

Constitution Regents Review

1. The writings of John Locke, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, and Baron de Montesquieu are significant in United States history because they

- A) opposed the use of slave labor in the Americas
- B) supported the absolute right of the king to impose taxes
- C) encouraged the formation of political parties and political machines
- D) influenced the authors of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution**

2. Base your answer to question on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

...The Jury withdrew, and in a small time returned, and being asked by the clerk, whether they were agreed of their verdict, and whether John Peter Zenger was guilty of printing and publishing the libels in the information mentioned? They answered by Thomas Hunt, their foreman, Not Guilty. Upon which there were three huzzas [cheers] in the hall which was crowded with people, and the next day I was discharged from my imprisonment.

— *John Peter Zenger, 1734*

The court case discussed in this passage was important in the development of colonial America because it helped establish the principle of

- A) freedom of the press**
 - B) double jeopardy
 - C) freedom of assembly
 - D) judicial independence
3. What is one feature of the political system created by the original Constitution of the United States?
- A) guaranteeing equal legal rights to all persons
 - B) requiring the federal government to maintain a balanced budget
 - C) dividing powers between the national and state governments**
 - D) granting more power to the executive branch than to the other branches of government

4. Which feature must a nation have to be considered a democracy?

- A) a strong president
- B) citizen participation in government**
- C) elected judges to conduct trials
- D) a set of laws

5. The framework of government described in the Constitution of the United States (1787) most clearly shows the dissatisfaction of the founders with the

- A) Albany Plan of Union
- B) Northwest Ordinance
- C) Articles of Confederation**
- D) Treaty of Paris

6. Under the Articles of Confederation, the years between 1781 and 1787 are often referred to as the “critical period” because the

- A) colonies were forced to pay high reparations to England
- B) states were fighting the French and Indian War
- C) southern states threatened to secede from the Union over the issue of slavery
- D) central government lacked the power to deal with major problems**

7. What was the main reason the Federalists wanted to replace the Articles of Confederation?

- A) The president did not have the power to veto legislation.
 - B) The legislative branch enacted an unfair tax program.
 - C) The Supreme Court refused to pay Revolutionary War debts.
 - D) The national government was too weak to solve the nation's problems.**
-

-
8. The writers of the Constitution corrected an economic weakness under the Articles of Confederation when they
- A) **granted Congress the power to levy and collect taxes**
 - B) created an executive branch headed by the president
 - C) granted the president the authority to negotiate treaties
 - D) created a two-house legislature
9. Shays' Rebellion (1786) became a concern for many national leaders because it
- A) indicated there would be future conflicts over the spread of slavery
 - B) **exposed fundamental weaknesses in government under the Articles of Confederation**
 - C) pointed to the need for federal government regulation of interstate commerce
 - D) showed that frontier settlements were vulnerable to raids by Native American Indians
10. At the Constitutional Convention of 1787, supporters of the Virginia plan and supporters of the New Jersey plan differed over the method for
- A) **determining congressional representation**
 - B) selecting the president's cabinet
 - C) adopting the amendment process
 - D) giving powers to the executive branch
11. At the Constitutional Convention of 1787, the Great Compromise between the large states and the small states resulted in
- A) **the creation of a bicameral legislature**
 - B) a provision for equal protection of the laws
 - C) a permanent solution to the slavery issue
 - D) the guarantee of voting rights for all male property owners
12. At the Constitutional Convention (1787), which issue was resolved by the Great Compromise?
- A) method of electing the president
 - B) power of Congress to tax exports
 - C) regulation of interstate commerce
 - D) **representation of states in Congress**
13. Base your answer to the following question on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.
- We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.
- Preamble to the United States Constitution*
- Which two groups debated the ratification of the new Constitution?
- A) loyalists and revolutionaries
 - B) **Federalists and Antifederalists**
 - C) Democratic Party and Whig Party
 - D) executive branch and judicial branch
14. Delegates at the Constitutional Convention of 1787 agreed to the Three-fifths Compromise to solve a dispute directly related to
- A) the power of the presidency
 - B) **representation in Congress**
 - C) a decision by the Supreme Court
 - D) the addition of a bill of rights
15. Which heading best completes the partial outline below?
- I. _____
- A. Representation
 - B. Slave trade
 - C. Taxation
 - D. Election of the president
- A) Causes of the Revolutionary War
 - B) Provisions of the Treaty of Paris, 1783
 - C) Protections under the 10th Amendment
 - D) **Compromises at the Constitutional Convention**
-

