

Mid-Year Exam Review

U.S. Government

(You will see 100 of the following questions, verbatim, on your Mid-Year Exam with a word bank.)

Chapter 1

1. The term _____ identifies a political community in a precise territory.
2. _____ is the institution through which a state maintains social order, provides public services and enforces decisions that are binding on all its residents.
3. _____ is the willingness of citizens to obey the government.
4. The term _____ refers to a government in which a constitution has authority to place clearly recognized limits on the powers of those who govern.
5. _____ is the political term for totalitarianism.
6. _____ is the key characteristic of a state.
7. The _____ is the idea that the state evolved from the family.
8. A(n) _____ is a loose union of states.
9. A(n) _____ is a plan that provides the rules of government.
10. A(n) _____ is a system of government in which a small group holds the power.
11. A state that has _____ can make and enforce its own laws without approval from any other authority.
12. The _____ is the idea that certain people are chosen by a god or gods to rule.
13. _____ is the procedure of changing, or adding to, the constitution.

- 14.A(n) _____ is a government in which all citizens cast a vote directly on government issues and laws.
- 15.A(n) _____ is a group of individuals with broad common interests who organize to nominate candidates for office, win elections, conduct government and determine public policy.
- 16.The term _____ refers to a sizeable group of people who believe themselves united by common bonds of race, language, custom or religion.
17. _____ is the idea that the state emerged when everyone in an area was brought under the authority of one person or group.
18. Most constitutions contain a statement called a(n) _____ that sets forth the goals and purposes that the government will serve.

Chapter 2

1. What document led to the English Civil War of the 1640s?

2. The _____ was the king's agent in the colonies.
3. _____ was the first system of laws in the colonies.
4. On September 5, 1774, delegates from 12 colonies met in Philadelphia for the _____.
5. The Declaration of Independence was signed on what date?

6. The _____ imposed the first direct tax on the American colonists.
7. _____ was the commander of the Revolutionary Army during the Revolutionary War.
8. _____ was the smaller states' counterproposal at the Constitutional Convention calling for a unicameral legislature with one vote per state.
9. _____ was the peaceful transfer of power from Charles II to William III and Mary II.
10. A key feature of the colonial period was government according to a(n) _____.
11. The colonists learned the idea of separation of powers from Charles-Louis Montesquieu in his work, _____.
12. _____ is the money a government collects from taxes and other sources.
13. _____ occurred on April 19, 1775 and was the first battle of the Revolutionary War.
14. The Declaration of Independence was written by _____.
15. The _____ said that only 3/5 of the slaves in America would be counted for both tax and representation purposes.
16. The _____ were the group that supported the ratification of the Constitution.

17. _____ served as the acting government for the colonies during the Revolutionary War.
18. The _____ was the first of many colonial plans for self-government.
19. _____ was the first formal constitution in America.
20. Which British acts withdrew the Massachusetts Colony's right to govern itself? _____
21. A(n) _____ is an agreement prohibiting trade.
22. The _____ marked the first time in history a country had been founded on the principles of human liberty and consent of the governed.
23. _____ created a "league of friendship" among the 13 states rather than a strong central government.
24. _____ was the president of the Second Continental Congress.

Chapter 3

1. Which division of the Constitution establishes the legislative branch?

2. The key principle of the Constitution is _____ among the three branches of government.

3. _____ is the division of power between the national and state governments.
4. The executive branch was created by the Founders as a response to the weakness of the _____.
5. The most important device the Supreme Court uses to interpret the Constitution is _____.
6. _____ is a reasonable basis to believe a person or premises are linked to a crime.
7. _____ is money or property that the accused deposits with the court to gain release from jail until the trial.
8. The biggest fear of the authors of the Constitution was _____; they believed it could be deadly to individual freedom.
9. _____ establishes that the Constitution, laws passed by Congress and treaties of the U.S. shall be the supreme law of the land.
10. The principle of judicial review was clearly established in the Supreme Court decision in the case _____.
11. _____ is the power of the government to take private property for public use.
12. The dispute over Congress' power to make "necessary and proper" laws was first addressed in the Supreme Court case of _____.

13. _____ is the division of the Constitution which establishes an executive branch to carry out the laws of Congress.
14. _____ limits the power of the central government by dividing the power among the executive, legislative and judicial branches.
15. _____ is the division of the government which establishes the judicial branch, with the Supreme Court as the head.
16. The term _____ refers to rule by the people.
17. The term _____ means every court has authority to hear only certain kinds of cases.
18. The _____ is the institution that has the final authority on the meaning of the Constitution.
19. _____ is the division of the Constitution which explains the relationship of the states to one another and to the national government ("full faith and credit").
20. A(n) _____ is a form of government that has no monarch and it is the voters who have the authority through their elected representatives.
21. _____ is the power of the courts to say that laws and actions of local, state or national governments are invalid because they conflict with the principles of the Constitution.

Chapter 4

1. _____ are those powers the Constitution specifically denies to all levels of government.

2. A(n) _____ is a stated course of action for addressing certain problems or issues.
3. The authority that the national government requires to carry out the powers that are expressly defined in the Constitution are called _____.
4. Which clause of the Constitution is the basis for implied powers?

5. Those powers that the national government may exercise simply because it is a government are its _____.
6. Because federalism divides governmental power between the national and state governments, the _____ acts as umpire for our federal system.
7. States rightists believe very strongly in what amendment? _____
8. When the government settles on a course of action for a problem or issue, we call it _____.
9. _____ is the organization of government officials.
10. States may only sue each other in which court?

