



# FLORIDA...

## The Story Continues

### CHAPTER 14, Citizenship in School

#### EVENTS

**1949: African-American Virgil Hawkins does not get into the University of Florida (UF) Law School.** Florida's state universities were segregated then. When UF refused to admit Hawkins, he went to court. The Florida Supreme Court said that he was qualified for law school, but that he could not attend UF because he was black. Hawkins continued his fight. In 1954 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that public-school desegregation was illegal. It also ordered UF to admit Hawkins. The Florida Supreme Court ruled that it could ignore the U.S. Supreme Court. When that ruling did not last long, the Florida court decided it would desegregate UF if Hawkins did not go to UF. Hawkins agreed; he did become a lawyer later. However, it was his legal battle that opened Florida's public universities to all students.

#### PLACES

**2010: 66 percent of Florida's high school students begin their college careers at one of Florida's 28 community colleges.** Community college programs are two years long. However, students can combine classes to earn four-year degrees. The Florida Community College Activities Association coordinates and promotes various events among these colleges. For example, every year college teams compete against each other academically in the Brain Bowl.

#### PLACES

**2010: 27 Florida high schools are ranked among "America's Best High Schools" by Newsweek magazine.** Five Florida schools were in the top 20. Rankings were determined based on a "challenge index." The number of advanced college-level courses and tests that students took in each school was divided by the number of graduating seniors.

**EVENTS****1968: Florida teachers hold the first statewide teachers' strike in the U.S.**

Florida's teachers' associations and unions worked with the state government on educational reform. Then, in 1966, newly-elected Governor Claude Kirk vetoed all school improvement bills that the legislature sent to him. By 1967, school conditions in Florida had gotten worse. Classrooms were overcrowded, and buildings were run down. Florida teachers earned an average of \$7,200 a year. This was less than they had been paid in 1960. Governor Kirk refused to deal with the teachers. On February 19, 1968, more than 35,000 teachers went on strike. Soon after, the legislature passed another bill to begin educational reform. Governor Kirk did *not* veto it. The teachers returned to work.

It grades state policies, like class size and teaching requirements. It also grades how students do on national tests. Florida's overall grade was a B-. Florida's worst grade was an F for how much money is spent on education. However, the state earned a B+ for spending equity, meaning how fairly the money is split.

**PLACES****1959: Desegregation begins in the Miami-Dade County**

**schools.** The U.S. Supreme Court ruled against segregation in public schools in 1954. The first group of African-American students entered Miami-Dade's Orchard Villa Elementary School in 1959. That school was previously restricted to white students.

**PLACES****2011: Florida schools are ranked 5th in the nation in the annual**

**Quality Counts report.** This report grades states in six education categories.

## Unpacking the Florida Standards <...>

Read the following to learn what this standard says and what it means. See FL8-FL20 to unpack all the other standards related to this chapter.

**Benchmark SS.7.C.2.12** Develop a plan to resolve a state or local problem by researching public policy alternatives, identifying appropriate government agencies to address the issue, and determining a course of action.

**What does it mean?**

Identify a state or local issue and create a plan to solve that issue. Conduct library or Internet research to identify possible public policy solutions and the government agencies responsible for helping solve the problem. Then, outline the steps necessary for completing the plan. Go to Chapter 4, Rights and Responsibilities, for help. See also the Students Take Action features that appear in each chapter.





## CHAPTER 14

# CITIZENSHIP IN SCHOOL

**Essential Question** Why is education important to society and to individuals?



### Florida Next Generation Sunshine State Standards

**SS.7.C.2.3** Experience the responsibilities of citizens at the local, state, or federal levels.

**SS.7.C.2.12** Develop a plan to resolve a state or local problem by researching public policy alternatives, identifying appropriate government agencies to address the issue, and determining a course of action. **SS.7.C.2.13** Examine multiple perspectives on public and current issues. **SS.7.C.2.14** Conduct a service project to further the public good. **SS.7.C.3.14** Differentiate between local, state, and federal governments' obligations and services. **LA.7.1.6.1** The student will use new vocabulary that is introduced and taught directly. **LA.7.1.7.1** The student will use background knowledge of subject and related content areas, prereading strategies, graphic representations, and knowledge of text structure to make and confirm complex predictions of content, purpose, and organization of a reading selection. **LA.7.1.7.3** The student will determine the main idea or essential message in grade-level or higher texts through inferring, paraphrasing, summarizing, and identifying relevant details. **MA.7.S.6.1** Evaluate the reasonableness of a sample to determine the appropriateness of generalizations made about the population.







# WHY CIVICS Matters

Have you thought about the kind of work you want to do when you become an adult? No matter what future you choose for yourself, you will profit by getting a good education.

PROJECT **Citizen**

FLORIDA



## STUDENTS TAKE ACTION

**PROTECTING SANDHILL CRANES** What would you do if you were worried about the survival of birds around your school? Students in New Port Richey, Florida, lobbied their county government to install warning signs to protect the birds. In what ways are students at your school involved in the local community?

## FOCUS ON WRITING

**CREATING A WEB SITE** Have you ever designed your own Web site? If not, here is your chance to create one. As you read this chapter, you will gather information about the importance of education. Then you will write a description of how you would present this same information on a Web site.





In this chapter you will read about the U.S. educational system and the core values that guide it. You will also learn about the challenges that public education faces. You will read about the seven goals of education. You will also read

about the importance of knowing how to learn and think clearly so that you can think for yourself and become a good citizen. Finally, you will learn how opinions are formed and how people are influenced by other people's thinking.

## Summarizing Text

### FOCUS ON READING

Textbooks are full of information. Sometimes the sheer amount of information they contain can make processing what you read difficult. In those cases, it may be helpful to stop for a moment and summarize what you have read.

**Writing a Summary** A **summary** is a short restatement of the most important ideas in a text. The example below shows three steps used in writing a summary. First underline important details. Then write a short summary of each paragraph. Finally, combine these paragraph summaries into a short summary of the whole passage.

### Helpful Hints for Summarizing Text

1. Ask yourself "What is the most important point of this paragraph?"
2. Try to restate the point in one sentence.
3. Focus on getting the big ideas, not the details.

The success you enjoy in school and the study and learning habits you develop may play a role in the person you will become. They will also influence the kind of job that you will have. What kinds of study and learning habits should you try to develop?

