

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_  
**UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TEST**

*PRACTICE TEST*

DIRECTIONS: Circle the correct answer to each question.

1. The Preamble
  - a. states the purpose of the Declaration of Independence
  - b. states the purpose of the Constitution
  - c. concludes the Constitution
  - d. influenced the War for Independence
  
2. The man who wrote the Declaration of Independence was
  - a. James Madison
  - b. James Monroe
  - c. Thomas Jefferson
  - d. Thomas Paine
  
3. The war in which the colonies won their independence from England was the
  - a. French and Indian War
  - b. Revolutionary War
  - c. Civil War
  - d. Crimean War
  
4. Before the adoption of the Constitution, the newly independent states were joined by the
  - a. Articles of Confederation
  - b. Magna Carta
  - c. Mayflower Compact
  - d. Bill of Rights
  
5. The Constitutional Convention met in the city of
  - a. Philadelphia
  - b. New York
  - c. Boston
  - d. Trenton
  
6. The Preamble begins with
  - a. When in the course of human events . . .
  - b. We the citizens need to form . . .
  - c. As people of the United States . . .
  - d. We the people of the United States . . .
  
7. Which of the following is not included in the Preamble?
  - a. to form a more perfect union
  - b. to promote the pursuit of happiness
  - c. to provide for the common defense
  - d. to establish justice

The plan of government proposed during the Constitutional Convention which called for Bicameral Congress based on population was the

- a. Florida Plan
- b. Great Compromise
- c. New Jersey Plan
- d. Virginia Plan

9. The Constitution needed the approval of how many states?  
a. seven  
 b. nine  
c. thirteen  
d. five
10. The United States Constitution went into effect  
 a. June 21, 1787  
b. June 21, 1788  
c. June 21, 1791  
d. June 21, 1970
11. Power in the United States government is divided among  
a. two branches  
b. seven branches  
c. twenty-five branches  
 d. three branches
12. Congress is divided into  
a. two branches  
b. three branches  
 c. two houses  
d. three houses
13. The number of Articles in the U.S. Constitution is  
a. three  
b. two  
 c. seven  
d. nine
14. The number of amendments that have been added to the Constitution is  
a. twenty-five  
 b. twenty-seven  
c. ten  
d. sixteen
15. The number of representatives each state has in the House depends on  
a. how big the state is  
b. when the state was admitted  
 c. the population of the state  
d. how rich the state is
16. U.S. Senators are elected for  
a. four years  
 b. two years  
c. life  
 d. six years
17. Members of the House of Representatives are elected for  
 a. two years  
b. six years  
c. four years  
d. life
18. The total number of members in the House of Representatives is  
 a. 435  
b. 453  
c. 100  
d. 50
19. The total number of U.S. senators is  
a. 435  
b. 354  
 c. 100  
d. 50
20. All revenue (money) bills originate in the  
a. Senate  
 b. House  
c. Executive Branch  
d. Judicial Branch

21. Impeachment charges are started by the  
 a. President  
 b. House of Representatives  
 c. Supreme Court  
 d. Senate

22. The power to declare war belongs to the  
 a. President  
 c. Congress  
 b. Chief Justice  
 d. Secretary of State

23. The presiding officer of the Senate is  
 a. the Chief Justice  
 d. the Vice President  
 b. the President  
 c. the Speaker

24. The executive branch  
 a. makes laws  
 c. carries out laws  
 b. explains laws  
 d. declares laws unconstitutional

25. The electoral college was established by the Constitutional Convention because  
 a. the founding fathers wanted to keep the common people from making a mistake  
 e. A + D  
 b. they wanted a longer election period  
 c. they wanted to confuse the American people  
 d. ~~none of the above~~ allow the involvement of the states (Federalism)

26. The judicial branch  
 b. judges laws  
 a. makes laws  
 c. enforces laws  
 d. vetoes laws

27. The number of justices on the Supreme Court is  
 b. nine  
 a. seven  
 c. eleven  
 d. fifteen

28. The current Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is  
 b. Anthony Scalia  
 a. Byron White  
 c. Clarence Thomas  
 d. William Renquist

