

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

1. Which of the following was done to pay for the defense of the colonies during the French and Indian War?
- The British government sought compensation from the French.
  - Taxes were imposed equally across the British Empire.
  - The British government decided to impose taxes on the American colonies.
  - American colonists imposed a tax on themselves.
  - The British government imposed a tax on the landed aristocracy of Britain.

ANSWER: c

2. Which of the following is true of the First Continental Congress?
- It declared independence from Great Britain.
  - It encouraged the colonists to petition King George III to express their grievances.
  - It was held in Boston, Massachusetts.
  - It urged colonists to purchase British goods to win favor with the king.
  - It produced a document that the colonists found to be coercive.

ANSWER: b

3. Which of the following was one of the main actions of the Second Continental Congress?
- Establishing an army and appointing a commander-in-chief
  - Signing a treaty with Britain prohibiting trade with France
  - Signing a treaty with France to declare war on Great Britain
  - Creating a unitary government in America
  - Establishing a document with ambitious designs to join with Great Britain in a war against Spain

ANSWER: a

4. Thomas Paine's pamphlet Common Sense advocated which of the following?
- The formation of a new government still loyal to the king
  - The formation of a new government that would limit further immigration
  - An end of hostilities with Great Britain
  - The repeal of all taxes, including those imposed on themselves
  - The formation of the country's own government as a way to gain independence

ANSWER: e

5. The first draft of the Declaration of Independence was written by whom?
- Benjamin Franklin
  - John Locke
  - John Adams
  - Thomas Jefferson
  - George Washington

ANSWER: d

6. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal" are the first words of which of the following documents?
- The Constitution of the United States of America
  - The Declaration of Independence

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

- c. The Magna Carta
- d. The United Nations Charter
- e. The Bill of Rights

ANSWER: b

7. The Articles of Confederation did which of the following?

- a. Provided for a bicameral legislature
- b. Established a strong executive branch
- c. Allowed the states to retain most of their power
- d. Created a way to raise taxes to fund an army
- e. Ended slavery

ANSWER: c

8. The most basic weakness of the Articles of Confederation was which of the following?

- a. Tax levels that were too high for most Americans
- b. An overpowering executive
- c. Congress's lack of power to conduct foreign affairs
- d. Congress's lack of power to declare war
- e. The inability of Congress to raise funds

ANSWER: e

9. The Constitutional Convention of 1787 was brought about by which of the following?

- a. Publication of the Treaty of Paris
- b. A request by President Washington
- c. The failure of the Articles of Confederation
- d. The publication of the Declaration of Independence
- e. The end of the Revolutionary War

ANSWER: c

10. The Declaration of Independence was necessary for which of the following reasons?

- a. To establish a framework for a new system of government that would allow taxation without representation
- b. To establish the legitimacy of the new nation in the eyes of foreign governments and the colonists
- c. To create a delicate balance between federal and state powers
- d. To identify the reasons the British saw separation from the colonies as necessary
- e. To demand a separation of church and state

ANSWER: b

11. Which of the following was a purpose of the final version of the Declaration of Independence?

- a. Disband the army headed by George Washington
- b. Condemn the growing slave trade
- c. Guarantee personal civil rights to all colonists
- d. Support the idea of a strong central government
- e. Justify the colonists' revolt against Great Britain

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

ANSWER: e

12. The Articles of Confederation established a voluntary association of independent states that did which of the following?

- a. Relied on the national government to resolve all regional conflicts
- b. Paid a yearly levy to the national government to enforce state laws
- c. Agreed to only limited restraint on their freedom of action
- d. Were represented on the basis of population in the Confederate assembly
- e. Did not collect tariffs on goods coming into the state

ANSWER: c

13. Under the Articles of Confederation, which of the following headed Congress?

- a. No one
- b. A presiding officer selected from among its members
- c. A popularly elected president
- d. A president chosen by the Electoral College
- e. A three-person presiding cabinet

ANSWER: b

14. Under the Articles of Confederation, Congress had the power to do which of the following?

- a. Establish and control the armed forces
- b. Compel the states to meet military quotas
- c. Collect taxes directly from the people
- d. Regulate interstate and foreign commerce
- e. Compel states to pay their share of government costs

