

Multiple Choice

1. Louis Marshal described the _____ as the “guiding principle of the freest Government on earth”
 - a. **Constitution**
 - b. Bill of Rights
 - c. Magna Carta
 - d. None of these
2. A constitution
 - a. Can be a document or an unwritten set of rules
 - b. Establishes a legal relationship between leaders and the led
 - c. Guides the exercise of political authority
 - d. **All of the above**
3. A constitution consists of _____ essential elements
 - a. Four
 - b. **Three**
 - c. Five
 - d. Two
4. The two major historical antecedents to the U.S. Constitution are
 - a. **The Declaration of Independence and the Articles of Confederation**
 - b. The Declaration of Independence and the Magna Carta
 - c. The Articles of Confederation and the Bill of Rights
 - d. The Bill of Rights and the Magna Carta
5. The primary author of the Declaration of Independence was
 - a. Benjamin Franklin
 - b. John Adams
 - c. John Hancock
 - d. **Thomas Jefferson**
6. The _____ lays out the foundation of American constitutional theory
 - a. Magna Carta
 - b. **Declaration of Independence**
 - c. Articles of Confederation
 - d. Federalist Papers
7. The Articles of Confederation laid out a government with a _____ legislature.
 - a. **Unicameral**
 - b. Bicameral
 - c. Nonexistent
 - d. Divided
8. The following were principal features of the national government under the Articles of Confederation EXCEPT:
 - a. A dominant legislature
 - b. A weak executive
 - c. A weak judiciary
 - d. **A dominant judiciary**
9. Early state governments and the national governments focused on

- a. Strong centralized government
 - b. Limited centralized government**
 - c. Increased tax revenue
 - d. Strong political systems based on popular sovereignty
10. Following the Revolutionary War, the United States was
- a. Economically and politically vulnerable**
 - b. Economically but not politically vulnerable
 - c. Politically but not economically vulnerable
 - d. Not economically or politically vulnerable
11. The group of people who supported the adoption of the Constitution and favored a stronger national government were
- a. The Federalists**
 - b. The Anti-Federalists
 - c. The Constitutionals
 - d. The Anti-Constitutionalists
12. The group of people who opposed the ratification of the Constitution and opposed stronger government were
- a. The Federalists
 - b. The Anti-Federalists**
 - c. The Constitutionals
 - d. The Anti-Constitutionalists
13. One rational choice argument explaining the adoption of the Constitution is
- a. Equality was important to the Founders
 - b. Patriotism was the key motivating factor for the Founders
 - c. The Founders were motivated by economic gains**
 - d. The Founders were motivated by contemporary political theory and thought
14. As a group, the _____ were wealthier and better educated.
- a. The Federalists**
 - b. The Anti-Federalists
 - c. The Constitutionals
 - d. The Anti-Constitutionalists
15. One event in 1786 that enabled the Federalists to act on their desires for a stronger national government were
- a. A meeting in Annapolis, MD that was meant to discuss problems of interstate trade
 - b. Shays' Rebellion
 - c. Both a and b**
 - d. Neither a nor b
16. The original purpose of the Constitutional Convention was
- a. To create a new constitution
 - b. To revise the Articles of Confederation**
 - c. To make the Declaration of Independence legally binding
 - d. None of these
17. The Founders

- a. Were mostly Anti-Federalists
 - b. Were not representative of most Americans**
 - c. Were mostly farmers
 - d. None of these
18. James Madison wrote the _____ as a new proposal for the U.S. government
- a. Madisonian Plan
 - b. Virginia Plan**
 - c. Massachusetts Plan
 - d. New Jersey Plan
19. The _____ called for a bicameral legislature with a popularly elected house and an upper house nominated by state legislatures.
- a. Connecticut Compromise
 - b. Virginia Plan**
 - c. New Jersey Plan
 - d. Massachusetts Plan
20. The Virginia Plan called for a _____ legislature
- a. Unicameral
 - b. Bicameral**
 - c. Unitary
 - d. Bilateral
21. The _____ was presented at the Constitutional Convention that called for a unicameral legislature with equal representation for each state.
- a. The Madisonian Dilemma
 - b. The Virginia Plan
 - c. The New Jersey Plan**
 - d. The Connecticut Plan
22. The New Jersey Plan was similar to the _____.
- a. Magna Carta
 - b. The Bill of Rights
 - c. Articles of Confederation**
 - d. None of these
23. The _____ resolved the conflict between the Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plan.
- a. Massachusetts Agreement
 - b. Connecticut Compromise**
 - c. Georgia Compromise
 - d. New York Plan
24. The _____ were written by James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay to support the ratification of the new constitution.
- a. Federalist Papers**
 - b. *Publius Manifestos*
 - c. *Anti-Federalist Papers*
 - d. *Political Issues*

