

SS.7.C.2.9 Low Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation
Also Assesses: SS.7.C.2.7

Question	Which is a constitutional requirement to run for Congress?	The correct answer should identify a requirement to run for both the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives.
A	U.S. permanent resident	Incorrect – Only U.S. citizens may run for Congress.
B	at least 25 years old	Incorrect – Members of the U.S. Senate must be at least 30 years old.
C	at least 30 years old	Incorrect – Members of the U.S. House of Representatives must be at least 25 years old, while members of the U.S. Senate must be at least 30 years old.
D	U.S. citizen	Correct – U.S. citizenship is required to be a member of both chambers of Congress.



SS.7.C.2.9 Moderate Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation
Also Assesses: SS.7.C.2.7

Question	<p>The political campaign posters below are for two candidates running for mayor.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: 30%;"> <p align="center">★ Do You Want Your Mayor To Work For You? ★</p> <p align="center">VOTE MARIA SMITH FOR MAYOR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Graduate • 5 Years City Council Member • 2 Years City Planning Commission • 4 Years School Board President <p align="center">Maria Knows What It Takes To Get The Job Done</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: 30%;"> <p align="center">★ Will Work Hard for the City! ★</p> <p align="center">VOTE TODD DAVIS FOR MAYOR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Graduate • 1 Year Little League Coach • 2 Years Boy Scout Assistant Troop Leader • Volunteer Firefighter <p align="center">Todd Takes His Job Seriously</p> </div> </div> <p>According to the information on the posters, what is the reason Maria could be considered more qualified than Todd to be elected mayor?</p>	<p>Compare and contrast the two political campaign posters.</p> <p>Evaluate both candidates based on the qualifications listed on the posters. The correct answer should identify the unique accomplishments that make Maria a better candidate than Todd.</p>
A	her political policies	Incorrect – Neither poster lists any specific political policy positions.
B	her college education	Incorrect – Both Todd Davis and Maria Smith are college graduates, so this qualification would not make Maria more qualified than Todd.
C	her campaign promises	Incorrect – Neither poster lists any specific campaign promises. Also, a “qualification” is an accomplishment; a campaign promise is something that has not yet been accomplished.
D	her experience working in government	Correct – Maria has served 5 years on the city council, 2 years on the city planning commission, and 4 years on the school board. All three jobs are part of local government, and Maria is running for mayor, which is also a locally elected position. Todd does not list any locally elected government experiences on his poster.



SS.7.C.2.9 High Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation
Also Assesses: SS.7.C.2.7

Question	<p>The poster below is from a recent election.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: fit-content;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Doug is pro-immigration! Doug is pro-military!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for Doug</p> </div> <p>Based on the poster, what conclusion can be drawn about the candidate?</p>	<p>The poster describes two issues that a political candidate supports.</p> <p>The correct answer should identify the political office that handles the types of issues described on the poster.</p>
A	Doug is running for judge.	Incorrect – Judges interpret the laws; they do not create new policies. Also, immigration and military policies are federal powers, and federal judges are not elected.
B	Doug is running for mayor.	Incorrect – Mayors cannot set immigration nor military policy because those are federal powers, and mayors are part of the executive branch of local governments.
C	Doug is running for president.	Correct – The President of the United States, as Commander-in-Chief, is the highest civilian officer of the military according to Article II of the U.S. Constitution. Immigration is also an enumerated power of the federal government, and the President is a member of the national executive branch.
D	Doug is running for city council.	Incorrect – City council members cannot set immigration or military policy because those are federal powers, and the city council is a local legislative office.

