

# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210203-uae-citizenship.html>

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has announced it will grant citizenship to foreign residents who "add value" to the nation. It is very rare for a Gulf state to bestow citizenship on foreign nationals and represents a bold revision of the UAE's immigration policy. UAE Vice-President and ruler of Dubai Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum explained that people with "specialised talents" who "contribute to our development journey" could fall under the new policy. He said artists, doctors, engineers, entrepreneurs, intellectuals, inventors, investors and scientists could be eligible to be given a UAE passport. All successful people and their families would be permitted to hold dual nationality.

The procedure to be given citizenship is dependent on recommendations and nominations from members of the UAE royal family and high-ranking government officials. It will then be the decision of the UAE cabinet to approve or reject the nomination. Sheikh Mohammed said there are "clear criteria" in the selection process. Doctors must be specialised in scientific fields that are deemed high-priority by the UAE. They must have conducted significant studies and research. Scientists must be active researchers and have made contributions to their field by attaining an international award or research grant. Inventors need patented inventions registered by an internationally recognised organisation.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-55869674>  
<https://gulfbusiness.com/uae-opens-citizenship-for-investors-professionals-special-talents/>  
<https://www.thenationalnews.com/uae/government/uae-to-grant-emirati-citizenship-to-talented-and-innovative-people-1.1156264>

# WARM-UPS

**1. CITIZENSHIP:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about citizenship. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

citizenship / foreign residents / bold / revision / immigration / development / passport recommendations / royal family / decision / criteria / priority / researchers / invention

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. NO PASSPORTS:** Students A **strongly** believe we do not need passports; Students B **strongly** believe we do. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. ADDING VALUE:** How might these people add value to a country? How important are they? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	The Value They Might Add	Their Importance
Entrepreneurs		
Artists		
Intellectuals		
Engineers		
Inventors		
Doctors		

**5. FOREIGN:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "foreign". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. TALENTS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best talents at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Guitar playing
- Juggling
- Drawing
- Telling jokes
- Origami
- Growing vegetables
- Fixing machines
- Coding

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. grant (verb) | a. Give or present an honor, right, or gift.  |
| 2. bestow       | b. A person who organizes and operates a business or businesses, taking on greater than normal financial risks. |
| 3. bold         | c. The act of changing something to make it better or more up to date.  |
| 4. revision     | d. Showing an ability to take risks; confident and courageous.  |
| 5. entrepreneur | e. Agree to give or allow something requested to.   |
| 6. eligible     | f. Consisting of two parts.   |
| 7. dual         | g. Having the right to do or obtain something; satisfying the appropriate conditions.                           |

## Paragraph 2

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 8. procedure     | h. Regarded or thought of in a specified way.  |
| 9. dependent     | i. An established or official way of doing something.  |
| 10. nomination   | j. Officially agree to or accept as satisfactory.  |
| 11. cabinet      | k. A sum of money given by an organization, especially a government, for a particular purpose.                             |
| 12. approve      | l. The action of proposing or formally entering someone or something as a candidate for election or for an honor or award. |
| 13. deemed       | m. The committee of senior ministers responsible for controlling government policy.  |
| 14. grant (noun) | n. Determined by.  |



# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210203-uae-citizenship.html>

## 1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The UAE is looking for people that will add value to it. **T / F**
- b. It is common for Gulf countries to give citizenship to foreigners. **T / F**
- c. The UAE is looking for artists and inventors. **T / F**
- d. The new UAE citizens will be allowed to have dual nationality. **T / F**
- e. Foreigners may need help from the UAE royal family to get citizenship. **T / F**
- f. There are no obvious criteria in the citizenship selection process. **T / F**
- g. Scientists must have won an award or been awarded a grant. **T / F**
- h. Inventors don't need to have any patented inventions. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. <b>announced</b>  | a. able           |
| 2. <b>rare</b>       | b. have a hand in |
| 3. <b>revision</b>   | c. getting        |
| 4. <b>contribute</b> | d. uncommon       |
| 5. <b>eligible</b>   | e. reliant        |
| 6. <b>procedure</b>  | f. bursary        |
| 7. <b>dependent</b>  | g. declared       |
| 8. <b>criteria</b>   | h. policy         |
| 9. <b>attaining</b>  | i. specifications |
| 10. <b>grant</b>     | j. change         |

## 3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                                      |                            |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. it will grant                     | a. be given a UAE passport |
| 2. bestow citizenship                | b. criteria                |
| 3. could fall                        | c. dual nationality        |
| 4. scientists could be eligible to   | d. to their field          |
| 5. permitted to hold                 | e. inventions              |
| 6. approve or reject                 | f. citizenship             |
| 7. clear                             | g. under the new policy    |
| 8. scientific fields that are deemed | h. the nomination          |
| 9. made contributions                | i. on foreign nationals    |
| 10. Inventors need patented          | j. high-priority           |

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210203-uae-citizenship.html>

1. What does the UAE hope talented foreigners will add to the nation?
2. What does the article say the citizenship policy is a bold revision of?
3. What kinds of talents does Sheikh Mohammed hope people have?
4. What journey does Sheikh Mohammed want people to contribute to?
5. What will successful people and their families be able to hold?
6. What family could help people get a nomination for citizenship?
7. Who will decide whether to accept or reject nominations?
8. What kinds of criteria does Sheikh Mohammed say there are?
9. What must doctors be specialised in?
10. What kinds of inventions must inventors have?

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210203-uae-citizenship.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'talented' and 'foreigner'.

talented	foreigner

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• citizenship</li><li>• foreign</li><li>• immigration</li><li>• development</li><li>• eligible</li><li>• dual</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• members</li><li>• decision</li><li>• criteria</li><li>• high</li><li>• field</li><li>• inventions</li></ul>
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# CITIZENSHIP DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'talented'?
3. What do you know about the UAE?
4. What do you think of being a citizen of your country?
5. What other country would you like to be a citizen of?
6. How happy are you to be a citizen of your country?
7. Would you like to be a citizen of the UAE?
8. What talents do you have?
9. What value do you add to your nation?
10. What would the world be like without passports?

*UAE to offer citizenship to 'talented' foreigners – 3rd February, 2021*  
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# CITIZENSHIP DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'foreigner'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How might you get a recommendation from a royal?
15. What do you think of the UAE's selection criteria?
16. How would a country full of specialists develop?
17. What could you offer the UAE?
18. What specialised skills would you like in the future?
19. What international awards would you like to win?
20. What questions would you like to ask an immigration expert?