ANSWER: a

15. A major weakness of the Articles of Confederation was a lack of which of the following?

- a. A bicameral legislature
- b. A national system of courts
- c. Power to raise funds for the militia
- d. Power to tax exports
- e. State-supported currencies

ANSWER: c

16. Shays' Rebellion plays an important role in American history for which of the following reasons?

- a. It represents the first major battle to occur in the southern colonies during the American Revolution.
- b. It anticipated the states' rights battle.
- c. It was the last major battle of the Revolutionary War.
- d. It made obvious the weaknesses of the government under the Articles of Confederation.
- e. It enabled the colonists to reorganize and gain the upper hand against the British in the Revolutionary War.

ANSWER: d

17. Which of the following is the term for the fundamental law undergirding the structure of government?

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

- a. Parliament
- b. Social contract
- c. Constitution
- d. Congress
- e. Federal system

ANSWER: c

18. The Declaration of Independence listed grievances against which of the following people, including the suspension of popularly elected colonial legislatures, taxing without representation, and trials without juries?

- a. King George II
- b. King George III
- c. Queen Elizabeth
- d. George Washington
- e. Thomas Jefferson

ANSWER: b

19. The scope and authority of power that Congress was granted under the Articles of Confederation can best be described as which of the following?

- a. Narrow
- b. Broad
- c. Implied
- d. Powerful
- e. All-encompassing

ANSWER: a

20. The protest movement of debt-ridden farmers facing foreclosures on their homes and farms was known as which of the following?

- a. The Boston Tea Party
- b. The Boston Massacre
- c. Shays' Rebellion
- d. Bloody Thursday
- e. The Farmers' Rebellion

ANSWER: c

21. In the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson's statement that "all men are created equal" is similar to which of the following theorist's belief that government is based on the "consent of the governed"?

- a. John Locke
- b. James Madison
- c. John Hancock
- d. Joseph Ellis
- e. John Adams

ANSWER: a

22. One result of the Second Continental Congress was which of the following?

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

- a. A brief reconciliation with Great Britain
- b. A plan for the Boston Tea Party
- c. The decision to create thirteen colonies
- d. The adoption of the Declaration of Independence
- e. Increases in colonial taxes paid to Great Britain

ANSWER: d

23. Which of the following was true of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention?
- a. Very few were members of the upper class.
  - b. Only a few came from professional backgrounds.
  - c. Most represented a cross-section of American society.
  - d. Most were senior statesmen with governmental experience.
  - e. Most were members of the upper class, and a majority came from professional backgrounds.

ANSWER: e

24. The Virginia Plan included which of the following?
- a. It called for a bicameral legislature.
  - b. It worked to the advantage of the small states.
  - c. It provided for the direct election of the president by the people.
  - d. It settled all of the controversies.
  - e. It called for Supreme Court justices to select the president.

ANSWER: a

25. Which of the following is true with regard to the Great Compromise?
- a. It was advanced by delegates from Georgia.
  - b. It proposed a bicameral legislature with equal representation in the Senate.
  - c. It was presented too late to be considered.
  - d. It was proposed by Delaware.
  - e. It proposed a unicameral legislature in which each state would have one vote.

ANSWER: b

26. How many special state conventions had to ratify the U.S. Constitution before it took effect?
- a. Seven
  - b. Nine
  - c. Ten
  - d. Eleven
  - e. Thirteen

ANSWER: b

27. Edmund Randolph's Virginia Plan was a proposal of 15 resolutions that did which of the following?
- a. Called for all states to be represented equally in the national legislature
  - b. Called for a unicameral legislative body
  - c. Served as a minor variation on the Articles of Confederation

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

- d. Called for a national executive who would be elected by the legislative body
- e. Included no provision for a president because of the distrust of so much concentrated power

ANSWER: d

28. The Great Compromise resolved the impasse between which of the following two groups?
- a. Large and small states regarding the executive branch
  - b. Large and small states regarding representation
  - c. Northern and southern states regarding representation
  - d. Northern and southern states regarding slavery
  - e. Federalists and Antifederalists regarding the executive branch

