

## CHAPTERS 1-3: The Study of American Government

### MULTIPLE CHOICE

- The financial position of the state and national governments under the Articles of Confederation could be best described as
  - sound, strong, and based on a large surplus of revenue.
  - sound, strong, but uncertain around the edges.
  - uniformly stable at the state level, but the national government struggled with debt.
  - stable at the national level with little cause for concern in any of the states.
  - growing debt at the national level and several states with financial crises.
- The fact that the rich are taxed more heavily than the poor and that amendments that gave voting rights to minorities were passed by large majorities suggests that:
  - few people pay close attention to political processes.
  - government does not always adopt policies to the advantage of only those in political office.
  - power is distributed in such a manner that very few people can exercise it in a meaningful fashion.
  - “Who governs?” and “To what ends?” are really the same question.
  - Knowing who governs is usually a good predictor of what policies will be adopted.
- Compared with the 1950s, government’s involvement in the everyday lives of Americans in the 1990s is
  - about the same.
  - slightly less.
  - considerably less.
  - slightly greater.
  - considerably greater.
- The text suggests that, during the 1950s, the federal government would have taken very little interest in
  - a factory closing its doors.
  - a profession not accrediting a member.
  - a university refusing an applicant.
  - A, B, and C.
  - Both A and C.
- Today, a primary source of legitimate political authority in the United States is the
  - Bill of Rights.
  - will of the people.
  - U.S. Constitution.
  - concept of civil liberty.
  - notion of civil rights.
- At the time of the Constitutional Convention, the view that a democratic government was desirable was
  - already waning.
  - close to unanimous.
  - beyond debate.
  - held by the elite only.
  - far from unanimous.
- Which delegate to the Constitutional Convention was worried the new government he helped to create was too democratic?
  - John Adams
  - George Mason
  - Alexander Hamilton
  - Thomas Jefferson
  - Patrick Henry
- Representative democracy allows individuals to gain political power through
  - media campaigns.
  - quadrennial elections.
  - nonpartisan elections.
  - reciprocal elections.
  - competitive elections.
- In a referendum, citizens express their opinions about issues by means of
  - letters.
  - the ballot.
  - throwing bricks through their neighbor’s windows ( in Gastonia)
  - petitions

10. Which statement best reflects the views of the Framers of the Constitution?
  - a. Elected officials should register majority sentiments.
  - b. The government should mediate, not mirror, popular views.
  - c. The views of the people are trustworthy because most are informed and can make reasonable choices.
  - d. A government should be able to do a great deal of good as quickly and as efficiently as possible.
  - e. Majority opinion should be irrelevant to the policymaking process.
  
11. The text suggests that the writings of \_\_\_\_\_ were a “decisive influence” on the Founders.
  - a. Thomas More
  - b. Earnest Hemingway
  - c. Richard Wilmington
  - d. Thomas Hobbes
  - e. John Locke
  
12. The pluralist view of power focuses on
  - a. a dominant social class.
  - b. a group of business, military, labor-union, and elected officials.
  - c. an array of appointed bureaucrats.
  - d. a large number of governmental interests and organized interests.
  - e. a flexible alliance of religious and cultural leaders.
  
13. The principal goal of the American Revolution was
  - a. equality.
  - b. financial betterment.
  - c. political efficacy.
  - d. fraternity.
  - e. liberty.
  
14. “Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” were
  - a. rights commonly listed in colonial charters.
  - b. Jefferson’s variation on Locke’s prior listed rights.
  - c. explicitly named in the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution.
  - d. enumerated in the Bill of Rights.
  - e. At risk when Dr. Lockhart roamed the halls like a modern day Terminator
  
15. Which of the following statements about the Declaration of Independence is *correct*?
  - a. It was written primarily by George Washington and James Madison.
  - b. It primarily focused on concerns over economic inequality.
  - c. It was a rejection of the philosophy of John Locke.
  - d. It drew on the works of Thomas Hobbes.
  - e. It was essentially a lawyer’s brief justifying a revolution.
  
