

BHS CONSTITUTION TEST (Form C), 50 Questions

Overview

1. An example of Popular Sovereignty is
 - a. the Supreme Court striking down a law passed by Congress.
 - b. citizens of IL electing their US Senator
 - c. The President vetoing a bill
2. One of the purposes of the Constitution of the United States is to
 - a. limit the powers of the federal government.
 - b. give to the President power over the other branches
 - c. keep people from making decisions that will hurt their own best interest
3. Federalism is
 - a. the dividing of power of government between the central and state governments.
 - b. the commitment of the Constitution to make sure the federal government is strong enough to govern
 - c. the primacy of the federal government over written laws.
4. The power of one branch of government blocking another is the
 - a. concept of "separation of powers."
 - b. concept of "checks and balances."
 - c. concept of "federalism."
5. The Declaration of Independence supports the idea
 - a. of the divine right of kings.
 - b. that people should always respect the government
 - c. that all men should have life & liberty
6. The Anti-Federalists opposed the ratification of the Constitution because
 - a. they wanted a stronger government.
 - b. they wanted a Bill of Rights
 - c. they wanted a stronger Constitution
7. The great weakness in the Articles of Confederation was that
 - a. it created too strong of a central government.
 - b. it did not create a strong central government
 - c. it did not have a Bill of Rights

Article 1

8. The presiding officer in the House of Representatives is the
 - a. Vice President of the United States.
 - b. President of the House
 - c. Speaker of the House
9. The minimum age for members of the House of Representatives is
 - a. 30 years old.
 - b. 25 years old
 - c. 21 years old
10. The role of the Legislative branch of government is to
 - a. interpret the laws.
 - b. make the laws
 - c. enforce the laws
11. One of the characteristics of the House of Representatives is that
 - a. only it can impeach a President.
 - b. only it can convict an impeached President
 - c. it has 100 members
12. The president of the Senate is the
 - a. Secretary of State.
 - b. President Pro Tempore
 - c. Vice President of the US
13. One power of the Senate that the House does not have is that of
 - a. ratifying treaties.
 - b. overriding a veto
 - c. impeaching
14. When the presiding officer of the Senate is away, the person who presides is the
 - a. Majority ruler of the Senate
 - b. President Pro Tempore
 - c. Speaker of the House
15. Overriding a presidential veto of a bill requires a
 - a. 2/3 vote by both houses of Congress
 - b. three-fourths vote by both houses of Congress.

c. Constitutional amendment

Article 2

16. The executive branch of government
a. carries out (and enforces) federal laws. b. makes the laws c. interprets the laws
17. The President of the United States has the power to
a. appoint Supreme Court judges. b. declare war c. impeach Supreme Court judges
18. The maximum number of years a president can serve is a. 10 years. b. 8 years c. 12 years
19. A formal requirement to run for President is
a. 30 years old b. being a resident for 14 years c. serve first as a congressman
20. If no Presidential candidate gets a majority of electoral votes,
a. a run-off election is held
b. the House of Representatives picks the President.
c. the Senate picks the President
21. _____ is the minimum number of electoral votes needed to win a Presidential election.
a. 270 b. 538 c. 2/3 majority
22. The order of Presidential succession is
a. Pres, VP, Speaker of the House, President Pro Tempore of the Senate
b. Pres, VP, Speaker of the House, Secretary of State
c. Pres, VP, Secretary of State, President Pro Tempore of the Senate
23. The cabinet position who assists the President in dealing with foreign affairs is
a. the Secretary of State b. the US representative to the UN c. the National Security Adviser

Article 3

24. The main purpose of the judicial branch is to
a. veto Congressional bills b. interpret the laws c. make the laws
25. Supreme Court Justices serve for
a. life b. 20 years. c. as long as they keep getting elected every 4 years
26. Judicial review comes from
a. Article 3 of the Constitution.
b. Amendment 27
c. Supreme Court practice, not the Constitution

Articles 4-7

27. The Constitution can be amended by a 2/3 majority in both houses of Congress and by _____ of the states
a. all b. 2/3 c. 3/4
28. Article IV of the Constitution says
a. that states need to give to other states "Full faith and credit...".
b. that states can extradite criminals to other states if they want to
c. the Constitution is the "supreme law of the land."

Amendments

29. The first 10 amendments are known as
a. the English Legacy b. the Bill of Rights c. the Rights of Man
30. The First Amendment includes
a. the right to an attorney. b. the right to vote c. the free exercise of religion
31. The Second Amendment gives citizens the right to
a. bear arms. b. not have to quarter soldiers c. free speech
32. The 4th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
a. protects a person from cruel and unusual punishment.

- b. protects citizens from unreasonable searches
 - c. provides that a person cannot be tried twice for the same crime
33. If an accused man "pleads the Fifth," he is
- a. claiming his right to retain a lawyer on his behalf
 - b. refusing to testify against himself in court.
 - c. acknowledging his right of habeas corpuse
34. The 14th Amendment defines citizenship, and guarantees
- a. blacks the right to vote
 - b. due process and equal protection of the law.
 - c. the slavery is illegal
35. Since ratification of the 17th Amendment (1913), United States Senators are elected
- a. by the people.
 - b. by the state legislatures
 - c. by fellow Senators
36. The 26th Amendment gives voting rights to
- a. women
 - b. 18 year olds
 - c. citizens of the District of Columbia
37. A grand jury is made up of sixteen to twenty-three persons who decide if a suspect
- a. can be charged with a crime.
 - b. is innocent or guilty
 - c. can be released on bail
38. The 19th Amendment (1920) gave the right to vote to
- a. blacks
 - b. women
 - c. 18 year olds

Flag

39. When displayed with flags of other nations, the US flag should be
- a. to the right and slightly above the others.
 - b. in the middle and in front of the other flags
 - c. at the same height as the other flags
40. If a flag is to be displayed on the same platform as a speaker, the flag should be
- a. to the speaker's right.
 - b. to the speaker's left
 - c. in the center, behind the speaker

Illinois Constitution

41. All legislative districts in Illinois are approximately equal
- a. in population size.
 - b. in geographic size
 - c. to congressional districts
42. The role of the Secretary of State of Illinois is to
- a. act as the chief legal officer of the state
 - b handle official state records, including drivers licenses.
 - c. represent the state in transactions with other states
43. The voters of Illinois must approve
- a. any proposed amendment to the Illinois Constitution.
 - b. the Governor's choice of cabinet appointments
 - c. any attempt of the legislature to impeach the Governor. This is what happened to Rod Blagojevich
44. In Illinois government, the legislative branch is known as the
- a. Congress.
 - b. House of Delegates
 - c. General Assembly
45. The state capital of Illinois is
- a. Chicago
 - b. Springfield
 - c. Peoria

No Dictators in the US

46. The Constitution of the US begins with the words,
- a. "We the People..."
 - b. "When in the course of human events...."
 - c. "We hold these truths to be self-evident..."
47. One of the purposes for the Constitution, listed in its Preamble, is to
- a. "equalize the social classes"
 - b. "secure the blessings Liberty."
 - c. "render justice for injustice."
48. Which of the following can the Supreme Court NOT do?
- a. Declare an act of a President as unconstitutional
 - b. Declare an act of Congress as unconstitutional
 - c. Declare a part of the Constitution as unconstitutional

49. Congress, through the House and Senate, can impeach and remove a President.

- a. True b. False c. only if the Supreme Court approves

50. The President can spend directly from the federal Treasury.

- a. True b. False c. only if the Congress approves to give a percentage of the Treasury to the President