ANSWER: b

29. Because the delegates wanted to prevent the imposition of tyranny, by either the majority or the minority, the government they proposed had which of the following?
- a. A guaranteed right to privacy
  - b. An Electoral College
  - c. A separation of powers
  - d. A supremacy doctrine
  - e. A unicameral legislature

ANSWER: c

30. During the constitutional deliberations, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison, to sway public opinion, wrote 85 essays known as which of the following?
- a. The Antifederalist Papers
  - b. Common Sense
  - c. The Federalist Papers
  - d. The Mayflower Compact
  - e. The Pluralist Papers

ANSWER: c

31. The selection of senators by state legislatures was intended to serve as a check on which of the following?
- a. State legislatures
  - b. The Senate
  - c. Popular will
  - d. The president
  - e. Larger states

ANSWER: c

32. States were granted extra representation based on the number of slaves they held under which of the following?
- a. The slavery population clause
  - b. The equal population clause
  - c. The three-fifths compromise
  - d. The five-eighths compromise
  - e. The census clause

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

ANSWER: c

33. Originally, the Constitutional Convention's purpose was to do which of the following?
- a. Adopt a new constitution
  - b. File a formal tax protest with Great Britain
  - c. Raise money for a national army to stop Shays' Rebellion
  - d. Revise the Articles of Confederation
  - e. Overturn articles amended by the Second Continental Congress

ANSWER: d

34. The Framers did not trust the people, so they created which of the following two important limits on popular influence?
- a. The selection of judges and the election of the Senate
  - b. The election of the House and the selection of ambassadors
  - c. The election of the president and the election of the House
  - d. The election of the president and the election of the Senate
  - e. Direct democracy in the states

ANSWER: d

35. The president of the United States is selected by which of the following?
- a. A popular vote of the people
  - b. The U.S. Senate
  - c. The House and Senate combined
  - d. The Electoral College
  - e. The governors of the states

ANSWER: d

36. The American system, with multiple points at which powers can block action, often leads to which of the following?
- a. Effective government
  - b. Caretaker government
  - c. Limited government
  - d. Impeachment of government officials
  - e. A call for new elections

ANSWER: c

37. The assertion that national law has primacy over state law is in the Constitution in which of the following clauses?
- a. The equal protection clause
  - b. The due process clause
  - c. The establishment clause
  - d. The supremacy clause
  - e. The free exercise clause

ANSWER: d

38. The concept of separation of powers was included in the Constitution to prevent which of the following?

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

- a. Disputes between the federal and state governments
- b. The imposition of export taxes
- c. A major dispute over power between the House and the Senate
- d. Disputes over power between Congress and the president
- e. Tyranny by either the majority or the minority

ANSWER: e

39. A constitutional amendment can be proposed in which of the following formats?
- a. A national convention called by Congress at the request of two-thirds of the state legislatures
  - b. A two-thirds vote in each chamber of Congress
  - c. The legislatures in two-thirds of the states
  - d. A majority vote in both houses of Congress , provided the amendment is not vetoed by the president
  - e. A national convention called by Congress at the request of two-thirds of the state legislatures and/or a two-thirds vote in each chamber of Congress

ANSWER: e

40. A constitutional amendment can be ratified in which of the following ways?
- a. A positive vote in conventions in three-fourths of the states
  - b. A positive vote in the legislatures of three-fourths of the states
  - c. A two-thirds vote in both houses of Congress
  - d. The legislatures in two-thirds of the states
  - e. A positive vote in conventions in three-fourths of the states and/or a positive vote in the legislatures of three-fourths of the states

ANSWER: d

41. The power of the Supreme Court to declare actions of the other branches of government to be unconstitutional is known as which of the following?
- a. Judicial review
  - b. Judicial activism
  - c. Legislative ratification
  - d. The supremacy doctrine
  - e. The Madisonian model

ANSWER: a

42. The Constitution vests all judicial authority of the United States in which of the following, as well as in other inferior courts?
- a. The Appeals Courts
  - b. The Supreme Court
  - c. The Chief Justice
  - d. The District Courts
  - e. The Constitutional Courts

ANSWER: b

43. Under separation of powers, the U.S. system keeps power among branches balanced by enabling one branch to



**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

counter the actions of another by the use of which of the following?

