

# CLEP American Government Practice Test

**Time—90 Minutes**  
**100 Questions**

**For each question below, choose the best answer from the choices given.**

1. Which of the following is not a standing committee of the United States Congress?
  - (A) Agriculture
  - (B) Appropriations
  - (C) Veterans' Affairs
  - (D) Investigations
  - (E) Budget
2. Federal district court judges are
  - (A) nominated by the president and confirmed by the Senate
  - (B) nominated by the Chief Justice and confirmed by the Senate
  - (C) elected by standing judges of the same circuit
  - (D) nominated by a senator and confirmed by the entire Senate
  - (E) elected by the citizens of the district in which they will serve
3. The state officer typically responsible for overseeing federal elections at the state level is the
  - (A) Secretary of State
  - (B) Attorney General
  - (C) State Auditor
  - (D) Governor
  - (E) State Treasurer
4. Most Americans believe that
  - (A) the needs of the individual should be subordinate to those of the community
  - (B) everyone should enjoy equal opportunities for personal and material success
  - (C) the government should provide free healthcare for all citizens
  - (D) the government rather than industry should be responsible for national economic development
  - (E) Congress rather than the president should determine foreign policy
5. All of the following are principles upon which the United States Constitution was founded EXCEPT
  - (A) Every state is equal and the national government cannot give special rights to an individual state.
  - (B) There should be three branches of government to make, execute, and interpret the nation's laws.
  - (C) All men are equal before the law regardless of social standing.
  - (D) The best government is a government by laws not by men.
  - (E) All citizens should have the right to keep and bear arms.

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6. The Department of Commerce promotes
- (A) domestic aggregate demand and supply
  - (B) international trade and economic growth
  - (C) fair prices and stable markets for producers and consumers
  - (D) improved technology through research, development, and demonstration
  - (E) better working conditions and improved relations between labor and management
7. Which of the following Supreme Court cases refuted the doctrine of “separate but equal” ?
- (A) *Baker v. Carr*
  - (B) *McCulloch v. Maryland*
  - (C) *Garcia v. San Antonio*
  - (D) *Brown v. Board of Education*
  - (E) *Miranda v. Arizona*

Year	Population of voting age	Percent of voting-age population that voted for President	Percent of voting-age population that voted for U.S. Representative
1960	109,672	62.8	58.5
1964	114,090	61.9	57.8
1968	120,285	60.9	55.1
1972	140,777	55.2	50.7
1976	152,308	53.5	48.9
1980	163,945	52.8	47.6
1984	173,995	53.3	47.8
1988	181,956	50.3	44.9
1992	189,524	55.1	50.8
1996	196,928	49.0	45.8
2000	205,815	51.3	—

8. Which of the following statements is best supported by the data in the table above?
- (A) Voter turnout in presidential elections has kept pace with the overall growth in the population of voters.
  - (B) Voter turnout has increased over time in congressional elections.
  - (C) There has been a general trend of declining participation in presidential elections.
  - (D) More voters have consistently participated in congressional elections than in presidential elections.
  - (E) Presidents are usually elected by a majority of the voting-age public.
9. All of the following are typical stances of American liberals EXCEPT
- (A) support for abortion rights
  - (B) concern for the rights of the accused
  - (C) resistance to state involvement with religious institutions
  - (D) support for international organization such as the United Nations
  - (E) opposition to the expansion of governmental activity and regulation