One of the first and most important study habits all students must learn is the wise use of time. A well-organized student finds time in his or her daily schedule for study, school activities, exercise, relaxation, and the proper amount of sleep.

**Summary of Paragraph 1** Study and learning habits will influence the person you become and the kind of job you will have.

**Summary of Paragraph 2** The most important study habit is learning to use time wisely by making and following a daily schedule.

**Combined Summary** Learning to use time wisely is an important study habit that can help you be successful in school and life.

**LA.7.1.7.3** The student will determine the main idea or essential message in grade-level or higher texts through inferring, paraphrasing, summarizing, and identifying relevant details.



## You Try It!

The following passage is from the chapter you are about to read. As you read it, decide which facts you would include in a summary of the passage.

### Extracurricular Activities Can Lead to Success

School can be more than just classes, homework, tests, and projects. To get the most out of your education, you should get involved in the extracurricular activities that your school offers. Extracurricular activities are the groups, teams, and events that your school sponsors outside of the classroom.

*From Chapter 14,  
p. 348*

So join a sport. Try out for the school play. Run for office in student government. Your effort will pay off. You may find a new hobby. You may improve your skills or learn new ones. Most likely, you will meet new people and make new friends.

There are benefits for the future, too. Extracurricular activities may help you get into the college of your choice or earn valuable scholarships. Of course, the most important reason to participate in school activities is because they are fun!

**After you read the passage, answer the following questions.**

- Which of the following statements best summarizes the first paragraph of this passage?
  - School is more fun with extracurricular activities.
  - Extracurricular activities are an important part of your education.
- Using the steps described on the previous page, write a summary of the second and third paragraphs of this passage.
- Combine the summary statement you chose in question 1 with the summary statements you wrote in question 2 to create a single summary of this entire passage.

## KEY TERMS

### CHAPTER 14

#### Section 1

university (p. 341)

mainstreaming (p. 342)

#### Section 2

extracurricular activities (p. 348)

#### Section 3

experience (p. 350)

conditioning (p. 351)

habit (p. 351)

motivation (p. 351)

insight (p. 352)

creativity (p. 352)

critical thinking (p. 352)

prejudice (p. 354)

### Academic Vocabulary

Success in school is related to knowing academic vocabulary—the words that are frequently used in school assignments and discussions. In this chapter, you will learn the following academic words:

values (p. 341)

principles (p. 348)

complex (p. 352)

**As you read Chapter 14,** decide which points you would include in a summary of the chapter.



## SECTION 1



SS.7.C.3.14; LA.7.1.6.1; LA.7.1.7.1

# The U.S. School System

### BEFORE YOU READ

#### The Main Idea


Education is vital to American society and to American democracy. The U.S. school system helps prepare you to be a good citizen.

#### Reading Focus

1. Why is education important?
2. What are the levels of the U.S. school system?
3. What American values can be found in education, and what challenges face schools today?

#### Key Terms

university, *p. 341*  
mainstreaming, *p. 342*

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**TAKING NOTES**

Use the graphic organizer online to take notes on the importance of education, the levels of the U.S. school system, and the values and challenges of education in the United States.



Many programs reward students for academic achievements. These students are the winners of college scholarships for academic excellence.

### CIVICS IN PRACTICE

Education is central to American society. As President Franklin D. Roosevelt said, “Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.” How does this affect you? Not only will a good education help you get a good job someday, but our country, our government, and our way of life will benefit from this as well. In this increasingly complex and technologically advanced world, the future of the United States depends on well-educated citizens. Society, as a whole, prospers when its citizens are educated.

### Education Is Important

Maybe you have heard the expression, “Knowledge is power.” Sir Francis Bacon, a sixteenth century British philosopher and inventor coined the phrase. Many Americans still believe in Bacon’s idea. Today, there are more than 50 million students in grades K–12, and more than 3 million teachers. Education is important for two main reasons: Education helps individual citizens grow, and it builds a strong country.



## Religious Clubs in Public Schools

Because public schools are funded by tax dollars, they must follow certain rules, which courts have established based on the Constitution. The First Amendment says that government cannot “establish” a religion—it must remain neutral. Courts have interpreted this neutrality to mean that public schools cannot start the school day with a prayer; this would be establishing a preference for religion. But what about allowing a Bible-study club to meet on school grounds after classes are over?

For a time, many public schools would not permit religious clubs to use school property because they did not want to show any preference for religious activities. But in 1990 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that it is unconstitutional for a school to pick and choose among student-run clubs based on a club’s purpose. A religious club must be treated the same as other student clubs.

What constitutional arguments do you think influenced the Supreme Court’s decision?



### Helping Individual Citizens Grow

Americans believe that all citizens should be able to make the most of their talents and abilities. Most agree that everyone should have the same opportunities to learn and succeed. That is why we strive to provide all citizens with equal access to education.

### Building a Strong Country

Imagine if no one in our country ran for public office. Or, what if no one helped the homeless or cleaned up the parks? People are responsible for what goes on in their communities and neighborhoods. One purpose of education is to teach young citizens how to use their skills to help others and our nation.

#### READING CHECK

**Finding the Main Idea** Why do Americans believe that education is important?

## Levels of the School System

The American school system has many different levels—from preschool through university. Each level provides important educational and social skills to American students.

### The Educational Ladder

You and your friends will probably spend at least 14 years on the educational ladder—from preschool through high school. If you go on to college and graduate school, like medical school, you could spend as many as 12 more years getting your education!

**Preschool** Preschool is usually for children aged three through five. Children learn everything from the letters in the alphabet to cooperating with teachers and each other.

**Kindergarten** Kindergarten prepares children for first grade by teaching them basic academic skills. Children also start to learn thinking and social skills that will help them for the rest of their education.

**Elementary School** Children go to elementary school from first grade through fifth or sixth grade, depending on the school system. Students learn the building blocks of reading, writing, and mathematics. Many elementary schools also offer instruction in social studies, science, health, art, music, physical education, and citizenship.



# Education and Earnings

Education is the key to success. In general, the more education someone has, the more money he or she earns. Of the millions of people who enter school at age 5 or 6, however, few stay in school long enough to earn that valuable college diploma.

By age 7, just about everyone enters the school system. Most of those students will attend high school.

Despite laws designed to prevent it, some students leave school before finishing the eighth grade.

