

Practice Exam #5

1. Logrolling is best described as
 - a. A trading of votes between members of Congress
 - b. Legislation that expires in a specified time frame
 - c. A Senate tactic to delay passage of a bill
 - d. A privilege of members of Congress to publish and mail information at public expense
 - e. Federal projects or funds that benefit a congressional district

2. Which of the following is considered a formal power of the president?
 - I. Declare war
 - II. Negotiate treaties
 - III. Nominate national party chairperson
 - IV. Veto legislation
 - a. III and IV only
 - b. II and III only
 - c. I, III, and IV only
 - d. II and IV only
 - e. I, II, III, IV

3. The Fourteenth Amendment's due process clause has been used to
 - a. Overturn *Plessy v. Ferguson*
 - b. Overturn *Barron v. Baltimore*
 - c. End discrimination in places of public accommodation
 - d. Allow judges to mandate the busing of students
 - e. Prevent states from restricting a person's right to bear arms

4. All of the following influenced the framers who drafted the Constitution EXCEPT
 - a. John Locke's *The Second Treatise of Government*
 - b. The violence of Daniel Shays' rebellion
 - c. Trade disputes between states
 - d. Lack of respect from foreign countries
 - e. Federal abuse of natural rights under the Articles of Confederation

5. The Supreme Court may remand a case to a lower court to
 - a. Retry the case excluding evidence that was deemed unconstitutional
 - b. Appeal to public opinion for support of its ruling
 - c. Provide Congress an opportunity to pass new legislation
 - d. Give the Supreme Court more time to decide the case
 - e. Give interest groups more time to prepare amicus curiae briefs

6. In *United States v. Lopez*, the Supreme Court ruled that
 - a. Congress exceeded its power to regulate interstate commerce
 - b. The Gun Free School Zone Act violated the Second Amendment
 - c. Congress cannot require local officials to conduct background checks for gun purchases
 - d. Congress can use grant money to influence state policies
 - e. The Gun Free School Zone Act was a necessary and proper use of commerce power.

7. Which of the following characteristics has the greatest impact on a person's political beliefs?
- Formal socialization
 - Civics courses in secondary school
 - Parents' party affiliation
 - Political experiences and observations
 - Mass media
8. Which of the following powers is designated only to the national government?
- The power to levy taxes
 - The power to take private land for public use
 - The power to make and enforce laws
 - The power to regulate commerce with foreign nations
 - The power to create and maintain a judicial system
9. The 22nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution establishes which of the following?
- It repealed the policy of prohibition established earlier.
 - It limited U.S.S presidents to two terms.
 - It established a system for presidential succession and presidential disability.
 - It lowered the voting age in the U.S. to 18 years of age.
 - It changed the method by which Congress can raise its salaries.
10. Which of the following is the Latin term for "let the decision stand," the principle of precedent in the judicial system?
- Stare decisis*
 - En loco parentis*
 - Habeas corpus*
 - Writ of certiorari*
 - Pluribus principalus*
11. Which of the following statements is NOT true about the U.S. Senate?
- There is no rules committee to limit debate in the Senate.
 - The vice president presides over the Senate and only votes in the event of a tie.
 - Until the 17th Amendment, senators were elected by state legislatures.
 - The membership of the Senate has always been made up of more common individuals rather than the rich elite.
 - It shares the ability to declare war with the House of Representatives.

"A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

12. The above text is from which amendment to the U.S. Constitution?
- 5th Amendment
 - 4th Amendment
 - 10th Amendment
 - 2nd Amendment
 - 6th Amendment

13. A progressive income tax can best be described as a(n)

- a. Innovative form of taxation that incorporates sales taxes and tariffs
- b. System of taxation that is considered more fair because it taxes all citizens at the same rate
- c. Equitable tax, because only those who are high-rate consumers are taxed
- d. Tax where those with more income pay a higher rate of tax on their income
- e. Innovative tax, because as a person's salary increases annually, his tax rate decreases, encouraging investment

14. News coverage by the print and broadcast media is **BEST** described by which of the following?

- a. It is extensive and in depth.
- b. It is very ideological in its presentation.
- c. It is presented at a relatively high educational level.
- d. It is very superficial.
- e. It is mostly sensationalized.

15. The term *critical election* can best be described as a

- a. Term used for elections where serious economic differences exist between the candidates
- b. Term used to describe elections when the nation is in a state of war
- c. Term used for elections where party realignment takes place
- d. Term for an election where Supreme Court vacancies are anticipated
- e. Term for any election where one party has won the previous three elections and this election is critical to the minority party

16. Which of the following terms describes a president's ability to hold on to a bill if Congress is in the last 10 days of a session and let it die by not signing or vetoing it?