10. Which of the following Amendments to the United States Constitution were repealed?
- I. The 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment (Prohibition)
  - II. The 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment (Search and Seizure)
  - III. The 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment (The Right to Vote)
- (A) I only  
(B) II only  
(C) I and II only  
(D) II and III only  
(E) I, II, and III
11. Which executive department was created first?
- (A) Commerce  
(B) Defense  
(C) Labor  
(D) Transportation  
(E) State
12. Which of the following is NOT considered a civil liberty?
- (A) Freedom of speech  
(B) The right of equal protection  
(C) The right of due process  
(D) Freedom of religion  
(E) The right to work
13. Which of the following does NOT actively lobby Congress?
- (A) Labor unions  
(B) Political parties  
(C) Corporations  
(D) Foreign governments  
(E) Senior citizens
14. The strongest factor contributing to an individual's political socialization tends to be
- (A) family  
(B) peers  
(C) media  
(D) school  
(E) religion
15. Which of the following explain why the founders of the Constitution decided upon a bicameral rather than a unicameral legislature?
- I. It balanced the interests of low- and high-population states by giving smaller states a voice in the Senate that their low populations would not grant them in the House of Representatives.
  - II. Either legislature could block legislation approved by the other, thereby strengthening the American system of checks and balances.
  - III. The House of Representatives was granted responsibility for domestic affairs while the Senate specialized in America's relations with the rest of the world.
- (A) I only  
(B) I and II only  
(C) II and III only  
(D) III only  
(E) I, II, and III
16. Which of the following is NOT an example of congressional oversight?
- (A) Committee inquiries and hearings  
(B) Senate advice and consent for presidential nominations  
(C) House of Representatives impeachment proceedings and Senate trials  
(D) Override of a presidential veto  
(E) Formal consultations with and reports from the president
17. One of the objects of "Jim Crow" laws was to
- (A) disenfranchise Americans of color  
(B) limit soft-money contributions  
(C) empower southern blacks  
(D) protect the economies of southern states  
(E) desegregate southern schools

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18. Which of the following is the largest interest group in the United States?

- (A) The American Medical Association (AMA)
- (B) The National Rifle Association (NRA)
- (C) The United Auto Workers (UAW)
- (D) The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)
- (E) The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

19. Proponents of limited government, unregulated free markets, national self-reliance, and conventional social values are best describes as

- (A) liberals
- (B) socialists
- (C) libertarians
- (D) conservatives
- (E) leftists

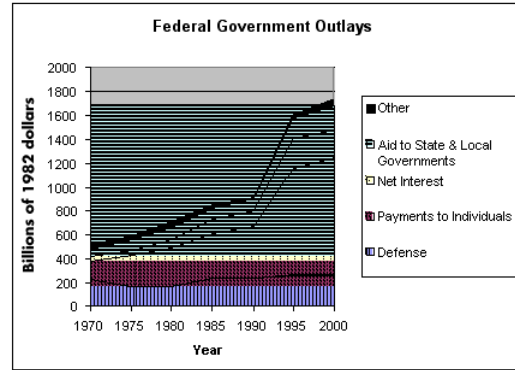
20. Which of the following methods may be used to propose an amendment to the United States Constitution?

- I. By the passage of a two-thirds vote in both houses of Congress.
- II. By the request of three-fourths of the state legislatures
- III. By a national constitutional convention called by Congress on the request of two-thirds of the state legislatures

- (A) I only
- (B) II only
- (C) III only
- (D) I and II only
- (E) I and III only

21. Which of the following is responsible for the conservation of America's natural resources?

- (A) Department of the Interior
- (B) Department of Justice
- (C) Department of State
- (D) Department of the Treasury
- (E) Environmental Protection Agency



Source: *Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1996, table 5.14, updated from Economic Report of the President 1999.*

22. The figure above best supports which of the following sentences?

- (A) Defense spending accounted for the most of the increases in federal spending from 1970 to 2000.
- (B) Net interest payments fell faster than aid to state and local governments during the period from 1970 to 2000.
- (C) By the year 2000, aid to state and local governments and net interest payments exceeded payments to individuals.
- (D) Net interest payments were the second largest component of federal spending in 1970.
- (E) In the 1990s, the greatest growth in federal spending occurred in payments to individuals.

23. The United States Constitution grants the right to

- (A) not be tried twice for the same offense
- (B) a trial by jury in all civil and criminal cases
- (C) vote for all citizens of the age 21 or older
- (D) reasonable health and medical care
- (E) be indicted by a grand jury

24. Which strategy has been most successful for congressional lobbyists?

- (A) Grassroots mobilization
- (B) Public information campaigns
- (C) Testimony in Congress
- (D) Endorsements of candidates for public office
- (E) Financial contributions to political campaigns

- 25.** According to law, the President of the United States must be
- (A) at least 35 years old
  - (B) a college graduate
  - (C) wealthy enough to afford a campaign
  - (D) unconnected to a religion
  - (E) a lifelong resident of the United States
- 26.** The United States Constitution was opposed by which group?
- (A) Abolitionists
  - (B) Royalists
  - (C) Nationalists
  - (D) Smaller states
  - (E) Federalists
- 27.** The Constitution grants Congress the power to do all of the following EXCEPT
- (A) borrow money for the public treasury
  - (B) declare war
  - (C) govern commerce among the states and with foreign countries
  - (D) tax exports from any one state
  - (E) coin money and set its value
- 28.** The agency that provides Congress with evaluations of public policies is the
- (A) Department of Justice
  - (B) Department of Commerce
  - (C) Office of Personnel Management
  - (D) Office of Management and Budget
  - (E) General Accounting Office

