

## Chapter 2

### The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

#### MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The theory of popular sovereignty holds that all power
- will ultimately be progressively distributed.
  - is distributed by popular vote.
  - is given to the people by divine right.
  - rests with the people.

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Principles of Constitutional Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

2. Voters must approve amendments to the Texas constitution. This is an example of the principle of:
- Citizen legislatures
  - Social contract theory
  - Popular sovereignty
  - Separation of powers

Answer: cd

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Principles of Constitutional Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

3. The notion that all individuals possess inalienable rights and willingly submit to government to protect those rights is embodied in
- the traditionalistic subculture.
  - social contract theory.
  - the individualistic subculture.
  - popular sovereignty.

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Principles of Constitutional Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

4. Which of the following is NOT among the characteristics shared by all state constitutions?

- a. the requirement that citizens approve any changes
- b. a fear of strong executive authority
- c. popular sovereignty
- d. separation of powers

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Characteristics Common to State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

4. Considering the idea of checks and balances, which of the following would be the last to happen
- a. The Legislature passes legislation which would require all public schools must teach a healthy lifestyle class
  - b. The Governor issues an executive order respecting the implementation of the new law
  - c. The Court declares a law unconstitutional
  - d. The Texas Education Agency creates a program called "Eating for Life"

Answer: c

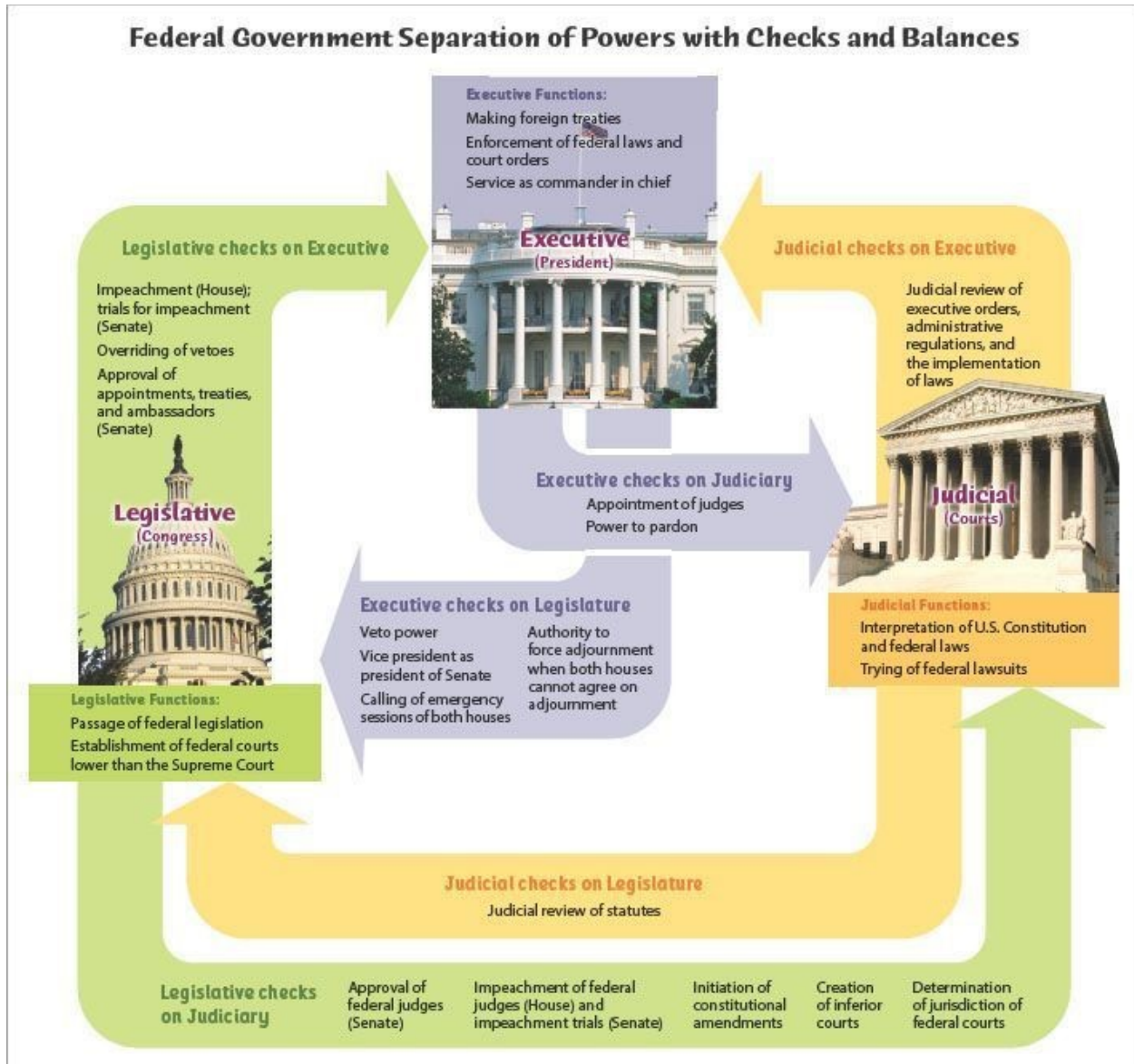
Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 3

