

Chapter 6 Test (practice)

Multiple Choice

Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- ___ 1. What were the two main goals of the Constitution's framers?
 - a. create local governments and elect a president
 - b. establish a capital and define borders
 - c. raise taxes to build the treasury and pay off war debts
 - d. protect citizens' rights and defend the country
- ___ 2. What is a federal system of government designed to do?
 - a. place sovereign authority in the hands of the executive branch
 - b. limit the role of the central government to providing postal services
 - c. divide powers between the states and the national government
 - d. stretch the reserved authority of the states when necessary
- ___ 3. Which powers are concurrent, or shared by the states and the federal government?
 - a. coining money and regulating trade
 - b. taxing, borrowing money, and enforcing laws
 - c. creating local governments and holding elections
 - d. establishing an army and conducting foreign policy
- ___ 4. The federal government is divided into separate branches to
 - a. keep any one branch from growing too powerful.
 - b. make the government run more efficiently.
 - c. provide flexibility in the interpretation of laws.
 - d. ensure one branch is in charge at all times.
- ___ 5. What determines how many members represent each state in the House of Representatives?
 - a. the U.S. Census, a nationwide population count taken every ten years
 - b. the U.S. Constitution, which assigned a fixed number of seats to each state
 - c. apportionment, a system designed to keep the number of representatives at 435
 - d. state tax revenues, which indicate how valuable a state's voice is to the nation
- ___ 6. What is the function of Congress in the federal government?
 - a. Congress is the judicial branch, which enforces the nation's laws.
 - b. Congress is the legislative branch, which makes the nation's laws.
 - c. The judicial branch is led by Congress, which interprets the nation's laws.
 - d. The executive branch is led by Congress, which can veto the nation's laws.
- ___ 7. What is the vice president's role in the legislative branch?
 - a. As president of the Senate, he casts a vote only in case of a tie.
 - b. As senator pro tempore, he votes on behalf of absent members.
 - c. As president of the Senate, he chooses the day of the presidential election.
 - d. As senator pro tempore, he represents the majority party's view in debates.
- ___ 8. Which reason best explains why the Constitution's framers insisted on dividing state representatives into a bicameral, or two-house, legislature?
 - a. to represent the interests of individual districts as well as states
 - b. to allow each side to keep the power of the other side in check
 - c. to create conflict between the majority and minority parties