- 29.** The federal and state court systems
- (A) are distinct and deal with completely separate legal issues and jurisdictions
  - (B) are both subordinate to federal and state constitutions
  - (C) work together to interpret federal law and to uphold the Constitution
  - (D) function in a parallel manner so that federal courts may receive appeals from state courts
  - (E) have differing jurisdictions so that no federal court can hear an appeal from a state court
- 30.** Which of the following interest groups might make use of litigation rather than lobbying to advance their interests?
- (A) Prisoners
  - (B) Unions
  - (C) Corporations
  - (D) Senior Citizens
  - (E) Educators

**Public Confidence in American Institutions  
(percent expressing confidence)**

	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
<b>Military</b>	59	47	53	56	62	68
<b>Religion</b>	67	58	64	65	65	56
<b>Judiciary</b>	36	45	41	46	49	53
<b>Congress</b>	42	40	34	29	33	41
<b>Unions</b>	56	50	36	38	30	29
<b>Corporations</b>	40	35	30	33	29	20

- 31.** Based on the table above, which of the following statements is correct?
- (A) Public confidence in most institutions fell during the 1960s.
  - (B) Public confidence in the military has always been highest.
  - (C) Public support for Congress has remained stable over time.
  - (D) Support for the Judiciary has consistently improved over time.
  - (E) When confidence in corporations rises, confidence in unions falls.

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32. Which of the following were weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation?

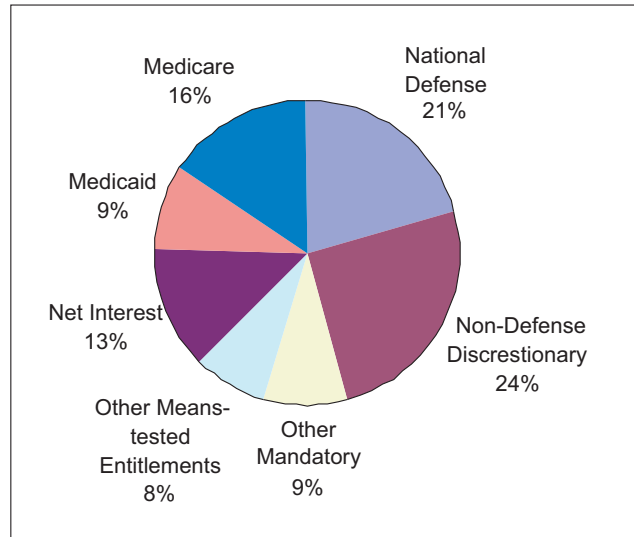
- I. The government lacked the power to compel states to honor national obligations.
- II. The government had no powers of taxation.
- III. It failed to provide the authority to negotiate peace with England.

- (A) I only
- (B) I and II
- (C) I, II, and III
- (D) II and III
- (E) III only

33. The number of representatives from each state to serve in House of Representatives is determined by the

- (A) State Legislatures; state legislatures then define congressional voting districts acting within constraints set down by Congress and the Supreme Court
- (B) Congress; state legislatures then define congressional voting districts acting within constraints set down by Congress and the Supreme Court
- (C) Department of Commerce's decennial census; federal district courts then determine the congressional districts within the states
- (D) Department of State's decennial census; federal district courts then determine the congressional districts within the states
- (E) Senate; state legislatures then define congressional voting districts acting within constraints set down by Congress and the Supreme Court

**Federal Government Spending**



34. Which of the following can be inferred from the information in the chart above?

- (A) Spending on national defense is greater than non-defense discretionary spending.
- (B) Spending on social programs is more than double that of defense.
- (C) Net interest payments exceed spending on Medicaid.
- (D) Medicare and Medicaid account for over half of government spending.
- (E) Means-tested entitlements and other mandatory spending exceed spending on national defense.

35. Which of the following statements about *Miranda v. Arizona* is correct?

- (A) It declared segregation by race unconstitutional.
- (B) It granted women the same voting rights as men.
- (C) It declared the recitation of the Pledge of the Union unconstitutional.
- (D) It required that citizens be informed of their rights when being placed under arrest.
- (E) It declared that a woman's reproductive rights were included in the conception of the right to privacy.