Text Answer Hint: Characteristics Common to State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.



5. According to Figure 2.1, one check the judicial branch has on the legislative branch is
- Judicial review of statutes
  - Approval of federal judges
  - Power to pardon
  - Overriding of vetoes

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Characteristics Common to State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas.

6. Which of the following is NOT a power of the Texas legislature?
- propose laws
  - oversight of state agencies
  - propose constitutional amendments
  - appoint judges

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Characteristics Common to State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

7. Under the Texas constitution, the power to tax resides with
- the governor.
  - the legislature.
  - the judiciary.
  - the bureaucracy.

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Characteristics Common to State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

8. The framers of the 1876 Texas constitution adopted a plural executive system in order to:
- Make the executive branch the dominant of the three
  - Limit the power of the governor
  - Provide an additional check on the legislative branch
  - Increase oversight of state agencies

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Characteristics Common to State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

9. Article 6 of the U.S. Constitution contains the \_\_\_\_\_ clause establishing the U.S. Constitution as the law of the land that no federal or state law may violate.
- preemptive
  - establishment
  - supremacy
  - primacy

Answer: c

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Characteristics Common to State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-2. Describe the state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government.

10. Which constitution was the first to govern Anglos in Texas?

- a. U.S. Constitution
- b. Republic of Mexico's constitution
- c. Republic of Texas Constitution
- d. Reconstruction constitution

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Evolution of the Texas Constitution: 1824–1876

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

11. Which constitution was pejoratively known as the “carpetbagger’s constitution”?

- a. U.S. Constitution
- b. Republic of Mexico's constitution
- c. Republic of Texas Constitution
- d. Reconstruction constitution

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Evolution of the Texas Constitution: 1824–1876

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

12. The current Texas Constitution was approved by voters in \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. 1866
- b. 1876
- c. 1886
- d. 1896

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: The Constitution of 1876

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

13. Which of the following is an aspect of the 1845 constitution that was adapted from earlier Spanish law?

- a. Property rights for women

- b. Limited executive authority
- c. The establishment of a state religion
- d. The prohibition of slavery

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Evolution of the Texas Constitution: 1824–1876

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

14. The Spanish constitutions contributed what key element to the political climate of Texas?
- a. limited government
  - b. property rights for women
  - c. decentralization of decision making
  - d. decreased executive power

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Culture Drives Institutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

TABLE 2.1 Separation of Powers in Texas Government

The Legislature	The Governor	The Judiciary
Propose and pass laws Power to propose constitutional amendments	Limited appointment power of some executive officials and judges in cases of vacancies	Interpret the law Settle all disputes in matters of criminal and civil law
Power to tax and set the budget	Submit budget proposal to legislature	Popularly elected
Oversight power of state agencies and departments	Serve on boards; e.g., the Legislative Budget Board	
Impeachment power of judges and executive branch officials	Can call special sessions and dictate special session agenda	
	Veto and line-item veto power	

15. According to Table 2.1, what is one power that the governor of Texas enjoys?
- a. Line-Item Veto
  - b. Power to tax
  - c. Power to interpret the law
  - d. Impeachment power of judges

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Characteristics Common to State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas.