16. An unalienable right is one that is based on
  - a. nature and Providence.
  - b. the Constitution and primary documents.
  - c. custom and tradition.
  - d. legal precedent.
  - e. Media support.
  
17. All of the following were true of the government under the Articles of Confederation *except* that
  - a. larger states had more votes in the national legislature.
  - b. there was no national judicial branch.
  - c. the national government could not levy taxes.
  - d. the national government could not regulate commerce.
  - e. amendment required the support of all thirteen states.
  
18. Under the Articles of Confederation, the national government could
  - a. run the post office, but not very well.
  - b. levy taxes.
  - c. Regulate Commerce
  - d. Establish a national judicial system
  - e. None of the above.
  
19. John Hancock was elected to the position of “president” under the Articles, but he did not even show up for the job because
  - a. the office featured no significant powers and was generally meaningless.
  - b. there was a controversy concerning his selection.
  - c. several states threatened to secede if he took office.
  - d. Washington and Hamilton protested his choice as president.

20. One conspicuous feature of the Articles of Confederation was that there was no
  - a. legislature.
  - b. executive.
  - c. national judiciary.
  - d. recognition of states.
  - e. mention of the treaty-making power.
  
21. Shays's Rebellion, an early test of the powers of the Articles of Confederation, took place in
  - a. Virginia.
  - b. Rhode Island.
  - c. Massachusetts.
  - d. Maryland.
  - e. Pennsylvania.
  
22. Which state refused to send a delegate to the Constitutional Convention?
  - a. New York
  - b. Pennsylvania
  - c. Massachusetts
  - d. Virginia
  - e. Rhode Island
  
23. John Locke suggested that the chief limitation on government should derive from the fact that it
  - a. is created by the consent of the governed.
  - b. has checks and balances.
  - c. is separated into various branches.
  - d. was not found in the state of nature.
  - e. cannot function without military strength.
  
24. The central issue in the framing of the U.S. Constitution was that of
  - a. how strong to make the national government.
  - b. how best to divide powers among the branches of government.
  - c. how best to break with Great Britain.
  - d. how to adopt liberty but still allow slaveholding.
  - e. how to create a truly independent judiciary.
  
25. The Great Compromise finally allocated representation on the basis of
  - a. population, in both houses.
  - b. equality, in both houses.
  - c. population in the House and statehood equality in the Senate.
  - d. equality in the House and population in the Senate.
  - e. None of the above.
  
26. An amendment can be proposed by
  - a. a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress.
  - b. a national convention called by Congress at the request of two-thirds of the states.
  - c. a two-thirds vote by the Senate only.
  - d. either a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress or a national convention called by Congress at the request of two-thirds of the states.
  - e. Any idiot with a pen.
  
27. The nature of the amendment process has probably kept the amendments added to the U.S. Constitution
  - a. relatively simple in nature.
  - b. legally complex in nature.
  - c. relatively few in number.
  - d. extremely controversial.
  - e. somewhat redundant.
  
28. Dividing power between the states, the local and the national government is referred to as
  - a. sovereignty.
  - b. dual legitimacy.
  - c. egalitarianism.
  - d. plutocracy
  - e. federalism
  
29. Those powers that are given to the national government exclusively are \_\_\_\_\_ powers.
  - a. Enumerated
  - b. Reserved
  - c. concurrent
  - d. revolving
  - e. police

30. Those powers that are given exclusively to the states are \_\_\_\_\_ powers.
  - a. enumerated
  - b. reserved
  - c. concurrent
  - d. revolving
  - e. complicit
  
31. Collecting taxes, building roads, borrowing money, and establishing courts would be examples of \_\_\_\_\_ powers.
  - a. enumerated
  - b. reserved
  - c. concurrent
  - d. revolving
  - e. complicit
  