- a. Authority
- b. Checks and balances
- c. Republicanism
- d. Economic manipulation
- e. Federalism

ANSWER: b

44. The assignment in the Constitution of lawmaking, law-enforcing, and law-interpreting functions to the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, respectively, is known as which of the following?

- a. The supremacy clause
- b. Inherent powers
- c. Direct democracy
- d. The implied powers clause
- e. Separation of powers

ANSWER: e

45. The Supreme Court first declared that the courts have the power to overturn government acts that conflict with the Constitution in which of the following cases?

- a. *Marbury v. Madison*
- b. *McCullough v. Maryland*
- c. *Gideon v. Wainwright*
- d. *Dred Scott v. Sandford*
- e. *Hamilton v. Burr*

ANSWER: a

46. Which of the following was true of the Antifederalists?

- a. They lived in urban areas.
- b. They attended the Constitutional Convention.
- c. They supported a strong central government.
- d. They opposed the new Constitution.
- e. They lived in urban areas and attended the Constitutional Convention.

ANSWER: d

47. Which of the following was true of the Federalists?

- a. They supported the new Constitution.
- b. They were mostly rural people from the lower classes.
- c. They did not attend the Constitutional Convention.
- d. They supported the status quo.
- e. They were worried that the national government would be too powerful.

ANSWER: a

48. The Constitution would not have been ratified in several important states if the Federalists had not assured the states of which of the following?

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

- a. A ban on the importation of slaves would be a focus of the first Congress.
- b. Amendments to the Constitution would be passed to protect individual liberties against incursions by the national government.
- c. Amendments to the Constitution would be passed to protect the rights of states against incursions by the national government.
- d. An amendment to prohibit the manufacture, sale, and consumption of liquor would be passed.
- e. Slaves that had escaped to free states would not have to be returned to their owners in slave states.

ANSWER: b

49. The chief obstacle to ratification of the Constitution by the states was which of the following?
- a. Its failure to abolish slavery
  - b. The omission of a Bill of Rights
  - c. The power it granted to tax
  - d. The lack of court structure below the Supreme Court
  - e. Inclusion of the plural executive

ANSWER: b

50. The "necessary and proper clause" is the basis for which of the following powers?
- a. Reserved powers
  - b. Implied powers
  - c. War powers
  - d. Executive powers
  - e. Judicial powers

ANSWER: b

51. The last 2 of the original 13 states to ratify the U.S. Constitution were which of the following?
- a. New Jersey and New York
  - b. North Carolina and Rhode Island
  - c. New Hampshire and Massachusetts
  - d. South Carolina and Georgia
  - e. Delaware and Pennsylvania

ANSWER: b

52. The lack of a Bill of Rights was a problem for which of the following groups during the ratification debates?
- a. Federalists
  - b. Republicans
  - c. Democrats
  - d. Democratic Republicans
  - e. Antifederalists

ANSWER: e

53. When Antifederalists complained of too much power for the president in the new Constitution, Hamilton made which of the following arguments?
- a. He would be limited by the vice president.

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

- b. He could be impeached for "high crimes and misdemeanors".
- c. Presidents can be voted out of office.
- d. Presidents have public pressure limiting what they can do.
- e. Judicial review limits some of the president's actions.

ANSWER: b

54. The general welfare clause is found in which of the following parts of the Constitution?

- a. Article I
- b. Article II
- c. Article III
- d. Article IV
- e. Article V

ANSWER: a

55. The Bill of Rights provided for which of the following?

- a. The protection of individual liberties from state governments
- b. The protection of individual liberties from the national government
- c. Equal protection under the law
- d. Protection against state infringements on the freedoms of conscience, the press, and jury trial
- e. The protection of individual liberties from the national government, and protection against state infringements on the freedoms of conscience, the press, and jury trial

ANSWER: b

56. The rights and liberties enjoyed in the United States are stated in which of the following documents?

- a. The Articles of Confederation
- b. The Bill of Rights
- c. The Constitution as originally written
- d. The Constitution as written and the Bill of Rights
- e. The Declaration of Independence

