



## Voting Literacy Test – Answer Key

### From the 1965 Alabama Literacy Test

Potential voters were required to take Alabama’s 68 question literacy test in order to be eligible to vote. If test-takers missed more than seven questions, they would be ineligible to vote.

1. Which of the following is a right guaranteed by the Bill of Rights?

Public Education

Employment

Trial by Jury

Voting

2. If a person is indicted for a crime, name two rights which he has.

**Habeus corpus (immediate presentation of charges); lawyer, speedy trial, protection from self-incrimination, jury trial, protection from double jeopardy, etc.; Amendments V & VI**

3. If a vacancy occurs in the U.S. Senate, the state must hold an election, but meanwhile the place may be filled by a temporary appointment made by **the governor**.

**U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 3**

4. A U.S. senator is elected for a term of **6 (six)** years.

**U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 3**

5. Appropriation of money for the armed services can be only for a period limited to **2 (two)** years.

**U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8 – “To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years”**

6. The Constitution protects an individual against punishments which are **cruel** and **unusual**.

**Amendment 8 of the U.S. Constitution**

7. If no candidate for President receives a majority of the electoral vote, who decides who will become President?

**House of Representatives (Article II, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution; “...if there be more than one who have such Majority, and have equal Number of Votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately chuse \* by Ballot one of them for President.”**

8. Congress passes laws regulating cases which are included in those over which the U.S. Supreme Court has **co-appellate** jurisdiction.

9. Name two things which the states are forbidden to do by the U.S. Constitution.

**Coin money; make treaties with foreign nations; keep troops in time of peace, engage in war (Article I, Section 10)**

10. How many votes must a person receive in order to become President if the election is decided by the U.S. House of Representatives? **26 (twenty-six); majority of the states**

**Article II, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution – ““But in choosing\* the President, the Votes shall be taken by States, the Representation from each state having one Vote”**

### **From the 1964 Louisiana Literacy Test**

**\*Answers were left to the discretion of the test administrator.**