32. Which of the following is *not* a way in which Congress can check the federal courts?
  - a. Refusing to approve a person nominated to be a judge (Senate only)
  - b. Changing the number of the lower courts
  - c. Overturning a court decision with a two-thirds vote in the Senate
  - d. Using the impeachment power to remove a judge from office
  - e. Changing the jurisdiction of the lower federal courts
  
33. Congress has a check on the federal courts via
  - a. impeachment.
  - b. the number of courts that are created.
  - c. the jurisdiction of courts.
  - d. the judicial nomination process.
  - e. all of the above
  
34. In which notable *Federalist* paper does James Madison warn against the danger of factions?
  - a. *Federalist* No. 51
  - b. *Federalist* No. 25
  - c. *Federalist* No. 11
  - d. *Federalist* No. 10
  - e. *Federalist* No. 1
  
35. Eventually, the \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment, as interpreted by the Supreme Court, extended many of the guarantees of the Bill of Rights to cover state governmental action.
  - a. Tenth
  - b. Eleventh
  - c. Twelfth
  - d. Thirteenth
  - e. Fourteenth
  
36. Three-fifths of the slaves were counted for purposes of
  - a. electing state legislatures.
  - b. apportioning delegates to presidential conventions.
  - c. allotting seats in the House of Representatives.
  - d. assigning delegates to state conventions.
  - e. allotting seats in the Senate.
  - f. escaping.
  
37. Compared with Federalists, Antifederalists tended to favor:
  - a. strong national government as a protection against political privilege.
  - b. weak, decentralized government as a protection against institutional imbalance.
  - c. weak, decentralized government as a protection of liberty.
  - d. strong national government as a protection of political privilege.
  - e. strong national government for purposes of taxation.
  - f. Fewer announcements which interrupt classes.
  
38. The Founders did not include in the U.S. Constitution an explicit statement of state powers but added it later in
  - a. the Second Amendment.
  - b. the Seventh Amendment.
  - c. the Tenth Amendment.
  - d. the Fourteenth Amendment.
  - e. None of the above.

39. The Civil War settled one part of the issue of national supremacy versus states' rights, namely, that
  - a. state governments are supreme over the national government.
  - b. the national government derives its sovereignty from the states.
  - c. the national government derives its sovereignty from the people.
  - d. the national government derives its sovereignty from both the people and the states.
  - e. state governments derive their power from each other.
  
40. The early chief justice whose decisions generally gave the broadest possible sweep to federal powers was
  - a. Roger Taney.
  - b. Frederick Vinson.
  - c. John Marshall.
  - d. Alexander Hamilton.
  - e. John Harlan.
  
41. An important outcome of Marshall's ruling in *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819) was to
  - a. place limits on the constitutional powers granted to Congress by refusing McCulloch's appeal.
  - b. give greater power to the states in taxing agents of the federal government, including banks.
  - c. protect newspaper editors who publish stories critical of the federal government.
  - d. restrict the power of the Court in cases involving conflicts between states and the federal government.
  - e. confirm the supremacy of the federal government in the exercise of the constitutional powers granted to Congress.
  
42. The doctrine of nullification refers to
  - a. the power of Congress to veto state laws that violate the U.S. Constitution.
  - b. the claimed authority of the states to declare a federal law void for violating the U.S. Constitution.
  - c. the power of the president to veto state laws for violating the U.S. Constitution.
  - d. the authority of the president to dissolve Congress and to call for new elections.
  - e. the power of the federal government to invalidate state laws on matters of commerce.
  
43. The states play a key role in
  - a. social welfare.
  - b. public education.
  - c. health and hospitals.
  - d. managing water supplies.
  - e. All of the above.
  
44. This procedure, which is in effect in over 20 states, permits voters to remove an elected official from office.
  - a. Initiative
  - b. Referendum
  - c. Recall
  - d. Logrolling
  - e. Rollback
  
45. A categorical grant is a transfer of federal funds designed for
  - a. the private sector.
  - b. discretionary use by a state.
  - c. the accomplishment of broad goals.
  - d. programs with matching grants.
  - e. specific purposes.