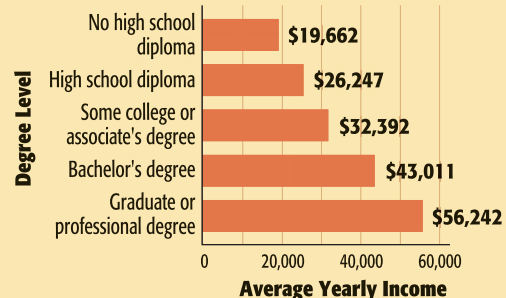
**2%** of Florida students drop out of high school. The unemployment rate is higher among adults who did not finish high school than among graduates.

About **28%** of Florida students had no plans to attend college or another postsecondary institution.

**9%** of Floridians over age 25 have completed an advanced degree.

**25%** of Floridians have earned bachelor's degrees. Florida ranks fifth nationally in bachelor's degrees awarded.

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND EARNINGS IN FLORIDA



Many people leave college before earning a bachelor's degree. Some return to finish later.

### ANALYSIS SKILL

#### ANALYZING INFORMATION

What is the most likely reason that those with a graduate or professional degree earn, on average, about 30 percent more than those with bachelor's degrees?

**Junior High or Middle School** Junior high schools usually range from seventh grade through ninth. Middle schools may range from grades four through eight. At this level, students are preparing for the last stage of their basic education—high school.

**High School** There are three kinds of high schools. Academic high schools prepare students for college. Technical or vocational high schools help students learn a specific trade or profession. Comprehensive high schools offer both educational options.

### Higher Education

Many jobs in the United States today require more education and training than you receive in high school. There are two basic options for higher education.

**Community Colleges** Community or junior colleges are two-year institutions of higher education. Some courses of study provide enough training to go right into a profession, such as medical laboratory technician or computer technical support. Students at community colleges often transfer to four-year colleges to complete their studies.

**Colleges and Universities** A college is any four-year institution that offers degrees in a variety of fields. A college degree is called an undergraduate degree. A **university** includes one or more colleges. Universities grant undergraduate degrees, but they also provide advanced studies in most college courses. These advanced degrees are earned in graduate school. Some universities offer graduate studies in professional fields.

There are plenty of good reasons to go to college. The more education you have, the more career and life opportunities you will have. If you plan to enter a profession such as law or medicine you will need a higher degree.

#### READING CHECK

**Summarizing** What are the levels of the U.S. school system?

## Values and Challenges of Education

Today most schools offer a wide range of subjects and are filled with many different types of people. Students have opportunities to learn more than just academics. Modern schools have become the rich and varied environment they are because of some basic American **values** that are part of the U.S. education system.

**Free Public Education** All U.S. citizens can take advantage of free public education, usually from kindergarten through high school. Public education is not entirely free, though. It is paid for with taxes collected by local, state, and federal governments. For example, in 2007–2008, approximately \$597 billion was spent to fund public education for grades prekindergarten through 12 and school construction, community services, and adult education programs.

#### ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

**values:**  
ideas that people hold dear and try to live by



### FOCUS ON Margaret Spellings

(1957— )

Margaret Spellings was born in Michigan in 1957, but she grew up in Houston, Texas. She studied political science at the University of Houston. Spellings is the mother of two school-age children. Spellings

served as associate executive director for the Texas Association of School Boards and later became an education and political adviser to George W. Bush during his term as governor of Texas.

During Bush's first term in Washington, Spellings became an assistant to the president on domestic policy. She helped write the No Child Left Behind Act in 2001. The act helps to establish standards of accountability for America's schools. In 2005 Spellings became the eighth U.S. secretary of education.

**Summarize** What part of Spelling's life might have helped her to become secretary of education?



**Equal Schooling, Open to All** Schools cannot discriminate against anyone because of his or her race, gender, or religion. They also cannot discriminate against a person because of physical disabilities or financial status.

**Free Education for Any Creed or Religion** All Americans, no matter what their religious beliefs, can attend public schools. Schools cannot discriminate against a student because of his or her religious background.

### FOCUS ON



The Florida Department of Education supports the state's 67 public school districts. An elected school board and a superintendent oversee each district. They decide how funds will be spent and work with school principals to manage the day-to-day task of educating students.

**Local Control** Local communities operate their own public schools. Each school district decides how its schools can best serve its citizens.

**Compulsory Attendance** Each state sets its own attendance requirements. All states, however, require that young people go to school.

**Enriching Environment** In the United States, people expect schools to be more than just places that teach academics. Americans expect schools to help students develop to their full potential—in mind, body, and spirit.

**Inclusive Instruction** Most U.S. citizens believe in equal education opportunities for everyone, regardless of any special

educational needs. The Handicapped Children's Act of 1975 requires that students with special needs be treated like everyone else and be taught in regular classrooms whenever possible. This practice is called **mainstreaming**, or inclusion.

### Challenges Facing Our Schools

Our public school system faces a number of challenges today. These challenges include:

- paying for public schools,
- hiring and keeping good teachers,
- educational reform and student performance,
- violence in public schools.

These problems can affect the education that you receive. There are solutions to these problems. Everyone, including students themselves, must help to find those solutions so that schools can respond better to the needs of students.

#### READING CHECK

**Summarizing** What are the principles that form the basis of the American education system?

## SECTION 1 ASSESSMENT



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ONLINE QUIZ

### Reviewing Ideas and Terms

- a. Recall** What are two main reasons that Americans think that education is important?  
**b. Make Inferences** How can education make a person a better citizen?
- a. Define** Write a brief definition of the following term: **university**.  
**b. Sequence** What are the levels of the U.S. school system?
- a.** Write a brief definition of the following term: **mainstreaming**.  
**b. Elaborating** How does the inclusion of American values in the education system help schools make students better citizens?

### Critical Thinking

- Evaluating** Review your notes on American values in education. Then create a graphic organizer that shows the top three values that you think are most important and why.

Most Important	Why

### FOCUS ON WRITING

- Problem Solving** What solutions would you propose to the various challenges facing American schools today?

# STUDENTS TAKE ACTION



## Protecting Sandhill Cranes

**M**iddle school students in New Port Richey, Florida, wanted to protect the sandhill cranes around their school. The birds, being gray, blended in with the pavement, and drivers could not see them. As a result, many cranes had died. The students worked to put warning signs around their school to help protect them.

