

Multiple Choice- Choose the BEST alternative.

1. Theoretically, in a democracy the people are ruled by . . .
 - a. the elite
 - b. government officials
 - c. themselves
 - d. divine right

2. Which of the following was NOT a problem experienced under the Articles of Confederation?
 - a. the national government was too weak
 - b. state governments were too weak
 - c. the national government did not have the power to tax
 - d. there was no effective chief executive

3. Which term refers to the geographical distribution of government power as provided for in the Constitution of 1787?
 - a. Parliamentaryism
 - b. Constitutional revisionism
 - c. Populism
 - d. Federalism

4. In the constitutional convention The Connecticut Compromise resolved what fundamental conflict?
 - a. disagreements between supporters of a strong federal government and supporters of states' rights
 - b. disagreements between slave states and free states
 - c. the disagreements between Tories and Whigs over loyalty to the King of England
 - d. the disagreement between large states and small states over representation in the national legislature

5. What principle holds that the U.S. Constitution and all federal laws and treaties are superior to conflicting provisions of state constitutions and laws?
 - a. federal stature
 - b. dominatus ad valorem
 - c. popular sovereignty
 - d. national supremacy

6. Libel is to written words as ____? ____ is to spoken words.

- a. slander
- b. sedition
- c. calumny
- d. defamation

7. American citizens have the right to join together in a nonviolent economic boycott of businesses that practice racial discrimination. This is allowed under the principle of . . .

- a. no prior restraint.
- b. commercial speech.
- c. symbolic speech.
- d. the right of association.

8. The warnings that a police officer is required to read to suspects to inform them of their rights is called . . .

- a. Inalienable rights.
- b. Right to silence.
- c. Miranda warnings.
- d. Attorney/Client privilege.

9. During the 20th century, the power of political parties in American politics has . . .

- a. increased dramatically.
- b. increased marginally.
- c. decreased.
- d. remained the same.

10. How does the winner-take-all system of American elections affect the potential success of third parties in American politics?

- a. it makes success impossible
- b. it makes success less likely
- c. it makes success more likely
- d. it has no impact

11. Which of the following techniques is (are) often used by interest groups in pursuing their agendas?

- a. grass roots mobilization
- b. lobbying
- c. litigation
- d. all of the above

12. Which of the following is prohibited from contributing to candidates in election campaigns?

- a. corporations
- b. individuals
- c. political action committees
- d. all of the above

13. What institution certifies the results of presidential elections?

- a. Supreme Court
- b. Federal Election Commission
- c. Congress
- d. Presidential Cabinet

14. Delegates to the Electoral College are apportioned among the states on the basis of...

- a. population.
- b. equality.
- c. states overall representation in Congress.
- d. benign gerrymandering.

15. In the U.S. Congress, members of the Senate serve ___?___ year terms while members of the House serve ___?___ year terms.

- a. two, four
- b. six, four
- c. six, two
- d. four, four

16. The permanent and most important committees in the U.S. Congress are called...

- a. conference committees
- b. ad hoc committees
- c. standing committees
- d. bipartisan committees

17. When an impeachment trial is held in the Senate, the ___?___ is the presiding officer.

- a. Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
- b. President of the Senate
- c. President pro tem of the Senate
- d. Vice President

18. To override a presidential veto, Congress must pass the vetoed legislation by what vote?

- a. a two-thirds vote
- b. a three-fourths vote
- c. a three-fifths vote

d. a simple majority

19. According to the Constitution, in order to be eligible to serve as president, a person must be a U.S. citizen for how long?

- a. 7 years
- b. 14 years
- c. since birth
- d. There is no citizenship requirement.

20. Presidential nomination of candidates to high level bureaucratic posts require confirmation by ...

- a. the Supreme Court
- b. both houses of Congress
- c. the Senate
- d. the Presidential Cabinet

21. The first few months of a president's term, when support for his agenda is likely to have the broadest support, both in Congress and among the public, is termed...

- a. Era of Good Feelings.
- b. Honeymoon Period.
- c. Age of Enlightenment.
- d. Gilded Age.

22. Iron triangles are made up of ...

- a. the Supreme Court, the President, and the Cabinet.
- b. Congressional committees, bureaucratic agencies, and interest groups.
- c. Congress, the Executive, and the Courts.
- d. Congressional committees, subcommittees, and conference committees.

23. Which of the following devices allows the federal courts to decide the constitutionality of both federal and state laws?

- a. stare decisis
- b. judicial review
- c. strict construction
- d. separation of powers

24. When a Supreme Court justice writes an opinion that supports the majority but for different reasons, the opinion is called a(n) . . .

- a. concurring opinion.
- b. dissenting opinion.

- c. majority opinion.
- d. institutional opinion.

25. Most federal judges serve ____?____ terms.

- a. life
- b. four year
- c. six year
- d. ten year