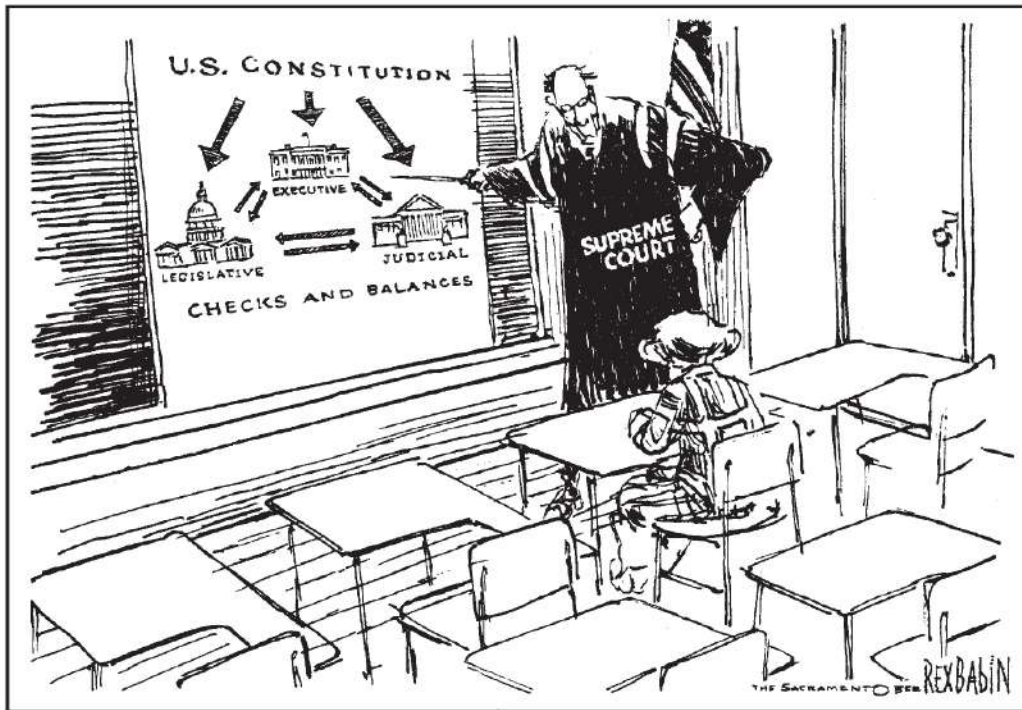
16. "... it is the opinion of this committee that a national government ought to be established consisting of a Supreme Legislature, Judiciary, and Executive. . . ."
- Resolution submitted by Edmund Randolph, delegate to the Constitutional Convention, 1787

In adopting this resolution, the framers of the Constitution showed their belief in the idea of

- A) judicial review
 - B) an elastic clause
 - C) States rights
 - D) separation of powers**
17. The Great Compromise at the Constitutional Convention of 1787 contained a provision for
- A) the direct election of Senators
 - B) judicial review
 - C) regulation of commerce
 - D) a bicameral legislature**
18. During the ratification debates of 1788 to 1791, the activities of the Antifederalists led to the
- A) drafting of the Declaration of Independence
 - B) strengthening of the Articles of Confederation
 - C) adoption of the Northwest Ordinance
 - D) addition of the Bill of Rights to the Constitution**
19. The *Federalist Papers*, written by Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison, were intended to
- A) promote independence from Great Britain
 - B) persuade voters to keep the Articles of Confederation
 - C) win support for ratification of the Constitution**
 - D) endorse candidates running for Congress
20. What was the primary objection of the Antifederalists to ratification of the Constitution?
- A) They opposed a bicameral legislature.
 - B) They believed the rights of the people were not protected.**
 - C) They feared a weak central government.
 - D) They wanted to give more power to the executive branch.

21. In order to win ratification of the United States Constitution, supporters agreed to
- A) add a bill of rights**
 - B) admit new states to the Union
 - C) establish an electoral college
 - D) give the Senate the power to ratify treaties
22. Which action can be taken by the United States Supreme Court to illustrate the concept that the Constitution is "the supreme law of the land"?
- A) hiring new federal judges
 - B) voting articles of impeachment
 - C) declaring a state law unconstitutional**
 - D) rejecting a presidential nomination to the cabinet
23. The framers of the United States Constitution included the concepts of federalism, checks and balances, and separation of powers in the document because they
- A) feared a government with unlimited power**
 - B) favored the poor over the rich
 - C) wanted to increase the powers of the states
 - D) hoped to expand the democratic process
24. The term *federalism* is best defined as
- A) the process of amending a constitution
 - B) the power of the courts to determine the constitutionality of laws
 - C) a republican form of government with no hereditary ruler
 - D) the division of power between the states and the national government**
25. "Senate Rejects Supreme Court Nominee"
"Supreme Court Declares National Recovery Act (NRA) Unconstitutional"
"Congress Overrides Truman Veto of Taft-Hartley Act"
- Each of these headlines illustrates the use of
- A) reserved powers
 - B) checks and balances**
 - C) executive privilege
 - D) federal supremacy