- a. *En loco parentis*
- b. Hidden veto
- c. *Writ of certiorari*
- d. *Writ of mandamus*
- e. Pocket veto

17. Which of the following **BEST** describes the concept of "reserved powers" of the states?

- a. These are powers given to the states through the implied powers concept.
- b. These are powers not specifically granted to the national government or denied to states.
- c. These are powers given only to Congress and are not available to the executive branch.
- d. These are powers given only to the Supreme Court.
- e. These are powers such as foreign trade agreements over which states maintain only a small amount of control.

18. Candidates for president have been **LEAST** likely to come from which of the following sources?

- a. The vice presidency
- b. State governorships
- c. The cabinet
- d. The House of Representatives

e. The Senate

19. Which of the following has the responsibility for creating additional federal courts and assignment the number of judges who will preside in them?

- a. The secretary of the treasury
- b. The Attorney general
- c. The secretary of the Department of Justice
- d. The president
- e. The Congress

20. Which of the following best describes the president's responsibilities under the War Powers Resolution (Act)

- a. The president must seek approval of Congress and the United Nations before committing troops for more than 10 days.
- b. The president must propose a financial plan for financing the war within 30 days of committing troops.
- c. The president must utilize National Guard units prior to asking Congress to reinstate a selective service system
- d. The president must bring troops home from hostilities within 60-90 days unless Congress extends the time.
- e. The president must have approval of the Joint Chief of Staff before committing troops for over 30 days.

21. Which of the following labels describes the principle under which our government does not meddle with the economy?

- a. Elitist economics policy
- b. Voodoo economics policy
- c. Laissez-faire economic policy
- d. Supply-side economic policy
- e. Monetarism

22. In order to create a balance of power without harming the independence of the presidency, which of the following measures did the framers of the constitution take?

- a. They omitted the president as a power player in the area of national security.
- b. They created a weak position as a head of the executive branch.
- c. They checked or balanced what they believed to be the president's most dangerous powers.
- d. They intentionally established a vice presidency that would be from the opposite party.
- e. They created a presidency that had no powers over the military.

23. The Supreme Court decision in *Bakke v. Board of Regents* dealt with which of the following issues?

- a. Segregation in student housing
- b. Censorship of a student newspaper
- c. Freedom of speech for college professors
- d. Affirmative action and reverse discrimination
- e. Fair salary schedules for female faculty members

24. Until the latter part of the 1800s, the primary method for government employees to secure their job was which of the following?
- Nepotism
 - Military accomplishments
 - Patronage system
 - Merit system
 - None of the above
25. Which of the following is a power state legislatures have relating to the federal government?
- State legislatures recommend names to the president of potential Supreme Court Justices.
 - State legislatures determine the persons who will represent each state in the Electoral College.
 - State legislatures redraw the boundaries of limited Congressional districts following a census.
 - State legislatures determine how often a national census should be conducted.
 - State legislatures must independently vote on declarations of war following the vote from Congress.
26. Which of the following best describes the term *de facto segregation*?
- This is the type of segregation seen in the North, which is not caused by laws; rather, it is the result of residential segregation, preferred living patterns, and informal social forces.
 - This is the type of segregation based in the South prior to the Civil War.
 - This is the type of segregation founded in laws such as Jim Crow legislation.
 - This is the type of segregation dealing only with economic issues not social issues.
 - This is segregation based only on Supreme Court decisions that were later reversed.
27. Which of the following was viewed by the framers of the Constitution as the center of policy making in the U.S.?
- President's cabinet
 - Secretary of State
 - President
 - Congress
 - Supreme Court
28. President often have nickname for their overall program for the American people. Which president called his plan the "Great Society"?
- John Kennedy
 - Ronald Reagan
 - Lyndon Johnson
 - Jimmy Carter
 - George Herbert Walker Bush
29. Which of the following cabinet departments has the largest annual budget?
- Treasury
 - Education
 - Health and Human Services
 - Commerce

e. State

30. Which of the following is the party that initiates a lawsuit?

- a. Prosecutor
- b. Plaintiff
- c. Defendant
- d. Advocate
- e. Jurist

31. Which division of government is most responsible for expanding the rights of accused criminals during the 1960s?

- a. The president
- b. Congress
- c. The attorney general
- d. The Department of Justice
- e. The Supreme Court

32. Which committee in the House of Representatives is responsible for placing a bill on the legislative calendar and for establishing the time limits for debate and the types of amendments that will be allowed?

