, and federal governments.
- Review key information pertaining to Texas and the U.S. Constitutions.
- Understand traffic safety laws in Texas and how they are applied.

TEKS:

TEKS §113.13(b)(11); TEKS §113.15(b)(21); TEKS §113.16(b)(20); TEKS §113.18(b)(15);
TEKS §113.19(b)(15); TEKS §113.20(b)(19); TEKS §113.41(c)(17); TEKS §113.43(c)(15)

Materials:

1. <https://www.dps.texas.gov/internetforms/forms/dl-7.pdf>
2. Copies of the Texas Government Packet (these can be a Class Set and stay in class for use with each class period).
3. Optional: Accompanying PPT may be used during game play to discuss the rules and act as a scorekeeping board. The PPT includes several variations to choose from.
4. Arrange 9 desks in a 3x3 grid pattern like a Tic-Tac-Toe board.



Optional Vocabulary for Preteach:

- Federalism - principle of government in which the state and federal governments co-exist (states have their own, state governments, while the federal government also governs over all of the states)
- Legislative - relating to the branch of government that makes laws, such as the U.S. Congress
- Executive - relating to the branch of government that executes or enforces laws
- Judicial - relating to the branch of government that interprets and applies the law

Instructions:

5. Provide students with the latest Texas Drivers Handbook link (December 2024) at <https://www.dps.texas.gov/internetforms/Forms/DL-7.pdf>. Students with accommodations can also listen to the handbook (audio delivery) via this link.

6. Provide students with a copy of the Texas Government Packet included in this lesson.
7. Using material from these two sources, students will play a review game similar to “Hollywood Squares” or “Tic-Tac-Toe.”
8. Choose 9 student volunteers to be the “drivers of the cars,” and ask each student to sit in one of the 9 desks in the center of the room.
9. Give each volunteer one full-page picture of one of the cars, included in this lesson. Each of the 9 students should have a different car.
10. Divide the remainder of the class into two teams. One team will be X’s and one team will be O’s. Draw a Tic-Tac-Toe Board at the front of the room (on a whiteboard or flip-chart) to keep score during the game. Designate one student to be the scorekeeper.
11. Call on student #1 in the X group. That student should pick one of the car drivers, and the teacher asks the chosen car driver a review question.
12. The car driver answers the review question. Explain to students that car drivers are allowed to bluff if they don’t know the answer, or if they simply want to trick the other students.
13. Student #1 may confer quickly with his/her team members before answering, but students should be discouraged from looking up the answer since this is a review game.
14. Student #1 must then choose to Agree or Disagree with the car driver’s answer. If Student #1 is correct, then place an X or an O on the board in the spot that corresponds to the car driver’s seat. If the student misses the question, then the other team gets that square (marking an X or O on the board), unless that spot would make their team win. In this case, the next student on that team must answer another question to earn the win.
15. The game continues until one of the teams scores Tic-Tac-Toe (vertically, horizontally, or diagonally).

Note: In order to keep the game moving, you may need to set a time limit on how much time students have to confer with their team.

Optional: Have all students use the game boards attached to record their answers in each square (not just an X or an O) as the game progresses. Students can put a check mark or an X next to each to signify which questions they answered/guessed correctly. Students can turn in the paper at the end of class as an Exit Ticket.

Extensions:

- The game may be repeated until class time is over or all questions are covered.
- You can swap out the students who act as car drivers for each game.
- For larger classes or to make the game more challenging (such as for G/T differentiation), you can also arrange 16 desks in a 4 x 4 pattern and require the teams to get 4 in a row (instead of 3...this game would resemble “Connect 4” more than “Tic-Tac-Toe”).
- This game can be adjusted and used as a review for other lessons/units throughout the year. To encourage long-term recall, include a few questions from the original game

and/or past units so that students are reviewing the material throughout the entire school year.


Additional Resources:

- Use the Texas LRE video to help students further understand the difference between the many levels of government: <https://texaslre.org/texas-civics-a-students-guide-legislative/>
 - These videos include Spanish options and Closed-Captioning options
- More helpful videos on these topics can be found here: <https://texaslre.org/texas-civics-a-students-guide/>
- For an extensive list of Elementary, Middle, and High School resources: <https://texaslre.org/>

**TIC-TAC-TOE
TEXAS GOVERNMENT REVIEW GAME
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Questions (Answers)

1. What does the color orange mean on a traffic sign?
(It means construction and/or maintenance warning)
2. Which is longer - the U.S. Constitution or the Texas Constitution?
(The Texas Constitution, by a lot!)
3. What type of license permits a person to drive a single unit vehicle?
(Class C)
4. True or False: The definition of intoxication includes only alcohol.
(False)
5. True or False: One of the duties of city governments in Texas is collecting automobile registration / license fees for the state.
(False)
6. What does a flashing yellow light mean?
(Slow down; proceed with caution)
7. Who is in charge of the county jail where you might be held for ignoring traffic tickets?
(The county sheriff)
8. In Texas, what percentage of blood-alcohol concentration is illegal for a driver?
(0.08%)