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Impeachment power of judges and executive branch officials	Can call special sessions and dictate special session agenda	
	Veto and line-item veto power	

16. According to Table 2.1, what is one power that the Texas legislature enjoys?

- a. Veto power
- b. Interpret the law
- c. Oversight power
- d. Budget proposal

Answer: c

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Characteristics Common to State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

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17. Which of the following is NOT a reason that the Texas constitution limits government's authority to act:

- a. The traditionalistic/individualistic culture of the state

- b. Objections to the system imposed by the Reconstruction Constitution
- c. Long-standing distrust that started while under Mexican rule
- d. Deep-rooted southern beliefs in centralized government

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Evolution of the Texas Constitution: 1824–1876

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

18. In addition to a preamble and appendix, how many articles are contained in the Texas Constitution?

- a. 10
- b. 17
- c. 27
- d. 776

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

19. One major difference between the U.S. and Texas constitutions is that:

- a. The Texas constitution begins with the Bill of Rights
- b. The Texas constitution does not provide for three branched of government
- c. The Texas constitution places more detailed qualifications for holding in office both houses of the legislature
- d. The Texas constitution does not specifically detail the amendment procedure

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

20. What does the Texas Constitution contain that the U.S. Constitution does not?

- a. Bill of Rights
- b. separation of powers
- c. legislative member qualifications
- d. equal rights amendment

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Comprehension



Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

21. Article 1 of the Texas Constitution covers the

- a. powers of government.
- b. legislative department.
- c. executive department.
- d. Bill of Rights.

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

22. Discussion of the legislative department is in Article \_\_\_ of the Texas Constitution.

- a. 2
- b. 3
- c. 4
- d. 5

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

23. Why does the Texas Constitution create a fragmented executive branch?

- a. to limit the power of the governor
- b. poor writing that had the effect of fragmenting the executive, though this was not intended
- c. to raise the status of the legislature
- d. a requirement established by the U.S. Congress in order for Texas to be readmitted to the Union

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas.

24. Discussion of the executive department is in Article \_\_\_ of the Texas Constitution.
- a. 2
  - b. 3
  - c. 4
  - d. 5

Answer: c

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

25. Discussion of the judicial department is in Article \_\_\_ of the Texas Constitution.
- a. 2
  - b. 3
  - c. 4
  - d. 5

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

26. Why might the partisan election of judges be cause for concern?
- a. judicial decisions may be politicized
  - b. the rule of law would be eliminated
  - c. campaign fundraising could distract judges
  - d. campaign functions mean less time for trying cases

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Analysis

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

27. In the U.S. federalist system:
- a. States can ignore national policies and rulings if they conflict with state laws
  - b. States do not have to respect the judicial proceedings of other states
  - c. The federal government cannot withhold funds to force policies on states
  - d. Federal law is supreme

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

28. Should the Texas Legislature decide all state and county judges should be formally trained lawyers, they must offer legislation that would amend the Constitution and send this bill both to the Governor and to the voters of the state for consideration. Which Article of the Constitution would require amendment to change the qualifications for judges in Texas?
- a. Article 6
  - b. Article 2
  - c. Article 5
  - d. Article 1

Answer: c

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

29. The articles of the Texas Constitution that define the creation and structure of counties in the state provide for a fairly \_\_\_\_\_ system that counties are required to abide by.
- a. flexible
  - b. inflexible
  - c. simple
  - d. centralized

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Important Sections of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

30. According to legal experts and political theorists, ideally, a constitution should be
- a. detailed and specific.
  - b. frequently amended.
  - c. brief and explicit.
  - d. unable to be amended.