11. _____ are written agreements between two or more states.
12. The main type of federal aid is _____, which are sums of money given to state or local governments for certain purposes.
13. _____ are those powers reserved directly to the states.

14. _____ is the federal government's ability to take over a state function.

15. _____ are those powers that the national government and the states both have.

16. _____ are powers the Constitution grants to the national government.

17. Nationalists believe very strongly in what 2 clauses of the Constitution?
_____ and _____

Chapter 5

1. The House of Representatives has how many members? _____

2. As established by the _____ amendment, each term of Congress begins on January 3 in years ending in an odd number and lasts for 2 years.

3. The _____ is a Senate calendar that schedules treaties and nominations.

4. The process of setting up new district lines after reapportionment is called _____.

5. _____ is a way of gerrymandering by drawing the lines so they include as many of the opposing party's voters as possible.

6. _____ is a formal vote of disapproval of the actions of a member of Congress.

7. The main task of each house of Congress is to _____.

8. To introduce a bill in the *House*, representatives drop it into the _____, a mahogany box that is accessible to all near the front of the chamber.
9. The Senate is called a(n) _____ because they formally discuss public policy.
10. The _____ is a House calendar that lists bills that deal with money issues.
11. A(n) _____ are permanent groups that oversee bills that deal with certain kinds of issues.
12. The United States Congress is a(n) _____ meaning that it is made up of two houses.
13. _____ is the act of drawing district boundaries to give one party an electoral advantage.
14. In Congress, _____ do most of the legislative work.
15. A proposed law is called a(n) _____ until both houses of Congress pass it and the president signs it.
16. A(n) _____ extends debate to prevent a bill from coming to a vote.
17. A(n) _____ is a temporary committee that is set up when the House and Senate have passed different versions of a bill.
18. The _____ is a House calendar that is used for petitions to discharge a bill from a committee.

19. A census is taken every 10 years to decide how many representatives each state will have for the next 10 years, a process called

_____.

20. A(n) _____ is a committee of the House or Senate that usually acts as a study group and reports its findings back to the rest of Congress.

21. _____ means dividing an opponent's voters into other districts to weaken the opponent's voter base.

22. The Constitution provides for only one presiding officer in the House of Representatives called _____.

23. The _____ is a Senate calendar that lists all the bills the Senate will consider.

24. The _____ serve as assistant floor leaders in the House; watching how majority party members vote on bills, persuading them to vote as the party wishes and seeing that party members are present to vote.

25. _____ is a vote in the Senate that limits debate to one hour of speaking on a bill.

26. A(n) _____ is a group within a standing committee that specializes in a subcategory of its standing committee's responsibility.

27. Bills that survive the committee process in the House are put on one of the _____, which list bills that are up for consideration.

28. How often do members of the *House of Representatives* run for reelection?

29. At what "stage" in the process do bills normally die?

30. _____ is another name for members who are already in office.

31. The _____ amendment says Congress may not give itself a pay raise.

32. Senators serve _____ year terms.

33. The _____ is a House calendar that lists bills that deal with individual people or places.

34. The Constitution states that the Senate shall be composed of _____ senators from each state.

35. The Congressional power of exclusion was defined in the Supreme Court case _____.

36. Members of the House of Representatives serve _____ year terms.

37. The _____ is a House calendar where bills are listed if the House consents unanimously to debate them out of regular order.

Chapter 8

1. Because of President Roosevelt's 4th term and fear of too much executive power, the _____ amendment was passed in 1951, limiting the president to two terms.
2. In 1967, the _____ amendment was ratified to clarify the succession to the presidency and vice-presidency.
3. Each of the president's appointees must be approved by _____.

4. The _____ is made up of people and agencies that directly assist the president with advice and information.
5. The _____ is the agency in the Executive Office of the President that prepares the national budget for the president and then presents it to Congress.
6. The _____ is the agency in the Executive Office of the President that advises the president and coordinates American military and foreign policy.
7. The _____ is the agency in the Executive Office of the President that assesses the nation's economic health, predicts future economic conditions, and supports other executive agencies that are involved in economic planning.
8. _____ proposed the idea for an Electoral College system.
9. In the original Electoral College system, each _____ set up a method for choosing people who would be electors.
10. In the original Electoral College system, the candidate receiving the most votes became _____ and the candidate receiving the second-most votes became _____.
11. If there is a tie in the Electoral College, the _____ chooses the president with each state having one vote.

12. Today, citizens cast their vote for president every _____ years, on the first _____ following the first Monday in November.

13. American citizens are not voting directly for president, but actually for _____.

14. The Electoral College includes _____ members.

15. Each state has as many electors as _____ and _____ in Congress.

Chapter 9

1. _____ is the expressed will of the people, especially in an election.
2. _____ is the president's greatest lawmaking tool.
3. _____ are pacts between the president and the head of a foreign government that do not require the approval of Congress.
4. The _____ can limit the president's power by obstructing the president's programs unintentionally, by failing to provide needed information, by misinterpreting instructions and by not completing a task properly.
5. In the Supreme Court case, _____, Line Item Veto was ruled unconstitutional.

6. The president's role as _____ involves preparing the annual budget.
7. Originally, the Founders thought _____ would run the nation.
8. _____ is the right of the president and other high-ranking executive officers, with the president's consent, to refuse to provide information to Congress or a court.
9. _____ are formal agreements between the governments of two or more countries.
10. The president's role as _____ includes giving speeches, attending fund-raising activities to support and promote the party and appointing members of his party to government jobs.
11. _____ is when a president can refuse to allow a federal department or agency to spend money that Congress has set aside for them.
12. The Supreme Court case _____ established the principle of judicial review.