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9. Who serves as legal counsel and prosecutes criminal misdemeanors for the county and justice of the peace courts?
(The county attorney)
 10. What is the maximum fine for a first DWI offense?
(\$2,000)
 11. What is the minimum age for a person to hold a “learner’s permit” or instruction permit?
(15 years old)
 12. Who is the presiding officer of the Texas Senate?
(The Lt. Governor)
 13. What is the maximum speed limit (unless otherwise posted) allowed for a passenger car on a highway outside an urban district?
(70 mph)
 14. On what side of the road should a pedestrian walk if there are no sidewalks?
(Left)
 15. What trial courts handle misdemeanor traffic violations?
(Municipal courts and Justice courts)
 16. True or False: Over the Counter and prescription medication can affect the mental and physical skills needed to operate a motor vehicle.
(True)
 17. True or False: Pedestrians always have the right of way to cross the road.
(False)
 18. What should a driver do if an emergency vehicle is sounding a siren or flashing their red light?
(Pull to the right edge of the roadway and stop)
 19. True or False: Members of the State Board of Education are appointed by the Governor.
(False)
 20. How is a minor defined in Texas law as far as possession and consumption of alcohol is concerned?
(Someone under 21 years old)
 21. What are city laws called?
(Ordinances)



22. Who is the Chief Executive in a city?

(The Mayor)

23. Where is the Bill of Rights found in the Texas Constitution?

(Article I)

24. Where is the Bill of Rights found in the U.S. Constitution?

(After the Articles; Amendments 1-10)

25. Under Texas law, who is required to wear a safety belt (i.e. seat belts)?

(All passengers)

26. True or False: It is permissible to park in a disabled parking spot so long as there are at least two additional disabled spots available.

(False)

27. Name one part of most city governments:

(Mayor or City Council)

28. True or False: The faster one is driving, the greater the distance one should keep between their car and the car ahead of him/her.

(True)

29. In what Texas court would a trial likely be held for a felony?

(District Court)

30. What happens to traffic fines in a construction zone?

(They are doubled)

31. What is the highest court in the State of Texas for civil appeals?

(Supreme Court of Texas)

32. What is the highest court in the State of Texas for criminal appeals?


(Texas Court of Criminal Appeals)

33. True or False: The state is the only government that sets speed limits.

(False)

34. Which has been amended more - the Texas Constitution or the U.S. Constitution?

(The Texas Constitution)

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35. Which Article of the U.S. Constitution outlines the power of the judicial branch?
(Article III)
36. When / how often does the Texas Legislature meet in regular session?
(Every other year; for 140 days)
37. When turning left, does an automobile driver have to yield to a motorcyclist coming from the other direction?
(Yes; almost 2/3 of all motorcycle crashes are caused by a car turning left in front of the motorcycle)
38. How many members / representatives are there in the U.S. House of Representatives?
(435)
39. What deadly gas might be produced when a motor is left running inside a garage?
(Carbon monoxide)
40. What is the minimum age to hold office in the Texas House of Representatives?
(21 years old)
41. What is the minimum age to hold office in the U.S. Senate?
(30 years old)
42. True or False: Speed limits are the same for both day and night.
(True)
43. Is it legal for a privately owned car to have a siren on it?
(No, unless it is an emergency vehicle)
44. What is the title of the county officer who records legal documents such as deeds, contracts, marriage licenses, and birth certificates?
(County clerk)
45. True or False: Duties that apply to a driver operating a motor vehicle do not apply to a bicycle rider?
(False)
46. True or False: City council elections are nonpartisan, but judges in Texas run as Republicans, Democrats, or members of another political party.
(True)



47. What are state and federal laws called?

(Statutes)

48. Name one of the optional functions for counties in Texas:

(Answers may vary: establishing libraries, operating cemeteries, managing a county hospital or other health service, creating a community college district, providing parks or airports, contracting with other local governments to provide services such as fire or emergency medical services)

49. What courts hear appeals from the district or county courts in Texas?

(Courts of Appeals, except for death penalty cases which go directly to the Court of Criminal Appeals)

50. What is the major source of revenue for most governments?

(Taxes)



TIC-TAC-TOE
TEXAS GOVERNMENT REVIEW GAME
GRIDS

Student Name:

GAME 1

GAME 5

GAME 2

GAME 6

GAME 3

GAME 7

GAME 4

GAME 8

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