

Constitution Test

Student _____

Class _____

Date _____

1. Use the information in the box and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

Speaker 1: The government must give accused persons the right to a quick and public trial.

Speaker 2: The government should not force citizens to house soldiers in their homes.

Speaker 3: People should be allowed to peacefully protest actions of the government.

Speaker 4: People should not be deprived of their property without fair payment.

Which speaker is voicing a right guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?

- a. Speaker 1
 - b. Speaker 2
 - c. Speaker 3
 - d. Speaker 4
2. What provision of the Bill of Rights protects the rights of people accused of a crime?
- f. federalism
 - g. due process
 - h. separation of powers
 - i. checks and balances

3. The first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution were intended to protect the rights of individuals from potential abuses by
- a. foreign countries.
 - b. the federal government.
 - c. big business.
 - d. religious organizations.
4. Which of the following is an example of exercising the right to free speech?
- f. Falsely accusing someone of a crime
 - g. Protesting a government policy
 - h. Threatening to hurt someone
 - i. Lying in a court case to protect a friend
5. Which of the following violates freedom of the press?
- a. An all-news radio station is required to purchase a broadcast license.
 - b. A newspaper office building is destroyed by fire.
 - c. A speeding ticket is issued to a television news reporter.
 - d. A journalist is arrested for criticizing a government policy.

6. Use the excerpt and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

That the pretended power of suspending the laws or the execution of laws by regal authority without the consent of Parliament is illegal . . .

—*English Bill of Rights, 1689*

Ideas similar to those expressed in the excerpt above are also found in the

- f. Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom.
 - g. U.S. Constitution.
 - h. Mayflower Compact.
 - i. Proclamation of 1763.
7. The *Federalist Papers* —
- a. were a series of essays that defended the Constitution.
 - b. reassured people that the rights of individual states would not overpower the federal government.
 - c. contained plays and stories that defended the Constitution.
 - d. opposed the Constitution by defending the natural rights of individuals.
8. Use the excerpts and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

15. In future we will allow no one to levy [collect] an 'aid' [payment] from his free men [tenants]. . . .

39. No free man shall be seized or imprisoned . . . except by the lawful judgement of his equals or by the law of the land.

41. All merchants may enter or leave England unharmed and without fear. . . .

44. People who live outside the forest need not in future appear before the royal justices of the forest in answer to general summonses. . . .

--Magna Carta, 1215

Which clause of the Magna Carta most directly influenced the U.S. Bill of Rights?

f. 15

g. 39

h. 41

i. 44

9. The lack of a national executive and judiciary under the Articles of Confederation suggests that the founders of the American republic

a. risked tyranny for the sake of effective national government

b. copied the British constitution

c. prized national unity above the sovereignty of the states

d. feared a strong central government

10. Shays's Rebellion of 1786 resulted in increased support for —

- f. creating a U.S. Bill of Rights.
- g. revising the Articles of Confederation.
- h. writing the Declaration of Independence.
- i. approving the Missouri Compromise.

11.

Use the statements and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

Congress could not levy and collect taxes.
Congress could not regulate interstate or foreign trade.
There was no national court system to settle disputes.
The thirteen separate states lacked national unity.

Which document is characterized by these statements?

- a. Articles of Confederation
- b. Federalist Papers
- c. Northwest Ordinance
- d. United States Constitution

12. Use the excerpt and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives. . . .
— *U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 7*
The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect . . . Duties, Imposts and Excises. . . .
— *U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8*

Which grievance cited in the Declaration of Independence was addressed by the provisions above?

- f. “FOR depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury . . .”
- g. “FOR imposing Taxes on us without our Consent . . .”
- h. “FOR quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us . . .”
- i. “FOR taking away our Charters . . .”

13. Use the excerpt and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

“The United States shall guarantee to every state in this Union a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion; and on application of the legislature, or of the executive (when the legislature cannot be convened), against domestic violence.”
— United States Constitution, Article IV,
Section 4

According to this excerpt, a goal of the framers of the Constitution was to ensure that the United States —

- a. provided for the common defense of every state.
- b. supported the right of each state to resist presidential decisions.
- c. remained neutral during domestic conflicts involving the states.
- d. approved a bill of rights to protect citizens from government tyranny.

14. Use the chart and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

Colonial Grievances	Constitutional Remedy
Taxation without representation	A popularly elected Congress makes tax laws
The quartering of British troops in private homes	The Third Amendment forbids the quartering of troops in private homes in peacetime
Being transported to Britain to be tried for offenses committed in the colonies	?

Which of the following constitutional remedies best completes the above chart?

- f. The Sixth Amendment provides for a fair and speedy trial.
- g. The Eighth Amendment prohibits excessive bail.
- h. The First Amendment guarantees freedom of speech.
- i. The Second Amendment grants the right to bear arms.