John Roberts

29. The supreme law of the land is  
 a. a state constitution  
 d. the U.S. Constitution  
 b. a law passed by Congress  
 c. a U.S. treaty

30. The President of the U.S. does not have the power to  
 a. declare war  
 b. negotiate treaties  
 c. appoint judges  
 d. veto bills

31. The person who takes the President's place if he or she is unable to serve a full term is the  
 a. President pro tempore  
 d. Vice President  
 b. Speaker of the House  
 c. Chief Justice

32. The person who usually administers the oath of office to the President on Inauguration Day is the

- a. Speaker of the House
- b. Chief Justice
- c. President pro tempore
- d. Vice President

33. The term of justices of the Supreme Court is

- a. eight years
- b. ten years
- c. life
- d. six years

34. The first woman to be appointed a Supreme Court justice is

- a. Sandra Day O'Connor
- b. Anita Hill
- c. Brenda Edgar
- d. Elizabeth Dole

35. All appointments to the Supreme Court must be approved by

- a. the President Pro Tempore
- b. the Speaker
- c. the House
- d. the Senate

36. Impeachments are tried by the

- a. House
- b. Senate
- c. Supreme Court
- d. President

37. It punishes for something that was not illegal when it was done.

- a. bill of attainder
- b. writ of habeas corpus
- c. original jurisdiction
- d. ex post facto law

38. Type of law that punishes without a trial.

- a. appellate jurisdiction
- b. writ of habeas corpus
- c. ex post facto law
- d. bill of attainder

39. A person has the right to appear in person, in court.

- a. ex post facto law
- b. writ of habeas corpus
- c. bill of attainder
- d. judicial review

40. A formal request to the Supreme Court to hear a case is known as a

- a. writ of habeas corpus
- b. writ of certiorari
- c. bill of attainder
- d. ex post facto law

41. Bicameral means having \_\_\_\_\_ houses.

- a. one
- b. two
- c. three
- d. four

42. The executive branch checks (or controls) the legislative branch by

- a. vetoing laws
- b. passing laws over veto
- c. declaring laws unconstitutional
- d. controlling salaries

43. The legislative branch checks the executive branch by
- using the veto
  - reducing the executive's salary
  - declaring laws unconstitutional
  - passing laws over a veto with a 2/3 vote
44. The legislative branch
- makes laws
  - explains laws
  - enforces laws
  - veto laws
45. The section in the Constitution that gives Congress the power to pass laws "necessary and proper" to fulfill its other duties is the
- Preamble
  - Elastic Clause
  - Bill of Rights
  - Judicial Review
46. Qualifications of a Supreme Court justice are
- the same as for the President
  - the same as for a senator
  - the same as for a member of the House of Representatives
  - not stated in the Constitution
47. The first ten amendments to the Constitution are called
- the Bill of Rights
  - the Civil Amendments
  - the Preamble
  - a bill of attainder
48. The number of members in the House of Representatives is based on \_\_\_\_\_ while the Senate is based on \_\_\_\_\_.
- population/equality
  - population/population
  - equality/population
  - equality/equality
49. When the Supreme Court hears a case for the first time it is called
- appellate jurisdiction
  - judicial review
  - original jurisdiction
  - due process of law
50. When the Supreme Court hears a case that has already been heard in a lower court it is called
- appellate jurisdiction
  - double jeopardy
  - original jurisdiction
  - judicial review
51. Treason is
- talking against the U.S.
  - not mentioned in the Constitution
  - refusing to vote
  - aiding the enemies of your country

52. State legislatures used to elect
- a. Senators
  - b. Presidents
  - c. Representatives
  - d. Justices

53. Amendments can be proposed by
- a. 2/3 vote of each house of Congress
  - b. 2/3 vote of the state senators
  - c. conventions of 1/2 of the states
  - d. legislatures of 3/4 of the states

54. Amendments can be ratified by
- a. 2/3 vote of each house of Congress
  - b. legislatures of 2/3 of the states
  - c. legislatures of 3/4 of the states
  - d. conventions in 2/3 of the states