- 36.** All of the following are reason why incumbents representatives usually win reelection to Congress EXCEPT
- (A) incumbents use franking privileges to communicate with voters.
  - (B) incumbents generate good will by getting “pork barrel” projects for their districts.
  - (C) incumbents have large staffs to work on constituency relations.
  - (D) incumbents always benefit from congressional redistricting.
  - (E) incumbents receive the most money from special interest groups.
- 37.** Which of the following is a duty of the President of the United States?
- (A) Overseeing special congressional committees
  - (B) Determining interest rates
  - (C) Drafting state budgets for federal programs
  - (D) Impeaching Supreme Court Justices
  - (E) Appointing representatives to foreign countries
- 38.** The concept embodied in the Constitution of separating the legislative, executive, and judicial functions of government was promoted by which philosopher?
- (A) Baron de Montesquieu
  - (B) David Hume
  - (C) John Locke
  - (D) Sir Isaac Newton
  - (E) Sir Francis Bacon
- 39.** All bills to raise government revenue must originate in the
- (A) House of Representatives
  - (B) Senate
  - (C) Senate Budget Committee
  - (D) Department of the Treasury
  - (E) Internal Revenue Service
- 40.** All of the following are Constitutional checks on executive power EXCEPT
- (A) the Senate must approve international treaties
  - (B) the Senate must confirm judicial appointees
  - (C) Congress has the power to impeach the president
  - (D) the president cannot propose legislation
  - (E) the Judiciary can declare executive actions unconstitutional
- 41.** The view that the Supreme Court should interpret the Constitution or laws to advance social goals is known as
- (A) judicial activism
  - (B) judicial restraint
  - (C) judicial review
  - (D) judicial conservatism
  - (E) judicial liberalism
- 42.** In non-partisan elections for state or local government offices,
- (A) political parties may not contribute to campaigns
  - (B) ballots do not list party affiliations
  - (C) most voters are independents
  - (D) incumbent candidates run unopposed
  - (E) candidates cannot be registered members of any political party
- 43.** Since the Second World War, presidential approval ratings have generally
- (A) risen gradually until mid-term elections then fallen between election cycles
  - (B) declined gradually after inauguration through to the end of the administration
  - (C) increased gradually from inauguration through to the end of the administration
  - (D) fallen dramatically after mid-term elections then risen
  - (E) risen dramatically after inauguration through to the end of the administration

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44. The governmental system of dividing power between a central government and several regional governments is known as
- (A) democracy
  - (B) federalism
  - (C) republicanism
  - (D) oligarchy
  - (E) colonialism
45. Which of the following allow the president to influence the legislative process in Congress?
- I. The president's access to the federal bureaucracy allows quick and effective access to experts and information.
  - II. The president has better access to, and influence on, public opinion than does the Congress.
  - III. The threat of a presidential veto can change a bill while it is still in committee.
- (A) I only
  - (B) I and II only
  - (C) I and III only
  - (D) II and III only
  - (E) I, II, and III
46. Strict constructionists interpret the Constitution
- (A) inflexibly and disapprove of judicial restraint
  - (B) broadly and attempt to rule in the spirit of the Constitution
  - (C) historically and attempt to correct the shortcomings of the Constitution
  - (D) literally and grant only those freedoms expressly cited in the Constitution
  - (E) contextually and extend freedoms to all citizens
47. Most states have
- (A) bicameral legislatures
  - (B) unicameral legislatures
  - (C) professional full-time legislatures
  - (D) term limits for legislators
  - (E) campaign spending limits for legislators
48. Which of the following factors is likely to be the weakest indicator of an individual's political beliefs and opinions?
- (A) Race
  - (B) Gender
  - (C) Age
  - (D) Intelligence
  - (E) Religion
49. An agreement between two or more members of Congress for reciprocal support in passing unrelated legislation is known as
- (A) logrolling
  - (B) filibustering
  - (C) pork barreling
  - (D) gerrymandering
  - (E) reapportioning
50. Which of the following Supreme Court cases addressed the right to privacy?
- (A) *Hawaii Housing Authority v. Midkiff*
  - (B) *Bowsher v. Synar*
  - (C) *Korematsu v. United States*
  - (D) *Bowers v. Hardwick*
  - (E) *Gibbons v. Ogden*