**Community Connection** Sandhill cranes had been nesting in the area around the middle school for at least a thousand years. But with ever-expanding land development, the cranes' nesting sites were being covered with pavement. The birds were both confused and displaced. Students began to research the problem to find ways to protect the birds.

**Taking Action** The students contacted government agencies and officials who might be responsible for protecting the birds. Teacher Cindy Tehan helped them and kept tabs on their work and research. State senator Mike Fasano visited the students and also helped them approach county government officials. He sent a letter to the Pasco County Commission asking for their assistance. This brought media attention to the issue. As a result, Pasco County installed three Wildlife Area signs on the county roads near the school in 2008. The principal also put up three Sandhill Crane Crossing signs on campus.

Annette Boyd Pitts, executive director of the Florida Law Education Association and state director of the Project Citizen program in Florida, praised the students' efforts. "It is amazing to see how citizens of any age can make a difference in their communities with the help of committed teachers," Pitts said.



Students at Seven Springs Middle School asked their county government to install signs along the roads near their school to protect sandhill cranes.

**SS.7.C.2.14** Conduct a service project to further the public good.

### SERVICE LEARNING



1. Is there a local issue that students at your school are concerned about? Identify the appropriate government agency to work with to resolve the issue and develop a plan to do so.
2. Work with other students to implement your plan as a public service project.

[hmhsocialstudies.com](http://hmhsocialstudies.com) **ACTIVITY**



## SECTION 2



SS.7.C.2.3; LA.7.1.6.1; LA.7.1.7.1

# The Best Education for You

### BEFORE YOU READ

#### The Main Idea


You can be successful in school if you are aware of the opportunities that your school has to offer and if you are prepared to take advantage of those opportunities.

#### Reading Focus

1. How can being prepared for school help you be successful in school?
2. What are the seven goals of education?
3. How can extracurricular activities help you be successful in school?

#### Key Terms

extracurricular activities, p. 348

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**TAKING NOTES**  
Use the graphic organizer online to take notes on the best education for you.



Participating in drama can help prepare students for careers involving public speaking.



You probably know some students in your school who seem to be “lucky.” They get good grades, they win awards, and they belong to successful teams or clubs. Maybe these students *are* lucky, but luck is only part of their success. Success comes from working hard and seizing opportunities. A “lucky” person is prepared for those opportunities and takes advantage of them.

### Be Prepared, Be Successful

To get the most out of school, you have to make some effort. Are you making the most of your time in school? One of the most important skills you can learn is the smart use of your time.

Time management, or making and keeping a schedule, can help you in two ways. First, you will be able to make sure that everything you need to do—including having free time—gets done. Second, having a schedule helps to reduce your stress level. There are no surprises or last-minute projects that keep you up all night. Everything is planned and everything gets done.

To make a schedule, figure out how much time you need each day or week for your

important activities—homework, after-school activities, eating, sleeping. Then calculate how much time is left for leisure. Write your schedule on a calendar. Stick to your schedule, and you have mastered a lifelong skill!

### More Tips for Success

Having a schedule is an important first step toward success, but that is not all you need. Here are some more tips on studying and participating in class and in school activities.

**Studying at Home** Find a quiet, well-lighted place to study. Make sure you have all your materials that you will need nearby. Your bedroom or the local public library makes a good study place.

**Know Your Textbook** Here are some helpful hints for reading and using your textbooks.

- Use the study guides that are part of the book.
- Look over each chapter before you read. Read the chapter title, section headings, and other subheadings.
- Read the assigned text carefully, paying attention to topic sentences.
- Reread the chapter, but this time take notes on the important facts and ideas in the text.
- Answer the questions at the end of each section in a chapter as soon as you have finished reading.

**Be Prepared to Participate** Bring all of your supplies, including textbooks, pens or pencils, and notebooks. Make sure you have done the homework from the night before. Complete drills and do not be afraid to answer questions or offer your opinions.

### Test-Taking Tips

When you take a test, look over the entire test before you begin. Find out how many questions there are and how long you will have to answer each question. Leave enough time, if possible, to review your answers when you

finish. Take your time, and read each question carefully before you answer. If a question is too difficult at first, go on to other questions. But make sure to go back and answer anything you have skipped. Reread written answers and math solutions to look for mistakes. At the end, check to see that you have answered every question you can.

### READING CHECK

**Finding the Main Idea** What skills can help you do well in school?

## Seven Goals of Education

American schools generally have seven goals they want their students to try to achieve. If you learn these skills from your school, you will be ready for most challenges in life.

### Learn Basic Skills

The main goal of education is to teach students how to read, write, compute, and communicate. You should be able to listen to others, speak in front of a group, organize your thoughts, and express your ideas. You should know how to use a dictionary, conduct research, solve mathematical problems, support a point of view, and have basic knowledge of science. These are basic skills that you will use in college or on a job.

### Learn to Work with Others

Schools teach students how to cooperate and collaborate, both in the classroom and in the community.

### Build Good Health Habits

You cannot make the most of your education unless you are healthy. Nutrition, physical activity, and personal hygiene are important parts of a healthy life.

### Train for Your Life's Work

College-educated workers generally make more money than high school graduates. The basic skills you learn in school prepare you for the specialized training that many jobs and careers require.



# Success in School

*Being successful in school is up to you. Your time, your health, your study habits, and your personal life will impact your academic experience positively or negatively—depending on your choices.*

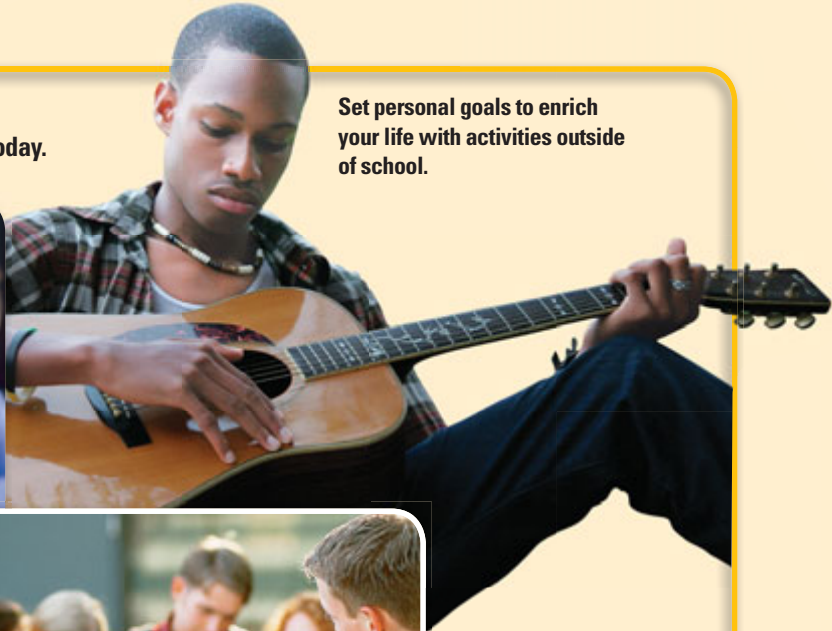
## Excellence Is a Choice

To reach your goals in the future, set academic goals today.