26. Base your answer to the question on the cartoon below and on your knowledge of social studies.



Source: Rex Babin, *The Sacramento Bee*, June 29, 2004

Which constitutional principle is the focus of this cartoon?

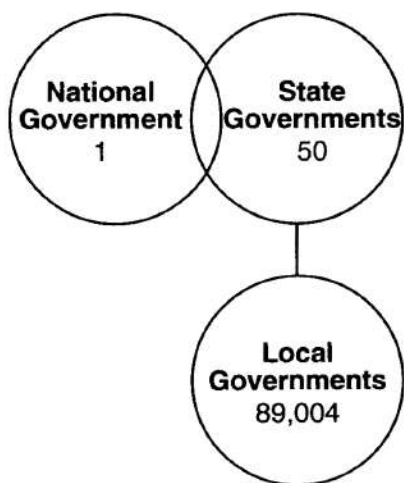
- A) individual liberties
- B) **separation of powers**
- C) freedom of speech
- D) federalism

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>27. Congress opposed President Franklin D. Roosevelt's plan to increase the number of justices on the Supreme Court because the plan would have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A) threatened the principle of checks and balancesB) abolished judicial reviewC) violated the elastic clause of the ConstitutionD) given the federal government too much power over the states <p>28. Which feature of the federal government is specifically described in the United States Constitution?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A) president's cabinetB) two-party political systemC) congressional committee systemD) Senate approval of nominations to the Supreme Court | <p>29. Which action illustrates the president's power as commander in chief?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A) ordering American troops into a foreign countryB) appointing the secretary of stateC) entertaining a foreign leader at the White HouseD) delivering the State of the Union address <p>30. Which power regarding the federal judiciary was established in <i>Marbury v. Madison</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A) The president appoints all federal judges.B) The Congress creates lower federal courts.C) Members of the federal courts serve life terms.D) Federal laws may be declared unconstitutional. |
|--|---|

31. Judicial review allows the Supreme Court to

- A) **determine the constitutionality of federal laws**
- B) approve nominations to the president's cabinet
- C) oversee the financing of the lower federal courts
- D) remove elected officials from office

32. Base your answer to question on the chart below and on your knowledge of social studies.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau,
2012 Census of Governments:
Organization Component
Preliminary Estimates

Which constitutional principle is best illustrated by the chart?

- A) **federalism**
- B) implied powers
- C) due process
- D) property rights

33. According to the Constitution, the president is required to

- A) **sign or veto bills passed by Congress**
- B) establish income tax rates
- C) review Supreme Court decisions
- D) raise money for political parties

34. Judicial review is most accurately described as the power of the

- A) president to override a decision of the Supreme Court
- B) state courts to overturn decisions of the Supreme Court
- C) Senate to approve all presidential appointments to federal courts
- D) **Supreme Court to determine the constitutionality of laws**

35. The United States Constitution grants the Senate the power to

- A) impeach governors
- B) issue pardons
- C) appoint ambassadors
- D) **approve treaties**

36. To win a presidential election, a candidate must win a

- A) two-thirds vote of the state legislatures
- B) two-thirds vote in Congress
- C) majority of the popular vote
- D) **majority of the electoral college vote**

37. A major criticism of the electoral college is that it

- A) limits the influence of the two-party political system
- B) **allows a president to be elected without a majority of the popular vote**
- C) forces each political candidate to campaign in every state
- D) makes the federal election process too expensive

38. The amendment process was included in the Constitution to

- A) **allow for change over time**
- B) expand the powers of the president
- C) increase citizen participation in government
- D) limit the authority of the United States Supreme Court

39. To provide for change, the authors of the United States Constitution included the amendment process and the

- A) commerce clause
- B) elastic clause**
- C) supremacy clause
- D) naturalization clause

40. In *Schenck v. United States* (1919), the Supreme Court decided that a “clear and present danger” to the country allowed the federal government to