- a. Ways and means
- b. Judiciary
- c. Rules
- d. Joint
- e. None of the above

33. Which of the following amendments to the U.S. Constitution was intended to overturn the Dred Scott decision by the Supreme Court?

- a. 18th
- b. 20th
- c. 19th
- d. 16th
- e. None of the above

34. Which of the following are cabinet department of the president?

- I. Veterans Affairs
- II. Agriculture
- III. White House Counsel
- IV. Transportation

- a. I and IV only
- b. I, II, and III
- c. I, II, and IV
- d. II, III, and IV
- e. III and IV only

35. Which of the following statements concerning the federal income tax system is **NOT** correct?

- a. When originally attempt, the federal income tax was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

- b. The federal income tax provides only a small portion of the national government's income.
- c. The federal income tax was created by the 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- d. The federal income tax is generally a progressive tax; the higher your income the higher the tax rate.
- e. Corporations as well as individuals pay income taxes.

36. Which of the following definitions best defines the concept of full faith and credit?

- a. It is a term that deals with economic policy stating that the Federal Reserve will protest deposits and checking accounts
- b. It is a term concerning Congress respecting the autonomy of the Supreme Court.
- c. It is a term that deals with the federal government maintaining a strong military capacity.
- d. It is a term dealing with cooperation between the executive and legislative branches on budgetary issues.
- e. It is a term concerning states being required to recognize the official documents and civil judgments rendered by the courts of other states.

37. which of the following is most correct in describing the U.S. House of Representatives?

- I. Elected every two years
 - II. Known as a continuous body
 - III. Must be at least 21 years old
 - IV. Can only serve six terms
- a. I, II, and III
 - b. I and IV only
 - c. II, III, and IV
 - d. I, III, and IV
 - e. I and III only

38. Which of the following definitions best describes the concept of eminent domain?

- a. It is the protection guaranteed in the Constitution that citizens will not have to keep soldiers in their houses.
- b. It is the idea that economic policy is best handled by government intervention.
- c. It is a belief held by the people of the U.S. that they are destined to spread their borders.
- d. It is the right of the government to take private property for public use as long as the individual is fairly compensated.
- e. It is the belief that any person may not be held in jail unless the government shows just cause.

39. At today's national party conventions, the majority of the delegates are chosen by which of the following methods?

- a. They are delegates to previous conventions.
- b. They are chosen by state party leaders.
- c. They are chosen in state presidential primaries.
- d. They are chosen through the caucus process.
- e. They are state and national office holders from that party.

40. Under the Articles of Confederation, the bulk of the power rested in which of the following entities?

- a. The national Congress
- b. The president
- c. State legislatures
- d. The military
- e. The U.S. Senate

41. Bureaucratic agencies are originally created by which of the following groups?

- a. Congress
- b. The president
- c. The federal courts
- d. The Supreme Court
- e. The president's cabinet

42. Which of the following Supreme Court decisions established that an accused person has the right to be represented by a lawyer in felony cases and that if a person cannot afford an attorney the state must provide one?

- a. *Miranda v. Arizona*
- b. *Bakke v. Regents of the University of California*
- c. *Mapp v. Ohio*
- d. *Buckley v. Valeo*
- e. *Gideon v. Wainwright*

43. Which of the following statements is **NOT** true concerning the White House staff?

- a. The press secretary is a member of the White House staff.
- b. The president relies on the White House staff for information, policy options, and analysis.
- c. The national security advisor is a member of the White House staff.
- d. The White House staff size and responsibilities grew enormously in the latter half of the 1990s.
- e. Appointments to the White House staff are confirmed by the Senate.

44. Which of the following committees in Congress is responsible for reconciling differences in bills passed by the House and Senate?

- a. Ways and means
- b. Rules
- c. Domestic affairs
- d. Conference
- e. Appropriations

45. Which of the following elections legally uses federal money during campaigns?

- a. Gubernatorial elections
- b. Local elections
- c. Presidential elections
- d. Congressional elections
- e. All of the above

46. Which historical events are generally blamed for ending the friendly relationship between the press and politicians?

- a. World War I and World War II

- b. The Great Depression and Prohibition
- c. The Civil Rights Movement and the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- d. The presidential debates and television
- e. The Vietnam War and Watergate

47. The term *S* refers to the U.S. Constitution dealing with which of the following?

- a. It is part of the 2nd Amendment that establishes the right to bear arms.
- b. It is the part of the 8th Amendment that establishes no excessive bail and no cruel and unusual punishment.
- c. It is the part of the 1st Amendment which states that Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion.
- d. It is the part of the 5th Amendment that establishes that no person shall be forced to testify against himself or herself.
- e. It is the part of the 19th Amendment that establishes women's right to vote.