Set personal goals to enrich your life with activities outside of school.



Set short-term goals, such as passing an upcoming test.



Set long-term goals, like graduating from high school or going to college.

## Keep First Things First

Setting priorities is the best way to stay focused on your goals.



Managing your time well means setting and keeping a schedule for yourself.



Set aside time every week to get organized and stay organized.



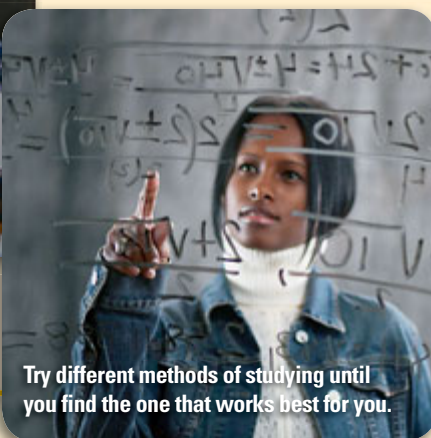
Become an active participant in your own education by spending time studying every day.

## **A Good Attitude Is a Great Asset**

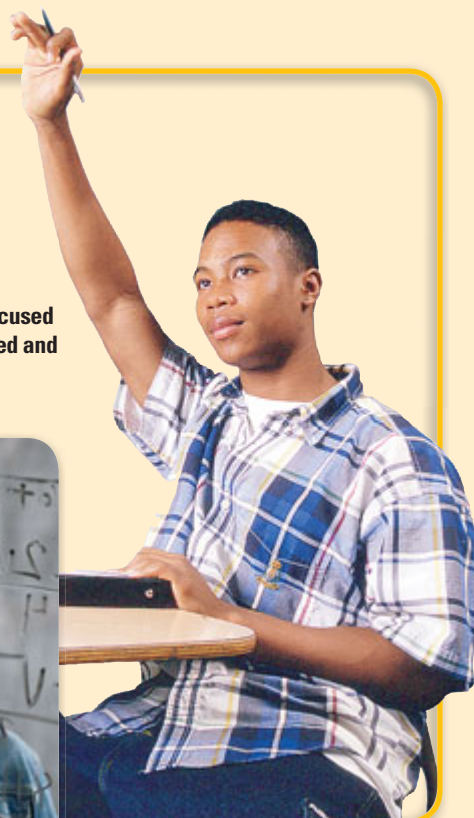
The school supplies you need the most cannot be bought—a positive mental outlook and a belief in yourself.



Learn to work with others and to ask for help when you need it.



Try different methods of studying until you find the one that works best for you.



Make an effort to stay focused in class by being prepared and participating.

## **Take Care of Yourself**

You must feel well to do well—in school and in life.



Teenagers need between 8 and 10 hours of sleep each night.



Fuel your mind and body with healthy food.



Exercise will help you feel better and learn better.



## ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

**principles:**  
basic beliefs,  
rules, or laws

### Become an Active Citizen

America is a democracy. That means that we, the citizens, run the country. Schools train students to be active citizens. School is a place where you and your classmates can practice the principles of our democracy—cooperation, participation, community service, and good judgment.

### Develop Considerate Behavior

Respect is important to all of us. We want respect from our friends, families, teachers, employers, and neighbors. Respect is being considerate of others—believing in their right to live, grow, and be happy. In school you learn to listen to other points of view and value the privacy and property of others. You learn that when you respect others, they respect you.

### Use Your Free Time Wisely

Your playtime is as important as your work time. Sometimes, the activities you do for fun develop skills and interests that can help you as an adult.

#### READING CHECK

**Summarizing** What skills do schools try to teach students that will help them on the job?

## Extracurricular Activities Can Lead to Success

School can be more than just classes, homework, tests, and projects. To get the most out of your education, you should get involved in the extracurricular activities that your school offers. **Extracurricular activities** are the groups, teams, and events that your school sponsors outside of the classroom.

So join a sport. Try out for the school play. Run for office in student government. Your effort will pay off. You may find a new hobby. You may improve your skills or learn new ones. Most likely, you will meet new people and make new friends.

There are benefits for the future, too. Extracurricular activities may help you get into the college of your choice or earn valuable scholarships. Of course, one of the most important reasons to participate in school activities is that they are fun!

#### READING CHECK

**Drawing Inferences and Conclusions** What skills could you develop in your extracurricular activities that would help you succeed in your education?

## SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT



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ONLINE QUIZ

### Reviewing Ideas and Terms

- Recall** What are two ways in which making a schedule help you succeed in school?
  - Analyze** How can making and keeping to a schedule reduce stress and anxiety?
- Describe** Why is learning to become an active citizen one goal of education?
  - Make Generalizations** How can mastering the goals of education help you succeed in school and life?
- Define** Write a brief definition of the following term: **extracurricular activities**.
  - Analyze** What skills might a student learn from extracurricular activities that he or she might not learn in the classroom?

### Critical Thinking

- Evaluating** Review your notes on the seven goals of education. Then create a graphic organizer that shows three goals that you think are most important, and how reaching those goals will help you be more successful in school and in life.

Use free time wisely	→	
	→	
	→	

#### FOCUS ON WRITING

- Supporting a Point of View** Write a letter to the school board explaining what one new extracurricular program should be added to your school.

## Creating a Multimedia Presentation

### Learn

Multimedia presentations are made orally and may use any or all media elements. These elements include text, audio, video, animation, graphic art, computer graphics, and many other types of media. Using many types of media engages your audience and helps them to pay attention to the issues at hand.

