

Period 3 (1754-1800)

Test 2

Source: *United States Constitution*, First amendment,

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

1. What is one impact of this amendment on American society?
 - (1) Congress cannot mandate a national religion.
 - (2) Religious groups cannot lobby Congress.
 - (3) Members of the press cannot hold public office.
 - (4) The Supreme Court cannot limit free speech during wartime.
2. In the 1780s, the national government under the Articles of Confederation established its authority in the Northwest Territory by
 - (1) providing a system for the formation of new states
 - (2) settling the border dispute with Mexico
 - (3) extending the nation's border to the Rocky Mountains
 - (4) rejecting Native American Indian claims of sovereignty
3. What was a major success of the national government under the *Articles of Confederation* (1781–1788)?
 - (1) developing a plan for the admission of new states
 - (2) establishing the first national export tax
 - (3) paying off all government debts
 - (4) gaining the respect of foreign nations

Source: James Wilson, Constitutional Convention, 1787

“We should consider that we are providing a Constitution for future generations, and not merely for the peculiar circumstances of the moment....”

9. The writers of the Constitution best applied this idea by providing for
 - (1) an electoral college to select the president
 - (2) due process of law to protect individual civil rights
 - (3) a method for adopting a constitutional amendment
 - (4) the direct election of members of Congress
10. The term *federalism* is best defined as
 - (1) the process of amending a constitution
 - (2) the power of the courts to determine the constitutionality of laws
 - (3) a republican form of government with no hereditary ruler
 - (4) the division of power between the states and the national government
11. Federalism, separation of powers, and checks and balances are constitutional principles that directly
 - (1) empower more voters
 - (2) restrict individual liberties
 - (3) involve citizens in the governing process
 - (4) reduce the concentration of governmental power

12. The social contract theory as used in the *Declaration of Independence* was most directly influenced by the writings of
- (1) John Locke
 - (2) Adam Smith
 - (3) Voltaire
 - (4) Benjamin Franklin
13. The United States Constitution provides that federal judges be appointed for life primarily to
- (1) protect judicial decision-making from the influence of political pressure
 - (2) provide time for a more thorough investigation of cases
 - (3) ensure that judicial decisions are based on precedent
 - (4) guarantee that different viewpoints are represented on the Supreme Court
14. The authors of the United States Constitution established a bicameral legislature primarily because they
- (1) wished states to retain their absolute sovereignty
 - (2) reached a compromise between the large states and the small states over representation
 - (3) hoped to weaken the power of Congress
 - (4) wanted to create an independent judiciary elected by the people
15. A presidential veto of a bill can be overridden by a
- (1) majority vote of registered voters
 - (2) majority vote of the Supreme Court
 - (3) two-thirds vote of the state legislatures
 - (4) two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress
16. One way the original Constitution of the United States addressed the issue of congressional representation was by
- (1) not counting women as part of a state's population for representation
 - (2) counting three-fifths of the enslaved population when determining representation
 - (3) setting a four-year term of office for all members of Congress
 - (4) giving every state the same number of representatives in the House
17. A principal reason for calling the Constitutional Convention of 1787 was to
- (1) strengthen the central government
 - (2) settle land disputes with Canada
 - (3) increase the power of the states
 - (4) weaken the system of checks and balances

Source: Thomas Paine, *Common Sense*

“...Small islands not capable of protecting themselves, are the proper objects for kingdoms to take under their care; but there is something very absurd, in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an island. In no instance hath nature made the satellite larger than its primary planet, and as England and America, with respect to each other, reverses the common order of nature, it is evident that they belong to different systems: England to Europe, America to itself...”

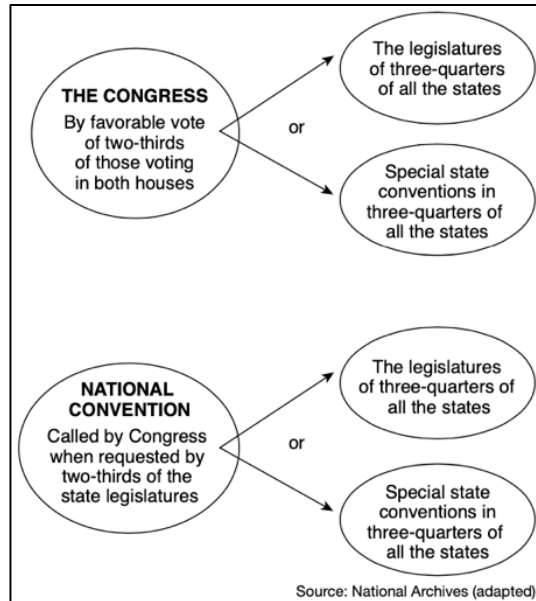
18. The argument presented in this passage was intended to
- (1) urge colonists to accept the Albany Plan of Union
 - (2) provide a reason for ratification of the Constitution of the United States
 - (3) convince American colonists to declare their independence
 - (4) persuade France to aid the United States in the Revolutionary War
19. The judicial branch of government can check the legislative branch of government by
- (1) vetoing bills passed by Congress
 - (2) declaring laws unconstitutional
 - (3) calling special sessions of Congress
 - (4) reducing congressional budgets

