

Chapter 2 The Constitution

1. In 1776, Thomas Paine authored a pamphlet arguing for colonial independence from Britain entitled
 - A) *The Plain Truth*.
 - B) *The Crisis*.
 - C) *The Leviathan*.
 - D) *Common Sense*.
 - E) *A Treatise on Government*.
2. The words and ideas of political philosopher John Locke flow through
 - A) the Olive Branch.
 - B) the Declaration of Independence.
 - C) *The Crisis*.
 - D) the Articles of Confederation.
 - E) choices B and D only.
3. A type of government in which the national government is weaker than the sum of its parts is called a/an
 - A) confederation.
 - B) federal system.
 - C) unitary system.
 - D) democracy.
 - E) republic.
4. Under the Articles of Confederation, the executive branch was
 - A) relatively weak.
 - B) nonexistent.
 - C) quite strong.
 - D) responsible for executing all laws.
 - E) able to create a national army by forcing state militias to join this force.
5. One of the Articles of Confederation's greatest weaknesses was that it
 - A) had no strong central government.
 - B) had a strong president.
 - C) had the ability to coin money.
 - D) had a legislature that refused to meet.
 - E) created a tyrannical central government.
6. _____ was just one example of the weaknesses of the new government under the Articles of Confederation.
 - A) The selection of a Southerner as president
 - B) Shays's Rebellion
 - C) The Boston Tea Party
 - D) The universal adoption of the Treaty of Paris and its provisions
 - E) A failure to collect revenue from the federal income tax
7. Debate among political historians continues over the motives of the Framers. Charles Beard argues that the men in Philadelphia were
 - A) all patriots who had fought in the war.
 - B) largely businessmen who favored existing arrangements.
 - C) worried that slavery was having a negative impact on trade relations with other nations.
 - D) originally concerned with establishing a direct democracy.
 - E) concerned that the Articles failed to protect the interests of the business class, of which many were members.

8. The most serious disagreement in the debate between large and small states at the Constitutional Convention was the issue of
 - A) representation in Congress.
 - B) judicial power.
 - C) westward expansion.
 - D) taxation.
 - E) creating a Supreme Court.

9. A committee was appointed at the Constitutional Convention to work out the differences between the proposals of large and small states; the result was the
 - A) Virginia Plan.
 - B) New Jersey Plan.
 - C) Great Compromise.
 - D) Electoral College.
 - E) Bill of Rights.

10. The Electoral College system created by the Framers was designed to give
 - A) the federal government the preeminent role in choosing the president.
 - B) the states a key role in choosing the president.
 - C) average voters the decisive power in choosing the president.
 - D) "electors" the power to choose members of Congress.
 - E) none of the above

11. The sole responsibility to try a president or vice president on charges of "treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors" constitutionally falls to the
 - A) House of Representatives.
 - B) state legislatures.
 - C) Supreme Court.
 - D) federal court system.
 - E) Senate.

12. The division of authority among the three branches of government is called
 - A) federalism.
 - B) pluralism.
 - C) separation of powers.
 - D) a compromise.
 - E) gridlock.

13. The system of government in which power is divided between the state and national governments is called
 - A) federalism.
 - B) unitarism.
 - C) pluralism.
 - D) confederation
 - E) constitutionalism.

14. In the Constitution, the legislative branch is established in
 - A) Article I.
 - B) Article II.
 - C) Article III.
 - D) Article IV.
 - E) Article V.

15. Another name for the elastic clause is
- A) the enumerated powers clause.
 - B) judicial review.
 - C) the commerce clause.
 - D) the "Preamble" to the Constitution.
 - E) the necessary and proper clause.
16. The _____ is empowered by the Constitution to make all federal laws.
- A) federal bureaucracy
 - B) judicial branch
 - C) legislative branch
 - D) executive branch
 - E) none of the above
17. U.S. Supreme Court justices are appointed by the
- A) president.
 - B) Cabinet.
 - C) states.
 - D) House of Representatives.
 - E) U.S. Senate.
18. Governors Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jennifer Granholm cannot become president of the United States because
- A) generally governors from large states find it difficult to be elected.
 - B) the Constitution prohibits those who are not natural-born citizens from running.
 - C) as naturalized citizens, voters are likely to be suspicious of their motives.
 - D) they first would have to serve in Congress for fourteen years.
 - E) they do not meet the age requirement to be president.
19. The full faith and credit clause found in Article IV requires that
- A) Americans remain faithful to one God and tithes to their church.
 - B) no state may coin its own currency.
 - C) states generally honor the laws and ruling of other states.
 - D) federal courts have the right to resolve issues of state law.
 - E) all fifty states create a republican form of government.
20. Once the Constitutional Convention was completed, the drive for ratification in the states began. Those who favored ratification were known as
- A) Whigs.
 - B) Democratic-Republicans.
 - C) Anti-Federalists.
 - D) Tories.
 - E) Federalists.
21. The Anti-Federalists feared
- A) a confederacy.
 - B) amendments.
 - C) strong central government.
 - D) checks and balances.
 - E) separation of powers.

22. The series of 85 political papers written by John Jay, Alexander Hamilton, and James Madison in support of ratification of the new constitution are called the
- A) *Pennsylvania Packet*.
 - B) *Federalist Papers*.
 - C) *Anti-Federalist Papers*.
 - D) *Crisis*.
 - E) none of the above
23. The Anti-Federalists demanded a series of amendments to the Constitution to protect individual liberties known as
- A) the libertarian amendments.
 - B) the Anti-Federalist amendments.
 - C) the Bill of Rights.
 - D) Mr. Madison's Mistake.
 - E) the "confederation" amendments.
24. The amendment process for the Constitution is set out in Article V and sets up a
- A) two-stage process of proposal and ratification.
 - B) fairly easy procedure for changing the document.
 - C) single-stage process utilizing conventions or Congress.
 - D) process by which the states, Congress, the executive branch, and a majority of voters must agree on changes to the document.
 - E) process of congressional approval and presidential signing into law.
25. Informal methods of amending the Constitution include
- A) social change, judicial interpretation, and acts of Congress.
 - B) judicial interpretation and cultural and social change.
 - C) cultural and social change.
 - D) acts of state legislatures.
 - E) a national referendum and/or initiative.