25. A _____ is a number of citizens who are united by some common passion or interest that is averse to the rights of other citizens or to the permanent interests of the community.
- a. Interest group
 - b. Faction**
 - c. Political party
 - d. None of these
26. The _____ is the problem of limiting self-interested individuals who administer stronger governmental powers from using those powers to destroy the freedoms that government is supposed to protect.
- a. Jeffersonian Dilemma
 - b. Hamiltonian Dilemma
 - c. Madisonian Dilemma**
 - d. Washingtonian Dilemma
27. The Madisonian Dilemma, argued Madison, is best checked by
- a. Morality
 - b. Religion
 - c. Oligarchy
 - d. A republican form of government**
28. According to Madison, _____ would be achieved through representative form of government with limits on those who hold power.
- a. Popular sovereignty**
 - b. Democracy
 - c. Majority rule
 - d. Political freedom
29. The U.S. Constitution fragments power through
- a. The separation of powers
 - b. Checks and balances
 - c. Both a and b**
 - d. Neither a nor b
30. _____ is the idea that each branch of the federal government should protect its own rights, but also cooperate with the other branches.
- a. Popular sovereignty
 - b. Division of labor
 - c. Check and balance**
 - d. Separation
31. A _____ is the group of people served by an elected official or branch of government.
- a. Constituency**
 - b. Voting block
 - c. Interest group
 - d. Political party
32. The constitutional division of powers between the national government and the states is known as

- a. Confederalism
 - b. Republicanism
 - c. Democracy
 - d. **Federalism**
33. Mixed government means government should represent
- a. **Both property and number of people**
 - b. Rural and urban voters
 - c. State and national interests
 - d. All people equally
34. Formal amendments to the Constitution require _____ distinct stage(s).
- a. Three
 - b. Four
 - c. **Two**
 - d. One
35. Amendments to the Constitution can be proposed by
- a. A two-thirds vote in both Congressional houses
 - b. At the request of two-thirds of states
 - c. At the request of 34 of the 50 states
 - d. **All of the above**
36. _____ are the freedoms and protections against arbitrary governmental actions given to the people in a democratic society.
- a. Civil rights
 - b. **Civil liberties**
 - c. Civil freedoms
 - d. None of these
37. The Constitution is changed mostly through
- a. State-proposed amendments
 - b. **Custom and usage**
 - c. Legislated amendments
 - d. Presidential power
38. The Constitution contains _____ types of powers.
- a. Two
 - b. Four
 - c. Five
 - d. **Three**
39. The types of powers contained within the Constitution include all of the following EXCEPT
- a. Enumerated powers
 - b. Inherent powers
 - c. Implied powers
 - d. **Supplemental powers**
40. One example of an inherent power is
- a. **Executive privilege**
 - b. Printing money

- c. Raising an army
 - d. All of these
41. The case establishing the precedent of judicial review is
- a. ***Marbury v Madison***
 - b. *Tinker v Des Moines*
 - c. *Baker v Carr*
 - d. *Chisolm v Georgia*

True and False

- 1. There has only been one constitution for the government of the United States.
 - a. False
- 2. The Declaration of Independence is not legally binding.
 - a. True
- 3. Religion played a large role in influencing the delegates to the constitutional convention.
 - a. False
- 4. The *Federalist* Papers were published under the pseudonym Publius.
 - a. True
- 5. The U.S. Constitution as a written document was quite innovative at the time.
 - a. True
- 6. The U.S. Constitution fragments power in three ways.
 - a. False
- 7. The President has the authority to propose amendments to the Constitution.
 - a. False
- 8. All proposed Constitutional Amendments have to be ratified within a certain period of time.
 - a. False

Essay/Discussion

- 1. If scientific theories are neutral, objective explanations of some real-world phenomenon, why is popular reaction to them often normative?
- 2. Are normative reactions to scientific research the result of the values we associate with the phenomenon being studied, or do you think scientific theories have inherent biases?
- 3. What are the deficiencies of the current constitution (with amendments)? Why do you view them as deficiencies? How would you correct them? Could they be corrected with a few amendments, or would we need to write a whole new constitution?