1904	Theodore Roosevelt	Republican	336	7,628,834	Charles W. Fairbanks—R
	Alton B. Parker	Democratic	140	5,084,491	Henry G. Davis—D
	Eugene V. Debs	Socialist	0	402,400	Benjamin Hanford—S
1908	William H. Taft	Republican	321	7,679,006	James S. Sherman—R
	William J. Bryan	Democratic	162	6,409,106	John W. Kern—D
	Eugene V. Debs	Socialist	0	402,820	Benjamin Hanford—S
1912	Woodrow Wilson	Democratic	435	6,286,214	Thomas R. Marshall—D
	Theodore Roosevelt	Progressive	88	4,126,020	Hiram Johnson—Prog
	William H. Taft	Republican	8	3,483,922	Nicholas M. Butler—R <sup>17</sup>
	Eugene V. Debs	Socialist	0	897,011	Emil Seidel—S

51. The table above best supports which conclusion?

- (A) The Socialist party was the most popular “third party” of the period.
- (B) President Taft lost popularity because he changed his running mate.
- (C) Theodore Roosevelt was twice President of the United States.
- (D) Had Roosevelt not run, Taft may have won the popular vote in 1912.
- (E) More American were registered as Progressives than Republicans in 1912.

52. An increased focus on national rather than local issues on radio, television, and other mass media has

- (A) caused Americans from different regions to share similar ideas and perspectives
- (B) caused a divergence of political beliefs and attitudes across America
- (C) reduced public interest in foreign affairs
- (D) limited the influence of the media on domestic politics
- (E) pushed the political parties away from the political center

53. Who were the authors of the Federalist Papers?

- (A) John Adams, James Madison, and Thomas Jefferson
- (B) Samuel Adams, John Jay, and John Quincy Adams
- (C) Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay
- (D) James Madison, Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson
- (E) Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, Thomas Jefferson

54. All of the following aspects of Congress affect the legislative process EXCEPT

- (A) parties
- (B) committees
- (C) hours
- (D) rules
- (E) staff

55. The Bill of Rights contains amendments related to all of the following areas EXCEPT

- (A) freedom of speech
- (B) the right to bear arms
- (C) the right to a speedy trial
- (D) the right to sexual freedom
- (E) freedom not to have soldiers stationed in one’s home

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1998 Presidential Election				
AGE	Cit. VAP**	% Registered	# Voted	% Voted
<b>1998 US Total</b>	183,450,000	67.1	83,098,000	45.3
18-24 Years	22,993,000	43.6	4,251,000	18.5
25-44	74,677,000	63.6	28,889,000	38.7
45-64	54,466,000	75.4	30,758,000	56.5
65+	31,316,000	77.5	19,200,000	61.3
GENDER	Cit. VAP**	% Registered	# Voted	% Voted
Male	87,713,000	65.7	39,391,000	44.9
Female	95,738,000	68.4	43,706,000	45.7
RACE*	Cit. VAP**	% Registered	# Voted	% Voted
White	143,651,000	69.3	68,068,000	47.4
Black	21,613,000	63.7	9,044,000	41.9
Hispanic	12,395,000	55.2	4,068,000	32.8
Asian	4,344,000	49.1	1,404,000	32.3

\* Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. \*\* VAP means Voting Age Population

56. According to the information in the table above, which of the following statements is correct?

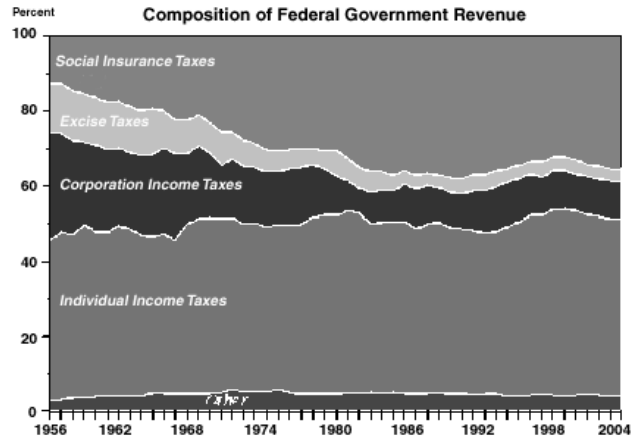
- (A) Individuals were less likely to vote as they grow older.
- (B) More Whites voted than all other racial groups combined.
- (C) More Blacks, Hispanics, and Asians registered to vote than men of all races.
- (D) College students were the most important voting block.
- (E) About as many senior citizens voted as college students.

