

The Constitution

Name _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- 1) The statement, "...you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it control itself," was written by 1) _____
A) Thomas Jefferson. B) John Adams.
C) George Washington. D) James Madison.
- 2) Madison called the accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive and judiciary, in the same hands, 2) _____
A) a strong government. B) tyranny.
C) separation of powers. D) checks and balances.
- 3) Law that defines right from wrong and is higher than human law is called 3) _____
A) federal law. B) divine law. C) balanced law. D) natural law.
- 4) Which of the following is NOT a power of Congress? 4) _____
A) trying all impeachments
B) confirming senior federal appointees
C) approving the federal budget
D) pardoning people convicted of federal crimes
- 5) In a system of checks and balances 5) _____
A) all branches of government must be elected at the same time.
B) each branch is politically dependent upon the other.
C) a majority of voters can win control over all parts of government at one time.
D) each branch has some authority over the others.
- 6) U.S. Senators were originally selected by 6) _____
A) the House of Representatives. B) state legislatures.
C) the people. D) governors.
- 7) Power maintained by the legislative branch over the executive branch is 7) _____
A) proposal of legislation.
B) the ability to declare laws unconstitutional.
C) confirmation of senior federal appointments.
D) the right to pardon people convicted of federal crimes.

- 8) Examples of expansion of the role of the electorate include all of the following EXCEPT 8) _____
 A) referendum. B) judicial nominations.
 C) direct primaries. D) initiative.
- 9) New technologies have 9) _____
 A) expanded the powers of the president.
 B) given greater independence to nongovernmental institutions.
 C) both A and B
 D) neither A nor B
- 10) A procedure for submitting to popular vote the removal of officials from office before the end of 10) _____
 their term is called a(n)
 A) recall. B) referendum. C) initiative. D) poll.
- 11) A court order directing an official to perform an official duty is called a(n) 11) _____
 A) impoundment. B) writ of certiorari.
 C) executive order. D) writ of mandamus.
- 12) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court at the time of *Marbury v. Madison* was 12) _____
 A) Robert Howard Taft. B) William Rehnquist.
 C) John Marshall. D) Oliver Wendell Holmes.
- 13) The Supreme Court's power of judicial review was established in the case of 13) _____
 A) *Gibbons v. Ogden*. B) *McCulloch v. Maryland*.
 C) *Marbury v. Madison*. D) *Roe v. Wade*.
- 14) The first African American to serve on the Supreme Court was 14) _____
 A) Thurgood Marshall. B) John Marshall.
 C) Potter Stewart. D) Clarence Thomas.
- 15) Who presides over a Senate impeachment trial? 15) _____
 A) Speaker of the House of Representatives B) Minority Leader
 C) Majority Leader D) Chief Justice of the United States
- 16) The sole power of impeachment is given to the 16) _____
 A) President and the cabinet. B) House of Representatives.
 C) Supreme Court. D) Senate.

- 17) The sole power to try impeachment is given to the _____ 17) _____
A) Senate.
B) House of Representatives.
C) Supreme Court.
D) justices of the various Federal District Courts.
- 18) The Senate has convicted seven _____ after impeachment trials. 18) _____
A) judges. B) senators.
C) House representatives. D) presidents.
- 19) How many presidents have been removed from office? 19) _____
A) 0 B) 1 C) 2 D) 3
- 20) A directive by a president or governor that has the force of law is referred to as a(n) 20) _____
A) executive privilege. B) initiative.
C) executive order. D) impoundment.
- 21) The British system concentrates power in the _____ 21) _____
A) House of Lords. B) judiciary.
C) House of Commons. D) royal family.
- 22) Which does NOT describe British political parties? 22) _____
A) cohesive B) unified
C) disciplined D) candidate driven
- 23) Only _____ amendments to the Constitution have been ratified. 23) _____
A) 23 B) 25 C) 27 D) 31
- 24) The only method used thus far to propose amendments to the Constitution is _____ 24) _____
A) state conventions.
B) a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress.
C) popular mandate.
D) state legislatures.
- 25) After an amendment has been proposed, it must be ratified by the _____ 25) _____
A) popular referendum. B) Senate
C) House. D) states.

Answer Key

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- 1) D
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- 2) B
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- 3) D
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- 4) D
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- 5) D
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- 6) B
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- 7) C
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- 8) B
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- 9) C
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- 10) A
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- 11) D
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- 12) C
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- 13) C
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- 14) A
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- 15) D
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- 16) B
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- 17) A
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- 18) A
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- 19) A
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- 20) C
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- 21) C
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- 22) D
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- 23) C
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Answer Key

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24) B

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25) D

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