Someone who wants to be a recording artist might use a multimedia presentation that includes a written biography, a video of a concert, and a Web page with mp3 song samples to download. A student might give a presentation on Africa's wildlife by showing a video of animals on the savanna and playing audio of animal sounds.

Oftentimes in school or at work, you may be asked to give a presentation to a group of people. If you have an engaging and exciting multimedia presentation, your audience will remember the information you shared. Follow the steps below to learn to create a multimedia presentation.

### Practice

- 1 Know the equipment.** If you plan to use electronic equipment, be sure you know how to operate it ahead of time.
- 2 Make a plan.** All presentations need a theme and a structure. Think about what you want to say and then decide the best way to share this message. Sketch out your ideas on a piece of paper or on note cards.
- 3 Identify content resources.** You may use content from many sources. For example, you might photocopy a page from a book, take an image from the Internet, or place an mp3 file on a media player. Always credit your sources.

- 4 Practice, practice, practice.** An oral presentation is already challenging. You should not worry about using a lot of equipment. Spend an hour the night before to practice your presentation. Follow up with 30 minutes of review before you begin your presentation.

### Apply

- Look at the photo below. Is this a multimedia presentation? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to be familiar with the equipment before giving your presentation?
- You are running for student body president and decide to create a multimedia presentation for the school. What message would you like to share? What media elements will you use?
- Create a schedule that you could use to create and prepare to deliver a multimedia presentation. Be sure to follow the steps you learned in the Practice section.





## SECTION 3



LA.7.1.6.1; LA.7.1.7.1; MA.7.S.6.1

# Developing Your Life Skills

## BEFORE YOU READ

### The Main Idea


One of the key life skills you learn in school should be learning how to think. If you learn how to think critically, you will be able to solve many of the problems you face in school and in life.

### Reading Focus

1. How are learning and experience related?
2. What are the steps involved in critical thinking?
3. Why should you learn to think for yourself?

### Key Terms

experience, *p. 350*  
conditioning, *p. 351*  
habit, *p. 351*  
motivation, *p. 351*  
insight, *p. 352*  
creativity, *p. 352*  
critical thinking, *p. 352*  
prejudice, *p. 354*

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**TAKING NOTES**

Use the graphic organizer online to take notes on the learning experience, critical thinking, and thinking for yourself.



This student is creating a piece of pottery, a skill she has learned through study and experience.



Have you ever thought “I’ll never use this when I get out of school?” Most of us have. But there is one important skill you learn in school that you will definitely use every day of your life. That skill is the ability to reason—how to learn and how to think. While you may be able to reason now, school will help you improve upon that skill.

## Learning Is an Experience

Maybe you have heard the expression, “We learn from experience.” You have been learning from your experiences since you were a baby. Learning is gaining knowledge or skill through study or experience. **Experience** is observation of or participation in events.

### Using Your Senses

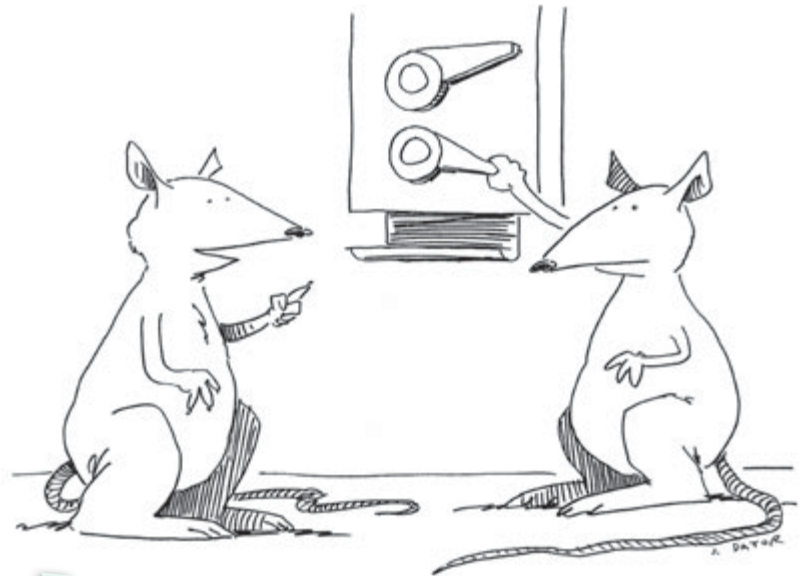
The simplest kind of learning involves the experiences of your senses and muscles. You know from experience that ice is cold, fire is hot, and water is wet. For example, as a young child you probably learned that a stove is hot. You learned this because the first time you touched the stove, you felt the heat and immediately removed your hand.

## PRIMARY SOURCE

### POLITICAL CARTOON Conditioning

*Conditioning is a form of learning through experience. Scientists have performed experiments that show that even animals, like dogs and mice, can be conditioned to behave in certain ways.*

The mice are trying to use conditioning to train a person to provide them with food.



"Remember, every time he gives you a pellet, reinforce that behavior by pulling the lever."

#### ANALYSIS SKILL

#### ANALYZING POLITICAL CARTOONS

**Make Inferences** What point about conditioning is this political cartoon attempting to make?

### Conditioning

You may have learned something else from this experience. When you touched the stove, an adult may have warned you, "Hot!" The next time you tried to touch the stove and heard that warning, you probably drew back your hand. Then you stayed away from the stove. This is a type of learning called **conditioning**.

Much of our behavior is learned by conditioning. If we are rewarded for our actions, then we are conditioned to repeat them. Some behaviors become habits. A **habit** is an action that we do automatically without thinking about it. We learn habits by repeating an action over and over again.

### Imitation

We also learn by copying, or imitating, other people. As a child, you may have learned how to use a water fountain by copying someone else. Or perhaps you learned how to cook a meal by imitating a family member.

### Observing

Much of what we learn comes through observation. We gain information through our senses—by looking, listening, touching, smelling, and tasting.

### Learning Has No Limits

Everyone has the potential to learn, but how much you learn ultimately lies with you. You need to have the motivation to make the most of your experiences. **Motivation** is the internal drive to achieve your goals. Motivation is not something anyone else can teach you. You have to develop your own drive to succeed.