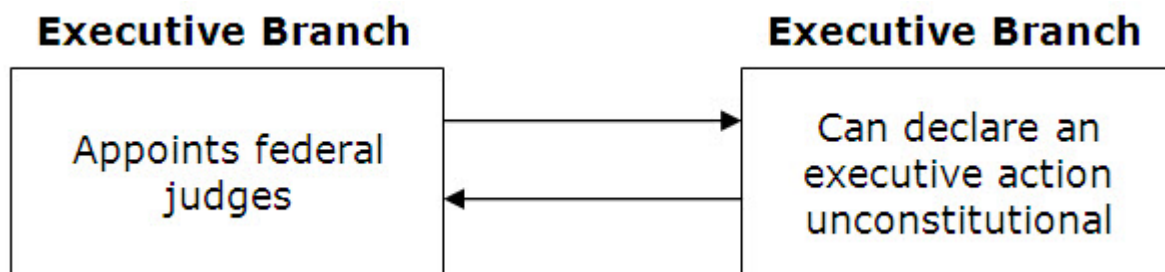
15. *Federalism* is a term used to define the division of power between the —

- a. national and state levels of government
- b. Senate and the House of Representatives
- c. president and the vice president
- d. three branches of the federal government

16. The U.S. Constitution maintains a republican system of government through the —

- f. election of representatives who make laws
- g. appointment of federal judges to life terms
- h. president's power to veto acts of Congress
- i. creation of a presidential cabinet

17. Use the diagram and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.



The above diagram best describes the constitutional principle of —

- a. checks and balances
- b. popular sovereignty

- c. federalism
- d. republicanism

18. Under the constitutional principle of popular sovereignty, the authority of government is derived from —

- f. state legislatures
- g. the U.S. Supreme Court
- h. acts of the U.S. Congress
- i. the will of the people

19. Use the diagram and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED BY THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

LEGISLATIVE Makes Laws	EXECUTIVE Carries Out Laws	JUDICIAL Settles disputed over la
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Article One</u> Congress</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>House of Representatives</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Senate</p> </div> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Article Two</u> President and Vice President</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Article Three</u> Supreme Court Lower Federal Courts</p>

Which principle of government does the chart illustrate?

- a. Federalism
- b. Republicanism
- c. Popular sovereignty

d. Separation of powers

20. Which process is used to change the U.S. Constitution?

f. eminent domain

g. initiative

h. amendment

i. judicial review

21. Ratification of the U.S. Constitution depended on the promise that —

a. amendments guaranteeing basic freedoms would be approved.

b. the states would receive funding from the federal government.

c. the capital city would be located on the Potomac River.

d. George Washington would be a candidate for president.

22. Which document was written in 1787 and replaced the Articles of Confederation as federal law?

f. Declaration of Independence

g. Treaty of Paris

h. U.S. Constitution

i. Monroe Doctrine

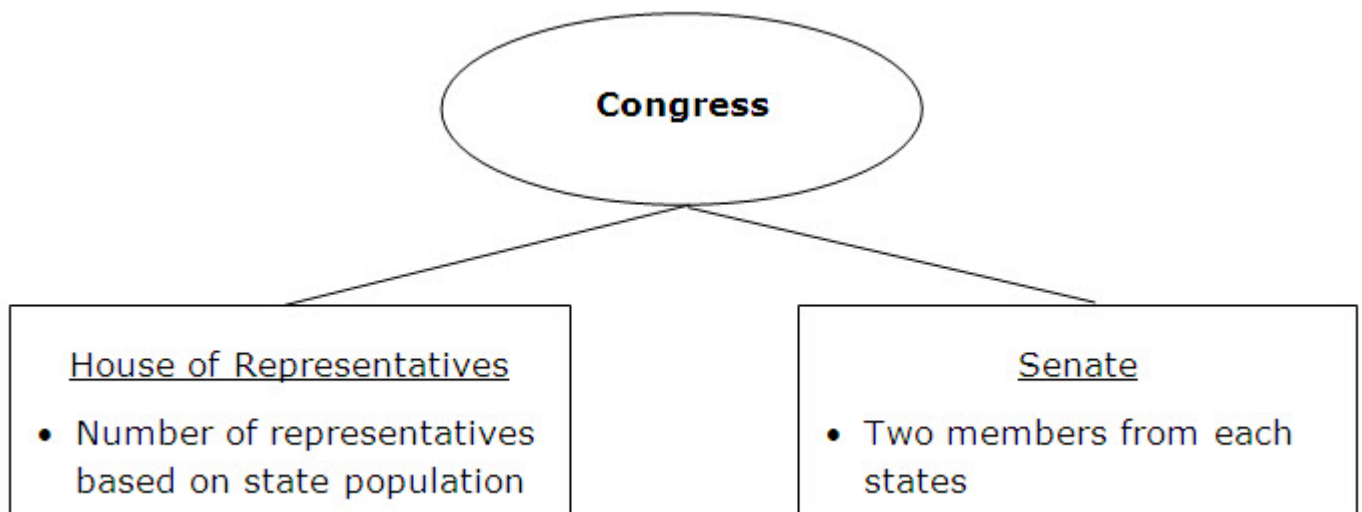
23. Which statement about the United States House of Representatives is accurate?