48. The process of initiative is **BEST** described by which of the following?

- a. It is the formal expression of congressional opinion that must be approved by both houses of Congress.
- b. It is a procedure allowing voters to submit a proposed law to a popular vote by obtaining a required number of signatures.
- c. It is a congressional process by which the Speaker may send a bill to a second committee after the first committee is finished acting on the bill.
- d. It is a brief, unsigned opinion issued by the Supreme Court to explain its ruling.
- e. It is a phrase meaning action must be taken following a presidential veto.

49. Which of the following statements concerning the Speaker of the House is **NOT** correct?

- a. The Speaker presides over the House when it is in session.
- b. The Speaker exercises considerable control over which bills get assigned to which committees.
- c. The Speaker plays a major role in making committee assignments in the House.
- d. The Speaker is third in line for succession to the presidency following the vice president and the Secretary of State.
- e. The Speaker appoints or plays a key role in appointing the party's legislative leaders and the party leadership staff.

50. The War Powers Resolution (Act), which requires the president to consult with Congress whenever possible prior to using military forces, was passed as a reaction to what historical actions?

- a. The sinking of the Lusitania
- b. The bombing of Pearl Harbor
- c. American fighting in Vietnam and Cambodia
- d. The Korean War
- e. Operation Desert Storm

51. Which of the following interest group tactics would be most successful in influencing public policy if the administration and Congress are both dominated by a party that opposes a group's policy agenda?

- a. Hiring lobbyists to influence congressional leaders
- b. Hiring lobbyists to influence the president's cabinet

- c. Filing lawsuits challenging the constitutionality of certain policies
- d. Organizing protests in the districts of congressional leaders with the most seniority
- e. Campaigning against congressional leaders in the upcoming election

52. When people vote based on the question, "What have you done for me lately?" their actions are best described as

- a. Political efficacy
- b. Civic duty
- c. Retrospective voting
- d. Biased voting
- e. Uninformed voting

53. the main purpose of investigative journalism is to

- a. Influence public policies
- b. Encourage audiences to be better informed of current issues
- c. Antagonize the current administration
- d. Uncover scandals or corruption in the administration
- e. Train future reporters how to ask probing questions

54. Which of the following best reflects civil disobedience?

- I. Anti-war protesters refuse to sign up for the draft.
- II. An organized march is provided with police protection.
- III. A 527 committee pays for commercials to criticize the administration.
- IV. Citizens refuse to vote.

- a. I only
- b. I and II only
- c. I and IV only
- d. II, III, and IV only
- e. I, II, III, and IV

55. Since World War II, presidents have relied more heavily on negotiating executive agreements rather than treaties, as a result of which of the following?

- a. Senators have too much influence in foreign policy.
- b. The office of the president has been weakening in the years following WWII.
- c. The Cold War made it difficult for the president to make treaties with communist countries.
- d. Executive agreements are less cumbersome to finalize than treaties.
- e. A simple majority vote in the Senate is easier to accomplish than a two-thirds majority.

56. According to the Twelfth Amendment, if no candidate receives a majority in the electoral college, then

- a. A run-off election will be held between the top two candidates
- b. The current vice president will become acting president until a recount is held
- c. The president will be chosen by the House, with each state receiving one vote
- d. The inauguration of the president will be delayed to the first Monday of March, the following year.
- e. Each state will hold a convention to determine which electors are sent to the electoral college.

57. The simple threat of the veto exemplifies the president's
- Ability to maintain party discipline
 - Weakness in influencing legislation
 - Power to persuade Congress without using his formal powers
 - Ability to introduce and amend legislation in Congress
 - Power to challenge legislation in the courts
58. The ability of one senator to prevent the president from appointing a judge to a federal district court is known as
- Judicial review
 - A filibuster
 - A writ of certiorari
 - Stare decisis*
 - Senatorial courtesy
59. The power of the purse is best reflected in which of the following committees in the House of Representatives?
- Rules
 - Appropriations
 - Conference
 - Armed Services
 - Ways and Means



60. The above cartoon depicts the president's
- Formal powers
 - Informal powers
 - Ability to maintain party discipline
 - Public approval rating
 - Control of the media

Answers to Practice Exam #4

Practice Exam #1	Practice Exam #2	Practice Exam #3
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