55. Which of the following is not a Cabinet department?
- a. State
  - b. Media
  - c. Education
  - d. Treasury

Handwritten notes: "hand", "from class"

56. Which of the following is an example of a government corporation?
- a. U.S. Postal Service
  - b. Federal Communications Commission
  - c. Labor Department
  - d. NASA

57. Article V is important because it tells
- a. about the relationship between the states
  - b. how the Constitution can be amended
  - c. how the Constitution must be ratified
  - d. about guarantees given to the states

58. The Preamble to the Constitution
- a. was added to the Constitution in 1791
  - b. tells why the colonies declared their independence
  - c. lists the grievances against the English government
  - d. tells why the Constitution was written

59. Qualifications for the President are found in
- a. Article I (1)
  - b. Article II (2)
  - c. Amendment XII (12)
  - d. Amendment XXII (22)

60. The name of the power (or responsibility) of the President that is associated with military is
- a. Chief Executive
  - b. Commander in Chief
  - c. Chief of Party
  - d. Chief Legislator

61. Treaties negotiated by the President must be approved by the  
a. Chief Justice  
b. Cabinet  
c. Senate  
d. Secretary of State
62. Has the power to admit new states  
a. President  
b. Supreme Court  
c. Congress  
d. President pro tempore
63. Tells how laws are made  
a. Article I (1)  
b. Article II (2)  
c. Article III (3)  
d. Article V (5)
64. Presides over the impeachment trial of a President  
a. Vice President  
b. Chief Justice  
c. Speaker of the House  
d. Attorney General
65. Who appoints justices to the Supreme Court?  
a. the President  
b. the Senate  
c. the Chief Justice  
d. the Vice President
66. Article which established the Supreme Court  
a. Article IV (4)  
b. Article II (2)  
c. Article III (3)  
d. Article I (1)
67. Powers that both the Federal and state governments have (such as taxation or road building) are known as  
a. delegated powers  
b. reserved powers  
c. inherent powers  
d. concurrent powers
68. Which branch of government is responsible for maintaining the army?  
a. Executive branch  
b. Legislative branch  
c. Judicial branch  
d. Both b and c
69. A person actually becomes President  
a. when he or she takes the oath of office  
b. on election day  
c. when he or she is nominated  
d. when the electoral college meets
70. A person appointed by the President to fill the vacant office of Vice President =  
be confirmed by  
a. a majority vote of the Senate  
b. a majority vote of the Supreme Court  
c. a majority vote of the House of Representatives  
d. a majority vote of both houses of Congress

25th Am.

71. The Constitution forbids the states to  
a. tax  
b. make laws  
c. coin money  
d. keep a militia

72. Powers of Congress are listed in  
a. Article I (1)  
b. Article II (2)  
c. Article III (3)  
d. Article IV (4)

73. A naturalized citizen cannot become  
a. a senator  
b. President  
c. a representative  
d. a justice

74. Presidents must be at least  
a. 25 years old  
b. 30 years old  
c. 35 years old  
d. 40 years old

75. Prohibits changes in salaries of U.S. senators and representatives from taking effect until after the next election.

a. Amendment XII (12)  
b. Amendment XXVII (27)  
c. Amendment XVII (17)  
d. Amendment XXVI (26)

76. Slavery was abolished by  
a. Amendment III (3)  
b. Amendment XIII (13)  
c. Amendment IV (4)  
d. Amendment XIV (14)

77. Permits Congress to tax individual incomes  
a. Amendment VI (6)  
b. Amendment XXVI (26)  
c. Amendment XVI (16)  
d. Amendment XVII (17)

78. Gives residents of Washington, D.C., the right to vote  
a. Amendment XXII (22)  
b. Amendment XXIII (23)  
c. Amendment XXIV (24)  
d. Amendment XXV (25)

79. Forbids the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages  
a. Amendment XV (15)  
b. Amendment XVI (16)  
c. Amendment XVII (17)  
d. Amendment XVIII (18)