20. The power of the president to veto laws and the power of the House of Representatives to impeach are examples of
- (1) federalism
 - (2) the unwritten constitution
 - (3) executive privilege
 - (4) checks and balances
21. In colonial America, the Magna Carta, the English Bill of Rights, and the writings of John Locke contributed to the
- (1) diversity of religious beliefs among the colonists
 - (2) political ideals and practices of the colonists
 - (3) economic relationships between the colonists and the mother country
 - (4) demands of colonists to end the slave trade and the practice of slavery
22. Thomas Jefferson incorporated the social contract theory in the *Declaration of Independence* because this idea
- (1) justified the overthrow of a government that denied individual liberties
 - (2) considered economic rights more important than inalienable rights
 - (3) supported the divine right of kings
 - (4) called for a gradual change of government

Source: James Madison, *The Federalist*, Number 47

“No political truth is certainly of greater intrinsic [essential] value, or is stamped with the authority of more enlightened patrons of liberty, than that on which the objection is founded. The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive, and judiciary, in the same hands, whether of one, a few, or many, and whether hereditary, self- appointed, or elective, may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny...”

23. Which constitutional principle was established to protect American citizens from the tyranny suggested in this quotation?
- (1) due process of law
 - (2) States rights
 - (3) popular sovereignty
 - (4) separation of powers
24. The primary aim of the writers of the United States Constitution was to
- (1) eliminate the bicameral legislature
 - (2) strengthen the power of the central government
 - (3) preserve the supremacy of the states
 - (4) weaken the independence of the judiciary
25. Which viewpoint of the framers of the United States Constitution is demonstrated by the use of the electoral college to select the president?
- (1) distrust of the average citizen’s judgment
 - (2) belief that political parties strengthen the campaign process
 - (3) desire to end property qualifications for voting
 - (4) commitment to universal suffrage



26. What is the best title for this diagram?
- (1) Methods of Amending the Constitution
 - (2) Procedures of the Executive Branch
 - (3) Process of Nominating Presidential Candidates
 - (4) Admission of New States to the Union
27. The slogan “no taxation without representation” was first used by Americans to protest Britain’s
- (1) policy of salutary neglect
 - (2) issuance of the Proclamation of 1763
 - (3) passage of the Coercive Acts
 - (4) attempts to raise revenue through the Stamp Act
28. As stated in the United States Constitution, which group is directly elected by the people?
- (1) Supreme Court justices
 - (2) presidential cabinet members
 - (3) members of the House of Representatives
 - (4) political party leaders
29. European Enlightenment writers of the 17th and 18th centuries influenced America’s colonial development by providing
- (1) justification for state-supported churches
 - (2) a defense of the slave trade
 - (3) arguments for monarchy and rule by divine right
 - (4) ideas about self-government and political rights
30. One way in which the *Declaration of Independence* and the original *United States Constitution* are similar is that both promote the idea of
- (1) the consent of the governed
 - (2) equal rights for women
 - (3) voting rights for all adult citizens
 - (4) judicial review of unjust laws
31. Madison was one of the statesmen who wrote articles for *The Federalist* primarily to
- (1) encourage rebellion against the British
 - (2) find a permanent solution to the issue of slavery
 - (3) gain support for ratifying the United States Constitution
 - (4) oppose protection of property rights in the United States Constitution

32. Which statement best illustrates the meaning of federalism?
- (1) All citizens enjoy the basic rights of freedom of speech, press, religion, and assembly.
 - (2) The Constitution delegates certain powers to the national government but reserves other powers for the states.
 - (3) The Constitution can be changed by amendments ratified by Congress.
 - (4) The House of Representatives has the power to impeach the president, and the Senate has the power to conduct an impeachment trial.
33. Weaknesses in the central government under the Articles of Confederation exposed by Shays' Rebellion contributed directly to the
- (1) signing of the Declaration of Independence
 - (2) creation of the United States Constitution
 - (3) development of a policy of neutrality
 - (4) passage of the Northwest Ordinance
44. A primary reason the Antifederalists opposed ratification of the United States Constitution in 1787 was because the Constitution failed to
- (1) include a bill of rights
 - (2) provide for a strong national defense
 - (3) restrict immigration
 - (4) extend voting rights to women