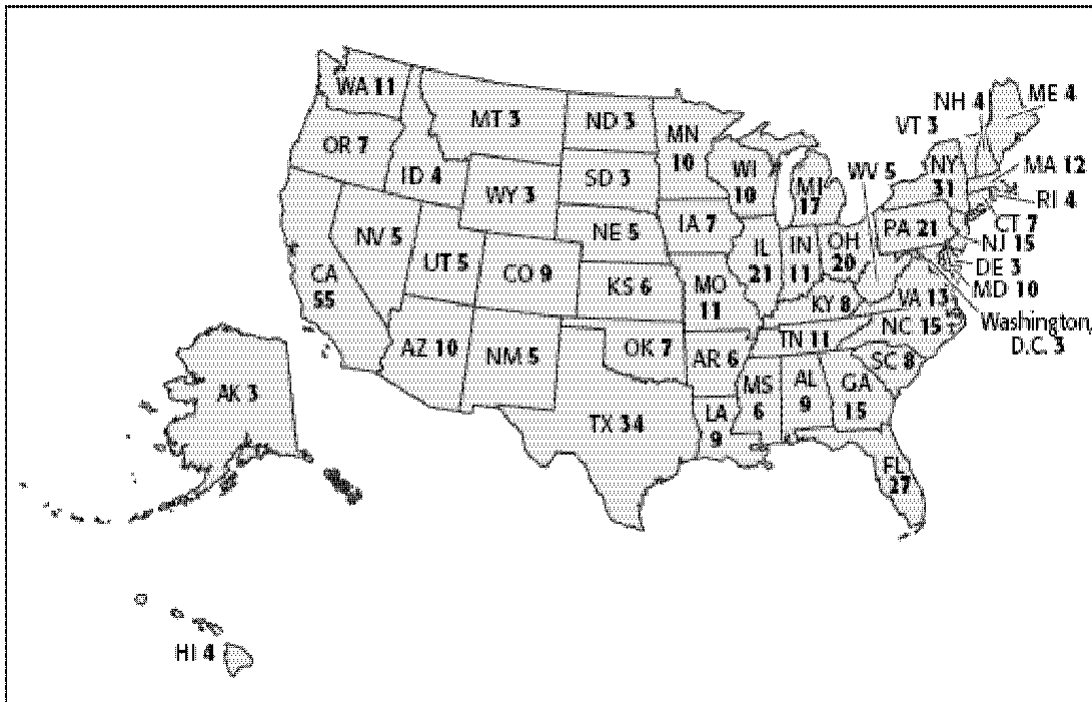
- d. to shift the balance of power away from the executive branch
- ___ 9. Why is it difficult for Congress to override a veto?
 - a. They would need to go against an executive order.
 - b. They would have to get a judge to approve the bill.
 - c. They would need to have a two-thirds majority vote.
 - d. They would have to stick to a very strict timeframe.
- ___ 10. The president can check the power of the legislative branch by
 - a. vetoing a law.
 - b. issuing an executive order.
 - c. granting a pardon.
 - d. petitioning Congress.
- ___ 11. An executive order is a
 - a. presidential command that has the power of law.
 - b. judicial ruling that frees those convicted of federal criminal offenses.
 - c. congressional override of a president's veto.
 - d. declaration of war by any elected official in the president's cabinet.
- ___ 12. When the House of Representatives impeaches a president they
 - a. pardon him of high crimes or misdemeanors.
 - b. appeal to him to override a veto.
 - c. vote to bring charges of serious crimes against him.
 - d. permanently remove him from office.
- ___ 13. What role does the Constitution assign to the judicial branch?
 - a. giving legal advice
 - b. interpreting the law
 - c. writing new laws
 - d. setting legal precedents
- ___ 14. On what grounds can a federal court strike down a state or federal law?
 - a. The law is unconstitutional.
 - b. The law overlaps existing laws.
 - c. The law goes against existing laws.
 - d. The law repeats basic common sense.
- ___ 15. What do Thurgood Marshall and Sandra Day O'Connor have in common?
 - a. They both served in the same California appeals court before being nominated to the Supreme Court.
 - b. They were both appointed to the Supreme Court by Republican President Ronald Reagan in 1981.
 - c. They were the first justices to represent Africans Americans and women, respectively, on the Supreme Court.
 - d. They were the only nominees ever to meet every constitutional requirement for becoming a Supreme Court justice.
- ___ 16. Who drafted the list of proposed constitutional amendments that became the Bill of Rights?
 - a. George Washington
 - b. Alexander Hamilton
 - c. Thomas Paine
 - d. James Madison

- _____ 17. The First Amendment protects
- the right to a speedy and public trial.
 - the right to keep and bear arms.
 - freedom of religion, expression, and assembly.
 - freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures.
- _____ 18. A search warrant protect a person's individual rights by
- allowing law enforcement agents to preserve evidence in emergency situations.
 - permitting the victim of a theft or burglary to make a citizen's arrest of the criminal at any time.
 - requiring authorities to repay citizens whose property is taken for public use.
 - guarding someone suspected of a crime from having officials go though their property for no reason.
- _____ 19. Which abuse inspired the inclusion in the Bill of Rights of the Fourth Amendment rule against "unreasonable searches and seizures"?
- the impressment of British naval officers discovered on U.S. ships during the Revolutionary War
 - colonists' being forced to have their belongings inspected for illegal goods by British soldiers
 - court-ordered takeovers of property owned by farmers who were in debt due to high property taxes
 - the confiscation of goods brought from the West Indies on the grounds that they were smuggled
- _____ 20. To say that a person cannot face "double jeopardy" means that
- the government can only adopt amendments that recognize at least two of an individual's rights.
 - a person cannot be indicted on more than a single count of criminal activity at one grand jury hearing.
 - individuals cannot be tried a second time for a criminal offense if a jury has found them not guilty.
 - the police cannot take personal property from the same person twice to benefit the public interest.
- _____ 21. The one exception to the Fifth Amendment rule that no person can have property taken from them without due process of law is called
- search and seizure.
 - eminent domain.
 - double jeopardy.
 - dual sovereignty.
- _____ 22. The Eighth Amendment protection against "cruel and unusual punishments" has sparked debate over what issue?
- abortion
 - the draft
 - gun-control
 - capital punishment
- _____ 23. A grand jury's decision that there is enough evidence to formally accuse a person of a serious crime is called