80. Moved Presidential inauguration day from March 4 to January 20  
a. Amendment XX (20)  
b. Amendment XXI (21)  
c. Amendment XXII (22)  
d. Amendment XXIII (23)

81. Limited President to two terms or ten years  
a. Amendment XII (12)  
b. Amendment VIII (8)  
c. Amendment III (3)  
d. Amendment XXII (22)



82. Powers not specifically given to the Federal government are reserved to the states or to the people

- a. Amendment VII (7)
- b. Amendment XVI (16)
- c. Amendment X (10)
- d. Amendment XXVI (26)

83. Guarantees that a person cannot be tried twice for the same crime

- a. Amendment XIV (14)
- b. Amendment XVI (16)
- c. Amendment V (5)
- d. Amendment I (1)

84. Denies state governments the power to keep citizens from voting by charging a poll tax

- a. Amendment XXIV (24)
- b. Amendment XIV (14)
- c. Amendment II (2)
- d. Amendment XXIII (23)

85. Forbids a state to stop a person from voting because of race or color

- a. Amendment I (1)
- b. Amendment II (2)
- c. Amendment XXVI (26)
- d. Amendment XV (15)

86. Right to bear arms

- a. Amendment IX (9)
- b. Amendment II (2)
- c. Amendment XI (11)
- d. Amendment XIV (15)

87. Prohibits quartering of troops in time of peace

- a. Amendment I (1)
- b. Amendment II (2)
- c. Amendment III (3)
- d. Amendment IV (4)

88. Safeguards against excessive bail, fines, and cruel and unusual punishments

- a. Amendment VII (7)
- b. Amendment VIII (8)
- c. Amendment IX (9)
- d. Amendment X (10)

89. Guarantees rights not listed to the people and that the government shouldn't tamper with them

- a. Amendment XIX (19)
- b. Amendment XVIII (18)
- c. Amendment IX (9)
- d. Amendment VIII (8)

90. Gives women the right to vote

- a. Amendment XIX (19)
- b. Amendment XVII (17)
- c. Amendment XVI (16)
- d. Amendment VI (6)

91. Tells what to do in case of Presidential disability

- a. Amendment XXIII (23)
- b. Amendment XXV (25)
- c. Amendment XXI (21)
- d. Amendment XXVI (26)

92. Lowers the voting age to 18

- a. Amendment XXVI (26)
- b. Amendment XXIV (24)
- c. Amendment XVI (16)
- d. Amendment XIV (14)

UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TEST, continued

93. Provides for the election of President and Vice President on separate ballots
- a. Amendment XX (20)
  - b. Amendment XXII (22)
  - c. Amendment XII (12)
  - d. Amendment II (2)

94. Gives the people the right to elect their senators directly
- a. Amendment VII (7)
  - b. Amendment VI (6)
  - c. Amendment XVII (17)
  - d. Amendment XVI (16)

95. Protects against unreasonable search and arrest
- a. Amendment I (1)
  - b. Amendment II (2)
  - c. Amendment XVII (17)
  - d. Amendment IV (4)

96. Gives citizenship to former slaves
- a. Amendment XIII (13)
  - b. Amendment XIV (14)
  - c. Amendment XV (15)
  - d. Amendment XVI (16)

97. Provides that a state cannot be sued in any court other than the courts of that state.  
In other words, you can't sue a state in a Federal court.

- a. Amendment IX (9)
- b. Amendment X (10)
- c. Amendment XI (11)
- d. Amendment XII (12)

98. Repealed the prohibition amendment
- a. Amendment XX (20)
  - b. Amendment XXI (21)
  - c. Amendment XVIII (18)
  - d. Amendment XIX (19)

99. Protects freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition
- a. Amendment IV (4)
  - b. Amendment III (3)
  - c. Amendment II (2)
  - d. Amendment I (1)

100. Guarantees the right to a speedy trial with, if needed, a court-appointed lawyer
- a. Amendment V (5)
  - b. Amendment VI (6)
  - c. Amendment VII (7)
  - d. Amendment VIII (8)