### Learning in School

Schools today make good use of all of the ways in which human beings learn. They teach you where to look to find information on your own. They show you how to collect information from many sources and how to put facts together to reach your own conclusions. They



## MEDIA INVESTIGATION

### RADIO

## War of the Worlds

On Sunday, October 30, 1938, millions of Americans sat listening to their radios. They expected to hear the broadcast of the Mercury Theater's weekly radio play. Instead, they received a shocking surprise. Invaders from Mars, it seemed, had landed in New Jersey and were heading for New York City!

In the early 1900s, millions of Americans turned to radio broadcasts for entertainment. One popular program was Orson Welles's Mercury Theater on the Air. This program dramatized well-known novels and plays. The group decided to present H. G. Wells's science fiction novel, *The War of the Worlds*. Yet, they performed it as a real-life news program. So realistic was their presentation that thousands believed aliens were attacking New York. Panicked listeners called police stations, hid in basements, and looked for ways to protect themselves.

Most listeners, however, knew there was no Martian invasion. *The War of the Worlds* taught many Americans to question and think critically about the media. They knew not to believe everything they hear.



This photo shows Orson Welles broadcasting *The War of the Worlds*.

### ANALYSIS SKILL

### MEDIA LITERACY

**Drawing Conclusions** What techniques might the presenters have used to convince people that the invasion was real?

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allow you to work with others and make the most of your peers' skills and ideas.

### READING CHECK

**Finding the Main Idea** How do we learn from experience?

## Learning to Think Critically

The most important skill we learn is how to think. Thinking is a **complex** process. It involves considering options, forming opinions, and making judgments.

### How We Think

There are several ways to think. One way, called **insight**, is thinking that seems to come from your heart more than your mind. Sometimes you do not have direct experience with a problem, but you have the ability to see the details of a problem and understand it. Your insight comes from your experiences with other similar situations.

Another type of thinking is **creativity**. Creativity is the ability to find new ways to think about or do things. Everyone can think creatively. Whenever you solve a problem, you have used your creativity.

You have other thinking abilities as well. You can question and weigh information. You can draw conclusions and make predictions.

### Critical Thinking

If someone told you that there is a car that drives itself, would you believe it? It seems possible, but you would probably want proof. Maybe you would like to read or hear more about it. Perhaps you would like to see this car for yourself, or better yet, take a ride in it before you decide whether it is real.

The thinking that we do to reach decisions and to solve problems is called **critical thinking**. Critical thinking involves several steps.

### ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

**complex:**  
difficult, not  
simple

**Defining the Issues** The first step in critical thinking is identifying the issue, or problem at hand. Define the issue by looking for the main idea and turning it into a question.

**Distinguishing Fact from Opinion** Once you identify the issue, you need to find information to help you understand and judge the issue. Some information is fact and some is opinion. What are facts? Facts are pieces of information that can be proved by looking them up in resources like dictionaries or encyclopedias. Opinions are feelings or ideas that people have about the facts. Sometimes it is difficult to tell the difference between fact and opinion. Key phrases like “I think,” “I believe,” and “in my opinion” can alert you to statements of opinion. Be on the lookout for both facts and opinions when researching an issue.

**Weighing the Evidence** When you think about the information surrounding an issue, you are weighing the evidence. To weigh the evidence, look for all the information that can help you make a judgment about an issue. Use tables, charts, graphs, and other resources. Find facts that might be missing. After you have fully considered all the evidence, you are ready to make a decision.

**Reaching a Conclusion** The last and most important step in critical thinking is reaching a conclusion. This is the point where you say, “I think this because . . .” Reaching a conclusion can be difficult. Sometimes there is more than one solution to a problem. In that case, make a mental test of each solution to decide which is best. Some solutions work only under certain conditions. Imagine different outcomes. Then decide on the best possible solution. Keep an open mind when you make your final decision. New information may lead you to change your mind.

**READING CHECK**

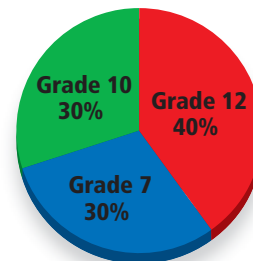
**Summarizing** What are the steps involved in critical thinking?

## MATH 101

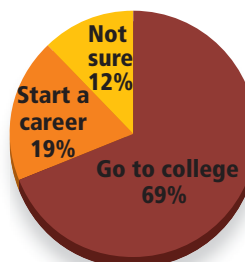
### Polls and Sample Size

Since groups that conduct polls cannot ask everyone to answer their questions, they must choose a *sample* of the group of people, or population, they wish to poll. If this sample is not carefully chosen, poll results may be inaccurate. The sample needs to be large enough to represent the population, so that the researchers can make accurate generalizations based on the results. However, a sample that is too large will waste time and effort. In the following poll, a sample of students from three grade levels were asked about their future plans. Here are the results:

#### Students in Middlevale Upper School



#### What do you plan to do after graduation?



**ANALYSIS SKILL**

#### ANALYZING CHARTS

Suppose researchers only polled students from one grade level. Do you think this sample would be appropriate for making generalizations about the entire student body? Why or why not?



## Learn to Think for Yourself

We all like to think that our ideas are our own. No one tells us what to think. But have you ever changed your mind about a favorite song or video because someone told you they did not like it?

### Influences on Your Thinking

We are all influenced by the opinions of others. Since you were small, the adults in your life have shaped your ideas about the world. Many of us are also influenced by the ideas of our friends and even celebrities. Remind yourself that your ideas are also shaped by others. Remember, when you think critically, you also look closely at your own opinions. Few of us are free from bias or prejudices. **Prejudice** is an opinion that is not based on the facts. Prejudices are common, and it is tough to avoid them, either our own or those of others. When you try to avoid being influenced by prejudice, though, you can judge an issue more fairly.

## Thinking for Yourself

In Los Angeles, California, a group of students recently became angry about the number of large billboards advertising alcohol and tobacco products near their schools. They knew that companies should not be encouraging young people to drink and smoke. The students formed a group and succeeded in getting the billboards removed. In the end, the advertising companies put up antismoking signs that the students created themselves.

Thinking critically and forming your own opinions may be difficult. Sometimes a parent, teacher, or trusted adult can help you learn to think for yourself. Learning to be a critical thinker takes practice and some effort. Often you have to look behind the stories you hear on TV. But the critical thinking skills you learn in school will help you be a responsible, active citizen.