- a. Representatives are chosen by the legislatures of their states.
- b. The Constitution allows each state two representatives.
- c. The number of representatives from each state is based on its population.
- d. The political party of the president always holds a majority of House seats.

24. Delegates at the Constitutional Convention of 1787 agreed to the Three-fifths Compromises to solve a dispute directly related to —

- f. the power of the presidency
- g. the addition of a bill of rights
- h. a decision by the Supreme Court
- i. representation in Congress

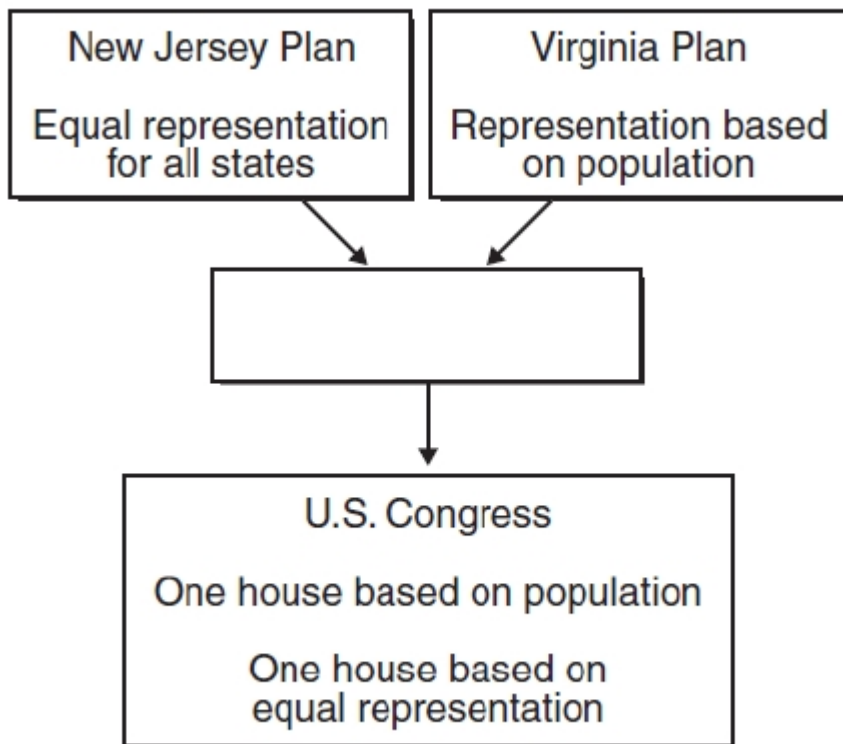
25. Use the diagram and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.



The diagram above shows the compromise that helped guarantee the ratification of the U.S. Constitution by —

- a. providing a plan for representation of both large and small states
- b. taking power away from the national government
- c. creating new boundaries for both large and small states
- d. allowing local governments to determine matters of representation

26. Use the diagram and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.



Which of the following belongs in the empty box above?

- f. The Missouri Compromise

g. The Articles of Confederation

h. *The Federalist* papers

i. The Great Compromise

27. Under the Articles of Confederation, Congress passed the Northwest Ordinance. What did this legislation provide?

a.
a plan for slavery in new settlements

b.
a plan for voting rights for all men in new states

c.
a plan for the exploration of Washington and Oregon

d.
a plan for the orderly settlement of new territory

28. The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

—*Tenth Amendment, U.S. Constitution*

Which principle of U.S. government is most clearly reflected in the amendment above?

f. Checks and balances

g. Federalism

h. Separation of Powers

i. Due Process

29. Patrick Henry opposed ratifying the U.S. Constitution because he believed that under it-

a. the states would surrender too much power to the federal government.

b. alliances could not be formed with other countries.

c. the courts would not be able to hold government officials accountable.

d. individuals would exercise too much power over the federal government.

30. In 1787 the United States was at a crossroads. Farmers in western Massachusetts had rebelled the year before over property taxes. The state struggled to end the rebellion. Events such as this one contributed to the decision to —

f. Sign the Treaty of Paris

g. Repeal the Intolerable Acts

h. Declare an embargo on imported goods.

i. Restructure the federal government.