



## Florida Literacy Coalition

### Lesson - Intermediate

Duration of lesson: 60 minutes

**Objective: Students will learn what the US Census is, when it will take place, how to participate and the benefit of the 2020 Census.**

Recommendations:

- It is recommended that instructors/tutors have census materials which they can print in any language available right from the census website; these materials may be available in various languages. Please visit <https://2020census.gov/>
- Instructors may post posters in their classrooms about the Census to encourage students to participate. Census flyers can be downloaded from <https://floridaliteracy.org/censustoolkit/Census%20Toolkit%20flyer.pdf>
- Instructors should be ready to take the Census survey themselves even before introducing this topic to students.
- It is recommended that instructors/tutors use as many visuals as possible (videos, maps, pictures) to show their students how the census works.
- Convey to your students that completing the questionnaire doesn't take a long time. It should only take anywhere between 10-15 minutes.
- Instructors have the option to use the PPT included with these lesson plans especially if they need to cover the information with their students virtually.

Instructions:

1. Prompt the students by are asking:
  1. "What do you know about the Census?" – have this question written on the board or display on a screen.
  2. Does your country conduct a Census? If yes, how often?
  3. Write down what they know on the board.
  4. Show a video about the census <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eg-FMB4epyw>; this video will give them a visual and auditory tool to learn what the Census is. You may need to pause the video to break the information into smaller sections so that they can understand.
  5. Distribute **Activity B1** at the end of the video. Break students into groups of 3 or 4 students. Have them take turns reading each section on this handout and then ask them to answer the questions within their groups. As a class check all the answers to each question.
  6. Finish this class with a walkthrough of the online census questionnaire. Use the "**2020 Census Online Questionnaire Walkthrough Practice**" handout to walk them through each question and screen. You also have the option to do an on-line practice session which will allow you to show your students how to complete each question by visiting

[https://nelrc.org/courses/practice\\_census/story.html](https://nelrc.org/courses/practice_census/story.html). Be sure to address all the notes in red letters on the “**2020 Census Online Questionnaire Walkthrough Practice**” handout; this gives them key information to complete the questionnaire accurately.

Note:

- The invitations from the U.S. Census Bureau were sent out from March 12-20. April 1<sup>st</sup> is census day; census takers will follow up with anyone who hasn't responded starting **May 28<sup>th</sup> but households can respond by phone, mail or online up to August 14<sup>th</sup>**.
- It will be extremely helpful to provide them with a sample census survey; this survey can be found <https://2020census.gov/content/dam/2020census/materials/partners/2019-08/2020-informational-questionnaire.pdf>; the link to the on-line questionnaire is <https://my2020census.gov/>; additionally show them a sample of the invitation letter that they will receive which can be found <https://2020census.gov/content/dam/2020census/materials/partners/2019-12/2020-informational-invitation-letter.pdf>
- Inform your students that both the invitation letter and or the questionnaire will be addressed “TO RESIDENT AT” followed by their address and that this letter or questionnaire has a Census ID number which is used at the time of completing the questionnaire. If they don't have this number and they are completing it on-line, they can choose the option that says “If you don't have a Census ID, click here”; then complete the questions prompted on each screen.
- Instructors can also encourage students to bring the invitation letter/questionnaire that they will or have already received in the mail.
- Remind students that this questionnaire can be completed on-line, by phone or by mail and that it is available in 13 different languages (English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Japanese). For information on Census language support visit <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2020/languages.html>
  - **ON-LINE** is available in English, Spanish, Chinese (simplified), Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Japanese.
  - **BY PHONE** is available in English, Spanish, Chinese (Mandarin & Cantonese), Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Japanese.
  - **PAPER QUESTIONNAIRE** is available in English and Spanish.
- Ethnicity and race are different; students should know that “Hispanic” isn't a race.
- **People can call 844-330-2020** for questions or support.

Teachers cannot:

1. Respond Census questions for their students
2. Encourage lying on the census
3. Share any information they may learn about their students

Source: <https://2020census.gov> and <https://floridaliteracy.org/2020census.html>