### READING CHECK

**Draw Conclusions** Why is it important in a democracy for voters to think for themselves?

## SECTION 3 ASSESSMENT



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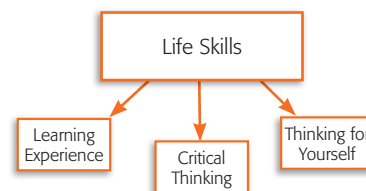
ONLINE QUIZ

### Reviewing Ideas and Terms

- a. Define** Write a brief definition of each of the following terms: **experience, conditioning, habit, and motivation.**  
**b. Analyze** What is the relationship between learning and experience?
- a. Define** Write a brief definition of each of the following terms: **insight, creativity, and critical thinking.**  
**b. Sequence** What are the steps involved in critical thinking? Which step, in your opinion, is most important and why?
- a. Define** Write a brief definition of the following term: **prejudice.**  
**b. Draw Conclusions** Why should you learn to think for yourself?

### Critical Thinking

- Finding Main Ideas** Draw a graphic organizer like the one here on your own sheet of paper. Use the graphic organizer and your notes to write three sentences that identify the main ideas from this section.



### FOCUS ON WRITING

- Supporting a Position** Create a pamphlet that supports your position on creating an astronomy club as a school-sponsored activity.

## Drug Testing in Schools

*Is drug testing an issue in your school? Even if it is not, drug use by teenagers is a major concern in our society. In 2002 the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the rights of school districts to require random drug testing for all students who participate in extracurricular activities. Previously the Court had supported drug testing for student athletes, mainly for health reasons.*

### Why it Matters

For many years schools have been looking for ways to combat illegal drug use. Drug use can be tied to many problems that plague our schools, including poor student performance, violence, and the dropout rate. Because drugs can affect the health of students, many schools began requiring that student athletes be tested for drug use. Soon, some schools began to expand the number of students to be tested to include other extracurricular activities. Currently, several states require some level of student drug testing in all high schools.

Some people object to random drug testing, arguing that it is a violation of students' privacy. Others claim that drug testing is unnecessary if there is no reasonable suspicion that a student has used illegal drugs.

School administrators often argue that the fear of being caught by a drug test might prevent some students from trying drugs in the first place. The courts have sided with schools, saying that the needs of school districts to protect students come before student privacy rights.



High school athletes are often tested for drugs.

### ANALYSIS SKILL

### EVALUATING THE LAW

1. Why do you think the courts have sided with school districts in supporting student drug testing?
2. Do you think random drug testing is a good way to prevent teens from using drugs? Why or why not?



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# CHAPTER 14 REVIEW



## FLORIDA CIVICS EOC PRACTICE

1. The following quotation is from President James A. Garfield.

Next in importance to freedom and justice is popular education, without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained.

With which sentence would President Garfield most agree?

- A. Teachers should try to be popular with their students.
- B. Public education is essential to the American way of life.
- C. Education is completely separate from freedom and justice.
- D. Being popular helps Americans stay free.

2. What is meant by *mainstreaming*?

- A. paying for public schools with new taxes
- B. placing students with hearing impairments in special programs
- C. educating students by using streaming video
- D. teaching students with special needs in regular classrooms

## Reviewing Vocabulary Terms

For each of the terms below, write a sentence explaining its significance to citizenship in school.

- 1. university
- 2. mainstreaming
- 3. extracurricular activities
- 4. experience
- 5. conditioning
- 6. habit
- 7. motivation
- 8. insight
- 9. creativity
- 10. critical thinking
- 11. prejudice

## Comprehension and Critical Thinking

### SECTION 1 (Pages 338–342)

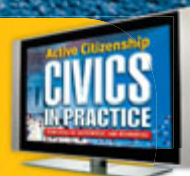
12. **a. Recall** What are the two main reasons that Americans value education?
- b. Draw Conclusions** Why does a college graduate have more career choices than a person who quits school after the sixth grade?
- c. Evaluate** What are the advantages of mainstreaming students?

### SECTION 2 (Pages 344–348)

13. **a. Describe** What approaches to learning and studying will make you more successful in school?
- b. Make Inferences** Why is the wise use of time an important study habit?
- c. Predict** How can participating in extracurricular activities improve your chances of getting a college scholarship?

### Active Citizenship video program

Review the video to answer the closing question: *How can educating young people about healthy choices make a difference now and in the future?*



## SECTION 3 (Pages 350–354)

14. **a. Summarize** What must a student do to develop and exercise critical thinking skills?
- b. Explain** What are the benefits of thinking through problems and issues for yourself?
- c. Support a Point of View** Which do you think is more important to the learning process—critical thinking or creative thinking? Explain your answer, using examples of each type of thinking.

## Using the Internet



15. **Preparing for Tests** Part of the challenge of taking a test is preparing for it and developing the right skills to successfully approach it. Through your online textbook, research different ways of studying and preparing for tests. Then choose one method you found in your research and prepare a short report or oral presentation that describes the method and explains why you think it could be effective and useful.



## Civics Skills



16. **Creating a Multimedia Presentation** Using the Civics Skills you learned in this chapter, create a multimedia presentation about the seven goals of education. In your presentation, use audio, video, animation, graphic art, computer graphics, or other media to illustrate each of the seven goals. You may use one medium or a combination of different media to present these concepts to your audience. Write a script for your presentation, including the text of your speech, a description of the media you are using, and an explanation of how the media is being used to illustrate each point. Finally, deliver your multimedia presentation to the class.

## Reading Skills

**Summarizing Text** Use the Reading Skills taught in this chapter to answer the question about the reading selection below.

Today, most schools offer a wide range of subjects and are filled with many different types of people. Students have opportunities to learn more than just academics. Modern schools have become the rich and varied environment they are because of some basic American values that are part of the U.S. education system. (p. 341)

17. Which of the following is a good summary of the selection?
- a. Schools today teach basic American values.
  - b. Today's schools provide opportunities to learn many things.
  - c. You can study what you want in today's schools.
  - d. A varied environment is a basic American value.

## FOCUS ON WRITING

18. **Designing Your Web Site** Look back at your notes and how you have organized them. Have you included all important facts and details? Will people be able to find information easily? What will appear in menus or as hot links, and elsewhere on the page? What images will you include? Draw a rough diagram or sketch of your page. Be sure to label the parts of your page.