- A) establish a peacetime draft
- B) restrict first amendment rights**
- C) suspend habeas corpus
- D) limit minority voting rights

41. The decisions of the United States Supreme Court in *Tinker v. Des Moines* and *New York Times Co. v. United States* were based on interpretations of the

- A) meaning of a republican form of government
- B) powers delegated specifically to Congress
- C) president’s right to executive privilege
- D) rights guaranteed by the 1st amendment**

42. • *Mapp v. Ohio*, 1961
• *Gideon v. Wainwright*, 1963
• *Miranda v. Arizona*, 1966

These three Supreme Court decisions are similar in that each ruling

- A) expanded the rights of the accused**
- B) reduced presidential powers
- C) shifted more power to the states
- D) limited campaign contributions

43. Base your answer to the following question on the passage below.

You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law. You have the right to speak to an attorney, and to have an attorney present during any questioning. If you cannot afford a lawyer, one will be provided for you at government expense.

— www.usconstitution.net

This passage resulted from which Supreme Court decision?

- A) *Mapp v. Ohio* (1961)
- B) *Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963)
- C) *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966)**
- D) *Tinker v. Des Moines* (1969)

44. "Article 6. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided, always, that any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original states, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid...."
- Northwest Ordinance, 1787

In which Supreme Court case did this provision of the Northwest Ordinance play an important part?

- A) *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)
- B) *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832)
- C) *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857)**
- D) *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896)

45. The Supreme Court decisions in *New York Times Co. v. United States* (1971) and *United States v. Nixon* (1974) reinforced the principle that the president of the United States

- A) has unlimited use of the veto power
- B) is protected from unfair media criticism
- C) may not be convicted of a crime
- D) is not above the law**

-
46. Which constitutional principle was tested in the cases of *Plessy v. Ferguson* and *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*?
- A) separation of powers
 - B) popular sovereignty
 - C) equal protection of the law**
 - D) separation of church and state
47. The Supreme Court rulings in *Roe v. Wade* (1973) and *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania, et al v. Casey* (1992) are similar in that both cases dealt with a woman's right to
- A) privacy**
 - B) medical insurance
 - C) equal pay for equal work
 - D) participate in school sports
48. Which Supreme Court decision is most closely associated with the Trail of Tears?
- A) *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)
 - B) *Gibbons v. Ogden* (1824)
 - C) *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832)**
 - D) *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857)
49. Which category most accurately completes the heading for the partial outline below?

I. Supreme Court Cases that Deal
With _____

- A. Engel v. Vitale (1962)
 - B. Tinker v. Des Moines School District (1969)
 - C. New Jersey v. T.L.O. (1985)
 - D. Vernonia School District v. Acton (1995)
- A) Right to Counsel
 - B) Student Rights**
 - C) School Integration
 - D) Federal Funding of Education
-

-
50. Base your answer to the following question on the charts below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Presidential Election of 1876

Republican Candidate	Democratic Candidate
Rutherford B. Hayes	Samuel Tilden
Electoral Votes: 185	Electoral Votes: 184
States Carried: 20	States Carried: 17
Popular Votes: 4,034,311	Popular Votes: 4,288,546

Presidential Election of 2000

Republican Candidate	Democratic Candidate
George W. Bush	Al Gore
Electoral Votes: 271	Electoral Votes: 266
States Carried: 30	States Carried: 20 + D.C.
Popular Votes: 50,456,062	Popular Votes: 50,996,582

Source: National Archives

The presidential elections of 1876 and 2000 were controversial because the winner in both elections

- A) was a third-party candidate
 - B) had fewer popular votes than his opponent**
 - C) had fewer electoral votes than his opponent
 - D) carried fewer states than his opponent
-

Answer Key
Constitution Regents Review

1. **D**
2. **A**
3. **C**
4. **B**
5. **C**
6. **D**
7. **D**
8. **A**
9. **B**
10. **A**
11. **A**
12. **D**
13. **B**
14. **B**
15. **D**
16. **D**
17. **D**
18. **D**
19. **C**
20. **B**
21. **A**
22. **C**
23. **A**
24. **D**
25. **B**
26. **B**
27. **A**
28. **D**
29. **A**
30. **D**
31. **A**
32. **A**
33. **A**
34. **D**
35. **D**
36. **D**

37. **B**
 38. **A**
 39. **B**
 40. **B**
 41. **D**
 42. **A**
 43. **C**
 44. **C**
 45. **D**
 46. **C**
 47. **A**
 48. **C**
 49. **B**
 50. **B**
-