

## Origins of American Government

### Multiple Choice

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

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Signed in 1620 by the Pilgrims, this colonial plan for self-rule is called  
a. the Magna Carta. c. the Petition of Rights.  
b. the Bill of Rights. d. the Mayflower Compact.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The first legislature in what became the United States was the  
a. Virginia House of Burgesses. c. First Continental Congress.  
b. Constitutional Convention. d. Annapolis Convention.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The first battles of the Revolutionary War were fought at  
a. Washington, D.C., and Boston. c. Boston and New York.  
b. Annapolis and Concord. d. Lexington and Concord.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. According to the Articles of Confederation, this power was granted Congress.  
a. to regulate trade c. to amend the Articles of Confederation  
b. to enforce laws d. to levy taxes
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Many Americans wanted a strong national government after  
a. the economic depression. c. the Northwest Ordinance.  
b. the Annapolis Convention. d. Shays's Rebellion.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The compromise made by the Founders on this issue left a terrible burden for future generations.  
a. western territories c. slavery  
b. interstate commerce d. anarchy
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The Magna Carta was important because it  
a. was America's first legislature. c. established a limited government.  
b. separated church and state. d. gave power to the colonies.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. This began as a struggle over lands in western Pennsylvania and Ohio.  
a. British and Indian War c. Northwest Ordinance  
b. Intolerable Acts d. French and Indian War
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. This man wrote the original draft of the Declaration of Independence.  
a. Thomas Jefferson c. Benjamin Franklin  
b. John Adams d. Samuel Adams
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. This man was known as the father of the Constitution.  
a. Thomas Jefferson c. James Adams  
b. George Washington d. James Madison
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Federalists were concerned that without a strong national government this would triumph.  
a. anarchy c. embargoes  
b. extralegal trade d. socialism
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Antifederalists believed this was needed.  
a. anarchy c. Bill of Rights  
b. interstate commerce d. strong national government
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. The original 13 colonies were established and governed by  
a. West Africa. c. France.  
b. Germany. d. England.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. A government in which people elect delegates to make laws is
- a. a limited government.
  - b. an autocratic government.
  - c. a representative government.
  - d. an oligarchic government.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. The first legislature in America was the
- a. Jamestown House of Burgesses.
  - b. Virginia House of Burgesses.
  - c. American Legislature.
  - d. English House of Burgesses.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Dividing the powers of government as the colonial charters did is called
- a. separation of powers.
  - b. legislative government.
  - c. limited government.
  - d. government of petitions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. The Declaration of Independence founded government on principles of
- a. strong central government.
  - b. arbitrary power.
  - c. taxation without representation.
  - d. human liberty and consent of the governed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. Under the Articles of Confederation, the plan for the central government did NOT include
- a. an executive branch.
  - b. one vote per state.
  - c. a unicameral Congress.
  - d. one delegate from each state.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. Shays's Rebellion was caused by this problem.
- a. government interference
  - b. control of passports
  - c. the Northwest Ordinance
  - d. economic depression
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. This document suggested the legislative branch have a House of Representatives and a Senate.
- a. the Virginia Plan
  - b. the Connecticut Compromise
  - c. the New Jersey Plan
  - d. the Three-Fifths Compromise

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Origins of American Government  
Answer Section**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**

1. D
2. A
3. D
4. C
5. D
6. C
7. C
8. D
9. A
10. D
11. A
12. C
13. D
14. C
15. B
16. A
17. D
18. A
19. D
20. B