Answer: c

Critical Thinking: Analysis

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Comparing the Structure of State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

31. Most state constitutions

- a. are relatively brief.
- b. create strong executives.
- c. say nothing about taxation and spending.
- d. have been amended many times.

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Comparing the Structure of State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

32. Which of these statements best describes the Texas constitution?

- a. The Texas constitution is short but has been amended often
- b. The Texas constitution is short but overly detailed
- c. The Texas constitution is long but lacks detail
- d. The Texas constitution is long and has been amended often

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Comparing the Structure of State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

33. Except in the state of Delaware, two steps are involved in changing constitutions:

- a. a constitutional convention and citizen approval.
- b. voter initiative and legislative approval.
- c. legislative initiative and approval by constitutional convention.
- d. proposal of amendments and citizen approval.

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Amending and Revising State Constitutions

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

34. Why are state constitutions amended more frequently than the U.S. Constitution?

- a. The U.S. Constitution has built-in limits.
- b. State constitutions deal with a wider range of functions.
- c. Voter initiatives have a higher rate of approval than those amendments proposed by state legislatures.
- d. The legislature can approve state constitutional amendments.

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Patterns of Constitutional Change

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

35. Between 1975 and 2013, the Texas legislature proposed 299 amendments for voter approval, and of these, voters accepted \_\_\_\_\_ percent.
- a. 44
  - b. 65
  - c. 73
  - d. 85

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Amending the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

36. Constitutional reform in Texas is unlikely because:
- a. Having constitutional amendments on the ballot drives up voter turnout
  - b. Most citizens are suspicious of the lobby groups who are pushing for reform
  - c. There is no support for reform among strong political forces
  - d. Amendments pass so rarely that change is not needed

Answer: c

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Amending the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

37. Which of the following aspects of the process of amending the state constitution contributes to low voter turnout?
- a. odd-year elections
  - b. low interest in the issues
  - c. confusing ballot wording

- d. All these answers are correct.

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Amending the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

38. Which of the following methods of amending and revising the constitution are NOT used in Texas?

- a. Constitutional convention
- b. Initiative
- c. Constitutional commission
- d. Legislative proposal

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: Amending the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

39. Many reformers believe the Texas Constitution is in need of a comprehensive revision. Why is this unlikely to happen?

- a. strong distrust of government
- b. high levels of satisfaction with the existing process
- c. strong distrust of reformers
- d. "Lone Star" pride in having the longest state constitution

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Analysis

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Criticisms of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Table 2.3: Voter Turnout in Odd-Year Constitutional Amendment Elections

YEAR	Percent of Voting-Age Population Voting
2015	8.30
2013	6.14
2011	3.77
2009	5.77
2007	6.31
2005	13.82 (Antigay-marriage amendment)
2003	9.31
2001	5.57

1999	6.69
1997	5.32
1997	8.45 (Special election
1995	5.55
1993	8.52
1991	16.60 (School tax reform)
1989	9.33
1987	18.60 (Schol tax reform)
1985	8.24
1983	6.91
1981	8.70

40. According to Table 2.3, which year exhibited the lowest overall turnout?

- a. 2001
- b. 2011
- c. 1995
- d. 2005

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Analysis

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: Criticisms of the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

41. What was the result of a bill introduced in 1999 calling for a general revision of the Texas Constitution?

- a. It was defeated in a floor vote.
- b. It was not approved by the citizens.
- c. It died in committee.
- d. It was inadvertently placed on the wrong calendar and was ignored.

Answer: c

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 3

Text Answer Hint: Conclusion to the Texas Constitution

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

42. The system that provides for a sharing of powers between the national government and the state governments is known as

- a. federalism.
- b. unitarianism.
- c. confederation.
- d. separation of powers.