- a. arraignment.
 - b. indictment.
 - c. impeachment.
 - d. sentencing.
- ___ 24. Cases in which a harm has been done but no crime has been committed are decided
- a. in civil court.
 - b. in appeals court.
 - c. without juries.
 - d. by lawyers.
- ___ 25. The Ninth Amendment, which says that the rights listed in the Constitution are not the only rights of citizens, has allowed citizens to address which right?
- a. the right to a fair trial
 - b. the right to education
 - c. the right to due process
 - d. the right to free assembly
- ___ 26. The function of the Ninth and Tenth Amendments is to
- a. protect rights not addressed by the first eight amendments.
 - b. summarize the rights listed in the first eight amendments.
 - c. preserve the balance of power among state governments.
 - d. delegate powers from the states to the federal government.
- ___ 27. What is required for a person to become a naturalized citizen?
- a. They must obtain legal-immigrant status and serve five years in the armed forces.
 - b. They must move to the United States permanently and apply for citizenship.
 - c. They must surrender any foreign passports and renounce their foreign citizenship.
 - d. They must recite the pledge of allegiance once before a judge and daily thereafter.
- ___ 28. What privileges do legal immigrants have while in the United States?
- a. Once they reach 18, they can vote and hold most public offices.
 - b. If they are under 35 and have worked in the United States for at least 2 years, they gain social security benefits.
 - c. Once they reach 35, they can run for president or vice president.
 - d. If they are at least 18 years old and have spent 5 years in the United States, they can request to be naturalized as citizens.
- ___ 29. In the United States, most naturalized citizens are Americans who
- a. were born outside of the United States to foreign-born parents.
 - b. have to use passports for airline travel within the United States.
 - c. had one American parent and one foreign-born parent at birth.
 - d. were adopted at birth by American parents in a foreign country.
- ___ 30. The government enforces the idea that it is a citizen's duty to know the law by
- a. testing naturalized citizens on the meaning of specific laws.
 - b. punishing lawbreakers who claim ignorance of the law.
 - c. requiring law to be taught in public schools and colleges.
 - d. forcing citizens to learn about the law by serving on juries.
- ___ 31. Why do American men 18 years old or older have to register with selective service?
- a. so the local court system can call on them to sit for jury duty
 - b. so that state colleges can tell them about financial aid programs

- c. so the federal government can contact them in case of a draft
 - d. so that state-based political campaigns can get them to vote
- ___ 32. How do citizens accept responsibility for protecting others' Sixth Amendment rights to a public trial?
- a. They serve on juries.
 - b. They watch court cases on television.
 - c. They read newspapers.
 - d. They discuss court cases with friends.
- ___ 33. What is the purpose of political action committees (PACs)?
- a. They collect money for federal and state governments to help pay for services such as public roads.
 - b. They help immigrants become naturalized citizens of the United States by teaching them U.S. history.
 - c. They raise money from contributors and give it to candidates who support certain issues.
 - d. They petition the government on behalf of minority groups whose civil liberties have been ignored.
- ___ 34. Which of these duties of a citizen is encouraged, but not required?
- a. serving on a jury
 - b. paying taxes
 - c. signing up for the draft
 - d. voting in elections
- ___ 35. Study the map below and answer the question that follows.

The Electoral College



Based on the map, what can you conclude about the electoral college?

- a. New Mexico has a greater number of electoral votes than Kansas.
- b. Massachusetts has twice as many electoral votes as Vermont.
- c. The number of electors per state is not based on the physical size of the state.
- d. The number of electors per state is based on the size of the state's population.