57. The Constitution allows the federal government to do all of the following EXCEPT

- (A) change state boundaries
- (B) tax imports
- (C) tax exports
- (D) overturn state laws
- (E) impose taxes

58. Which of the following is NOT part of the Executive Office of the President?

- (A) National Economic Council
- (B) Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare
- (C) Office Management and Budget
- (D) National Security Council
- (E) Office of National Drug Control Policy



59. Which of the following statements is best supported by the information in the figure above?

- (A) In the year 2000, social insurance taxes provided a majority of federal government revenues.
- (B) Since the 1950s, corporate income taxes have provided a constant percentage of government revenues.
- (C) Since the 1950s, individual income taxes as a percentage of government revenues have increased dramatically.
- (D) Since the 1950s, social insurance taxes have generally increased as a percent of government revenues.
- (E) Since the 1950s, corporate income taxes have consistently provided a larger share of government revenues than individual taxes.

60. Which of the following is NOT a right of due process?

- (A) Right to a fair and public trial conducted in a competent manner
- (B) Taxes may only be taken for public purposes
- (C) Right to an impartial jury
- (D) Private property cannot be taken for public use
- (E) Right to be present at the trial

61. Over the last five presidential elections, women have tended to
- (A) vote for Republican Party candidates
  - (B) ignore military issues important to male voters
  - (C) vote for Democratic Party candidates more often than men do
  - (D) vote in fewer numbers than men do
  - (E) register to vote in fewer numbers than men do
62. Which of the following would be an unconstitutional action by a state government?
- (A) Signing an extradition treaty with another state
  - (B) Banning the sale of goods from a foreign country
  - (C) Regulating tobacco sales
  - (D) Setting a minimum age for the consumption of alcohol
  - (E) Regulating electricity usage by industry
63. Normally, a bill that is tabled by a congressional committee will
- (A) not be acted upon
  - (B) be dealt with following the recess
  - (C) be amended before being sent back to Congress
  - (D) be vetoed by the president
  - (E) not be amended prior to resubmission
64. The writ of habeas corpus
- (A) protects individuals from being held without being charged
  - (B) allows individuals to appeal capital sentences
  - (C) guarantees an individual's right of religious expression
  - (D) prevents the use of cruel and unusual punishment
  - (E) grants appellate jurisdiction to federal courts for Constitutional issues
65. Which of the following is a standing committee of Congress?
- (A) Rights of Women
  - (B) Minorities in Education
  - (C) Social Security
  - (D) Welfare
  - (E) Education and the Workforce
66. America's form of government is best described as
- (A) republican
  - (B) aristocratic
  - (C) parliamentary
  - (D) unitary
  - (E) egalitarian
67. When Congress authorized the president to eliminate individual elements from proposed legislation, it was known as a
- (A) presidential prerogative
  - (B) line item veto
  - (C) executive decision
  - (D) legislative veto
  - (E) subpoenaed document
68. After hearings are complete, a congressional subcommittee will usually determine a bill's future in final deliberations known as a(n)
- (A) open door session
  - (B) markup session
  - (C) closed door session
  - (D) joint resolution session
  - (E) full house session
69. A temporary panel that works to reconcile different final House and Senate versions of a bill is known as a(n)
- (A) joint committee
  - (B) quorum
  - (C) conference committee
  - (D) executive session
  - (E) pro-forma session