ANSWER: d

57. The Bill of Rights limits the power of which of the following?

- a. The government over the rights and liberties of individuals
- b. The national government over the rights of the states
- c. State governments over the inherent powers of the national government
- d. National and state governments to tax individuals
- e. State governments to tax the national government

ANSWER: a

58. Which of the following amendments are referred to as the Civil War amendments?

- a. Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments
- b. Eleventh, Twelfth, and Thirteenth Amendments
- c. Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth Amendments
- d. Nineteenth, Twentieth, and Twenty-First Amendments

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

- e. Twenty-First, Twenty-Second, and Twenty-Third Amendments

ANSWER: a

59. The Seventeenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-Third, and Twenty-Sixth Amendments have which of the following in common?

- a. They expand the powers of the national government.
- b. They expand the power of the state governments.
- c. They expand the powers of both the state and national governments.
- d. They all expand voting rights to additional members of the public.
- e. They helped apply the Bill of Rights to the states.

ANSWER: d

60. The Bill of Rights includes how many amendments to the U.S. Constitution?

- a. Eight
- b. Twelve
- c. Ten
- d. Twenty-Seven
- e. Thirteen

ANSWER: c

61. Freedom of speech, press, petition, and assembly, as well as the free exercise of religion, is guaranteed by which of the following amendments?

- a. Second
- b. Fourth
- c. Fifth
- d. Eighth
- e. First

ANSWER: e

62. Which of the following states/districts does not have a voting member in the House of Representatives?

- a. Alaska
- b. District of Columbia
- c. Hawaii
- d. Montana
- e. Wyoming

ANSWER: b

63. Which of the following amendments does not protect defendants' rights in criminal cases?

- a. Fourth
- b. Eighth
- c. Second
- d. Fifth
- e. Sixth

ANSWER: c

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

64. Fundamental changes to the U.S. constitutional system have occurred through the establishment of new institutions, especially which of the following?

- a. Constitutional courts
- b. New regulatory agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency
- c. Federal support for the arts, through agencies such as the National Endowment for the Arts
- d. Political parties
- e. Special rules in the Senate, such as filibustering and cloture

ANSWER: d

65. Explain the key concepts in the Declaration of Independence.

ANSWER: Students' answers may vary.

66. Why does the Constitution divide and separate powers?

ANSWER: Students' answers may vary.

67. What is the significance of judicial review?

ANSWER: Students' answers may vary.

68. List the major rights protected by the Civil War Amendments?

ANSWER: Students' answers may vary.

69. Compare and contrast the structures of governments formed under the Articles of Confederation and the U.S. Constitution. How did the weaknesses of the Articles lead to a different structure in the Constitution?

ANSWER: Students' answers may vary.

70. Discuss accomplishments under the Articles of Confederation and how the weaknesses of the Articles made it necessary to develop a new system of government.

ANSWER: Students' answers may vary.

71. Describe the competing interests of the small states and large states. How were these conflicting interests resolved in the final version of the Constitution of 1787?

ANSWER: Students' answers may vary.

72. Describe the methods of proposing and ratifying a constitutional amendment.

ANSWER: Students' answers may vary.

73. Examine the major conflicts of the Constitutional Convention and how they were ultimately resolved.

ANSWER: Students' answers may vary.

74. Describe how the Constitution deals with social and political equality and how this has changed since the Constitution was ratified.

ANSWER: Students' answers may vary.

75. Briefly describe major roles of the legislative branch, the executive branch, and the judicial branch under the Constitution. Be sure to include a discussion of responsibilities as checks on other branches of government.

ANSWER: Students' answers may vary.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter 02: The Constitution**

76. The Constitution's ratification process included arguments for and against ratification by Federalists and Antifederalists, respectively. Describe and evaluate the arguments expressed by both of these groups.

*ANSWER:* Students' answers may vary.

77. Discuss the importance of the Bill of Rights in terms of its role in the ratification process.

*ANSWER:* Students' answers may vary.

78. Describe the impact that the Antifederalists had on the Constitution.

*ANSWER:* Students' answers may vary.

79. Discuss the changing nature of the U.S. constitutional system. Explain how this has affected political participation, especially in the area of voting rights.

*ANSWER:* Students' answers may vary.