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: The American Federal System of Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas

43. Most countries in the world have a \_\_\_\_\_ form of government.

- a. federal
- b. confederal
- c. unitary
- d. binary

Answer: c

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: The American Federal System of Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas

44. A \_\_\_\_\_ form of government leaves the most power with state and local governments.

- a. federal
- b. confederal
- c. unitary
- d. monarchical

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: The American Federal System of Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas

45. Which amendment to the U.S. Constitution contains this statement? “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.”

- a. Ninth
- b. Tenth
- c. Eleventh



d. Twelfth

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: The American Federal System of Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas

46. By what authority did the U.S. Congress create a national bank in 1790?

- a. U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Marbury v. Madison*
- b. Article 8 of the U.S. Constitution
- c. Interstate Commerce Clause
- d. Necessary and Proper Clause

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: The American Federal System of Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas

47. Which of the following is an exclusive power of the national government?

- a. regulate interstate commerce
- b. conduct national elections
- c. regulate banks
- d. provide education

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: The American Federal System of Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

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48. After World War I, the Supreme Court required states to adhere to basic protections in the Bill of Rights through the use of clauses in the \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment.

- a. Tenth
- b. Eleventh

- c. Fourteenth
- d. Eighteenth

Answer: c

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: The American Federal System of Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas

49. A(n) \_\_\_\_ grant is for broad purposes and gives state and local governments a significant amount of discretion in how the money is spent.
- a. categorical
  - b. block
  - c. formula
  - d. earmark

Answer: b

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: The American Federal System of Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas

50. Nineteenth century federalism
- a. continued unchanged through the twentieth century.
  - b. saw the federal government dictate even the smallest aspects of state and local government.
  - c. saw the federal government dominant over states.
  - d. saw states dominant over the federal government.

Answer: d

Critical Thinking: Knowledge

Difficulty: 1

Text Answer Hint: The American Federal System of Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas

51. Which of the following is a national government power and NOT a state power?
- a. Declare war
  - b. Pass laws

- c. Levy taxes
- d. Regulate commerce

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Comprehension

Difficulty: 2

Text Answer Hint: The American Federal System of Government

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52. The United States government is attempting to require all states reconfigure drivers' licenses to conform to biometric standards at the federal level. This would cost states, and ultimately citizens a significant amount of money. States would likely argue that the federal government is creating an undue burden and the US government is infringing upon their
- a. Reserved powers under the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment
  - b. Concurrent powers under the 9<sup>th</sup> Amendment
  - c. Due Process powers under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment
  - d. Implied powers under Article IV

Answer: a

Critical Thinking: Analysis

Difficulty: 3

Text Answer Hint: The American Federal System of Government

Topic: The Texas State Constitution and the American Federal System

Texas L0-1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Texas LO-3. Describe the separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas

## ESSAY

53. Discuss how the Texas Constitution is a good example of how limits can be placed on the power of a state government. Use specific examples.
54. Explain why the 1869 Reconstruction constitution was unacceptable to Texas's existing political culture and how it influenced the subsequent 1876 Texas Constitution.
55. List the characteristics of the ideal constitution. Does the U.S. Constitution live up to these ideals? Does the Texas Constitution? Explain.
56. Discuss the first five articles of the Texas Constitution. What are the key characteristics of each?
57. In light of the conditions that lead to low voter turnout, what changes could be made to increase voter participation? Which political subculture represented in Texas would probably favor lower voter participation? Why?

58. List the four reasons the piecemeal process of amending the Texas Constitution every two years will likely continue.
59. What key aspects of the United States Constitution have allowed the federal government to have more power than state governments?
60. How has the United States government used its power to compel states to enact certain policies, such as a minimum drinking age of 21? Why is this power controversial?
61. How does the United States Constitution regulate relations between the states? What are the practical consequences of this regulation?