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- 70.** The power of judicial review grants the Supreme Court the ability to
- (A) overturn or modify the enforcement of laws that violate the Constitution
  - (B) evaluate all judicial appointments prior to Senate consent proceedings
  - (C) edit bills under consideration prior to enactment
  - (D) consider all state laws for constitutionality prior to their enactment
- 71.** The role of caucuses in Congress is to
- (A) promote group interests through legislation, policy, and pressure on the agencies
  - (B) measure existing support for a bill before the House of Representatives makes a binding vote on it
  - (C) muster support before an election cycle
  - (D) bind members to vote for or against legislation prior to the full House of Representatives vote
  - (E) block the passage of legislation by denying the opposition a simple majority
- 72.** What explains the relatively high likelihood that the Supreme Court will overturn a decision if it chooses to hear an appeal?
- (A) The Supreme Court judges cases by a more exacting standard than the lower courts.
  - (B) The Supreme Court tries to motivate Congress to enact new legislation by striking down outdated laws.
  - (C) The Supreme Court places the highest priority on hearing cases where it is clear that errors have been made.
  - (D) Since Supreme Court members are non-elected, they are able to oppose popular legislation and policy.
  - (E) The Supreme Court is more divided than circuit courts or state courts.
- 73.** James Madison proposed to deal with the threat of political factions by
- (A) encouraging greater party membership
  - (B) providing civic education to the electorate
  - (C) dividing authority among different governmental institutions
  - (D) strengthening the Executive and Judiciary at the expense of the Congress
  - (E) prohibiting the formation of political parties
- 74.** The power of a cabinet member within a department may be limited if
- (A) the economy is faltering and unemployment and prices rise
  - (B) career administrators do not fall in line with their politically appointed supervisor
  - (C) they are assigned to a department concerned with domestic affairs
  - (D) their constituents demand too many political favors
  - (E) other cabinet members have stronger political ties with the president
- 75.** All of the following departments are headed by a secretary EXCEPT
- (A) Justice
  - (B) State
  - (C) Interior
  - (D) Transportation
  - (E) Energy
- 76.** The “wall of separation” that the Constitution maintains between church and state is contained in the
- (A) free exercise clause
  - (B) establishment clause
  - (C) incorporation doctrine
  - (D) community standards clause
  - (E) due process clause

77. The concept of “popular sovereignty” as incorporated in the Constitution was first promoted by which philosopher?
- (A) Thomas Hobbes
  - (B) Jean Jacque Rousseau
  - (C) John Locke
  - (D) John Stewart Mill
  - (E) Jeremy Bentham
78. The major agency of fiscal policy is the
- (A) Council of Economic Advisors
  - (B) Office of Management and Budget
  - (C) Export-Import Bank
  - (D) Federal Reserve Board
  - (E) Treasury Department
79. The Supreme Court has exclusive jurisdiction in a dispute between
- (A) two states
  - (B) two multinational corporations
  - (C) a foreign and an American citizen
  - (D) a foreign and an American corporation
  - (E) political parties
80. In what instance will the House of Representatives decide the winner of a presidential election?
- (A) When the candidate with the most electoral votes fails to win the popular vote
  - (B) When no candidate wins a majority of the popular vote
  - (C) When a candidate wins the electoral vote but doesn’t win a majority of the states
  - (D) When no candidate wins the majority of the votes in the electoral college
  - (E) When a disputed election causes uncertainty over the actual electoral vote totals
81. Which group of Americans were the last to receive the right to vote?
- (A) African Americans
  - (B) Women
  - (C) Americans between the ages of 18 and 21
  - (D) Native Americans
  - (E) Asian Americans
82. Spending determined by the number of qualified recipients and their legally determined need is called
- (A) supplemental spending
  - (B) deficit spending
  - (C) entitlement spending
  - (D) essential spending
  - (E) discretionary spending
83. According to the Supreme Court, First Amendment free speech protections do not apply to
- (A) the desecration of the American flag
  - (B) obscenity
  - (C) protests, rallies, or strikes against the democratically elected government
  - (D) sexual content acceptable by community standards
  - (E) verbal or written attacks on public figures
84. The Constitution does NOT give Congress the authority to
- (A) impeach and remove federal judges
  - (B) refuse to ratify treaties negotiated by the president
  - (C) override a presidential veto
  - (D) pardon people convicted of federal crimes
  - (E) raise taxes and authorize spending

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- 85.** Why must the House of Representatives re-adopted rules of procedure at the beginning each new session, while the Senate has not done so since 1789?
- (A) Unlike the House of Representatives, the Senate gives the individual states an equal say in rules as in legislation.
  - (B) The House of Representatives committee structure aggravates political infighting and leads to frequent rule changes.
  - (C) Although the Constitution outlines Senate procedure, it gives House of Representatives members the freedom to create their own rules.
  - (D) While a two-thirds majority is needed to amend Senate rules, only a simple majority is needed to change those of the House of Representatives.
  - (E) The Senate is a continuing body, while House of Representatives members must stand for election every two years.
- 86.** Which department has the largest number of career government professionals working abroad?
- (A) Department of Transportation
  - (B) Department of Defense
  - (C) Department of State
  - (D) Department of Commerce
  - (E) Department of Justice
- 87.** Which of the following functions is NOT performed by political parties in the American system?
- (A) Helping to connect the people with their government
  - (B) Increasing the diversity of viewpoints represented in the political arena
  - (C) Stimulate and focusing public discussion
  - (D) Promoting candidates and voter participation
  - (E) Helping resolve political conflicts and promoting national unity
- 88.** Which of the following is NOT a political influence of the American media?
- (A) Helping establish the agenda for political discussion by choosing which issues it reports on
  - (B) Determining which political candidates the public views as viable contenders for office
  - (C) Assessing the performance of elected officials and changing the public's perceptions of their leaders
  - (D) Changing election results through exit polls
  - (E) Ruining political campaigns through negative coverage of a candidate
- 89.** The number of electoral votes that a state possesses is determined by the
- (A) state's population
  - (B) number representatives that the state has in the House of Representatives
  - (C) number of voters registered with the major parties
  - (D) population at the time of joining the union
  - (E) number Representatives and Senators that the state has in Congress
- 90.** The increased concentration of mass media does which of the following?
- I. Narrows the range of political perspectives available to most Americans
  - II. Lowers journalistic standards for the reporting of political issues
  - III. Grants media owners a large amount of political influence
- (A) I only
  - (B) II only
  - (C) III only
  - (D) I and III only
  - (E) I, II, and III

91. In the mid-term elections following a president's inauguration, his party tends to
- (A) lose seats in Congress
  - (B) gain seats in Congress
  - (C) lose House of Representatives seats but gain Senate seats
  - (D) lose Senate seats but gain House of Representatives seats
  - (E) lose control of Congress
92. Which category of interest groups has been the strongest and most effective in lobbying Washington?
- (A) Ideological interest groups
  - (B) Religious interest groups
  - (C) Economic interest groups
  - (D) Government interest groups
  - (E) Single-issue interest groups
93. Those calling for the adoption of the Constitution presented all of the following arguments EXCEPT that Federalism would
- (A) protect individual rights while allowing the government to work for the common good
  - (B) help prevent tyranny
  - (C) help prevent war between the states
  - (D) allow the states to be a testing ground for new policies and programs
  - (E) give the states greater sovereignty and independence
94. The Constitution gives Congress the power to
- (A) declare war
  - (B) command U.S. armed forces
  - (C) appoint ambassadors
  - (D) negotiate treaties
  - (E) nominate federal judges
95. The practice of submitting proposed legislation for approval by a popular vote is known as a
- (A) plebiscite
  - (B) gridlock
  - (C) primary
  - (D) referendum
  - (E) recall
96. How has the expansion of cable and satellite television affected the president's ability to influence American public opinion?
- (A) It has increased the president's power to influence public opinion.
  - (B) It has not affected the president's ability to influence public opinion.
  - (C) It has reduced the president's power to influence public opinion.
  - (D) It has sharply decreased the president's power to influence public opinion.
  - (E) It has eliminated the president's ability to influence public opinion.
97. According to *The Federalist Papers*, in which of the following ways did the Articles of Confederation allow the majority to overrule the minority?
- I. A majority of the states could prevent the passage of new legislation to strengthen the confederacy.
  - II. Nine of thirteen states, rather than a majority of the people, could control foreign affairs
  - III. The popular election of the a powerful executive threatened the less populous states.
- (A) I only
  - (B) II only
  - (C) I, II, and III
  - (D) II and III
  - (E) III only

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- 98.** The Constitution grants justices of the Supreme Court terms of
- (A) four years
  - (B) six years
  - (C) ten years
  - (D) twelve years
  - (E) life tenure
- 99.** Why are unfunded mandates so popular for Congress?
- (A) Unfunded mandates improve relationships between representatives and their constituencies.
  - (B) Representatives can satisfy constituents without being obligated to find funding.
  - (C) Most representatives have served at the state level and wish to return favors.
  - (D) State agencies are more efficient and flexible than the federal bureaucracy.
  - (E) State problems are best solved at the state level.
- 100.** In presidential campaigns, federal matching funds are provided to
- (A) all candidates
  - (B) minor party candidates only
  - (C) major party candidates only
  - (D) winning candidates only
  - (E) candidates who pass the fundraising threshold