

**TAPS AP Exam**  
**Complied from Student's Questions**

1. Which of the following is the best example of a weakness of the presidency?
  - A. Executive agreements must be approved by the Senate.
  - B. Congress often uses powers of the purse to undermine the President's troop deployments
  - C. Congress has complete control over the bureaucracy; therefore severely limiting the President's power
  - D. The President can't introduce bills to Congress
  - E. The President can only take covert action with Congress's approval
2. Which of the following cases ruled that the US federal law that regulates the financing of political campaigns was in violation of corporations' and unions' First Amendment rights?
  - A. Engel v. Vitale
  - B. Buckley v. Valeo
  - C. McConnell v. Federal Election Commission
  - D. Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission
  - E. Baker v. Carr
3. Fiscal federalism refers to:
  - A. the coordinated fiscal policy decisions of the federal government and the states.
  - B. expenditure of federal funds on programs run in part through state and local governments.
  - C. distribution of tax revenues between the federal government and the states.
  - D. the fact that both the federal government and the states have the power to tax.
  - E. the power of the federal government to tax the states.
4. In the American political system, there are two main parties, Republican and Democratic, and several third parties. Which of these is a consequence of the political parties weakening?
  - A. The two main parties lose power and third parties take over.
  - B. Political parties have no effect on daily political happenings.
  - C. The leaders of the parties no longer get to choose their candidates, which are chosen instead by popular vote.
  - D. Voters start voting based only on party affiliation in order to strengthen their own party.
  - E. Political shifts occur and regions change which party the general public belongs to.
5. Congress has delegated substantial authority to administrative agencies in many areas; which of these is NOT one of those areas?
  - A. Paying subsidies to particular groups and organizations in society.
  - B. Transferring money from the federal government to state and local governments.
  - C. Devising and enforcing regulations for various sectors of society and the economy.
  - D. Judging and punishing those who do not abide by proper rules and regulations.
  - E. Offering tax breaks to corporations to stimulate hiring and growth.
6. Which one of the following is not considered one of the checks and balances of the branches of government expressed by the Constitution?
  - A. The Senate must approve the President's appointments
  - B. The President can veto bills passed by Congress
  - C. The Supreme court has the power to determine the Constitutionality of a statute
  - D. Congress can override the president's veto with 2/3's vote
  - E. The Congress can impeach members of the executive and judicial branches

7. All of the following are ways that internet has changed elections EXCEPT?
  - A. Candidates can raise funds
  - B. People are more aware
  - C. People can find out election results quicker
  - D. Candidates can become President quicker
  - E. People can vote online
8. People think that there is a lot of waste that goes into pork barrel legislation, yet Congress gets away with the spending without much repercussions from the constituents, why is that?
  - A. Because people don't understand what pork barrel legislation is
  - B. Because people like if the money is getting funneled into their home place, so they only complain of waste when it doesn't involve their area
  - C. Because Congress lies about where the money comes from
  - D. Because in order for there to be repercussions constituents must care about the waste
  - E. Because constituents are too focused on other problems, like gay marriage, so they don't focus on government waste
9. Which is a factor that makes it difficult for party leadership to influence members of their party in Congress?
  - A. Whips make certain that party members are present for votes.
  - B. Whips make sure that party members vote the way the party wishes.
  - C. Steering Committee & Committee on Committees assign members to positions in committees.
  - D. Majority and Minority leaders lead the party.
  - E. A political spectrum exists inside the parties.
10. What are the effects of a divided government?
  - A: Policy gridlock
  - B: Obama going on vacation
  - C: Justice department shuts down
  - D: Laws that only favor one party are passed
  - E. More positive campaign ads
11. Since the 1960s, the process of selecting presidential candidates has been altered by the changing role of presidential primaries and national party conventions. What are those changes?
  - A. new technology making it easier for the presidential candidate to get their views out, the president being better, and the electoral college being abolished
  - B. the primaries being more competitive, the 14<sup>TH</sup> amendment, and closed elections
  - C. the electoral college being more involved, new technology making it easier for the media to bash a candidate, and the 12<sup>TH</sup> amendment
  - D. the media, taking the process of electing a president out of the hands of the electoral college except in close elections, and the primaries being more competitive
  - E. taking the process of electing a president out of the hands of the electoral college except in close elections, the primaries being less competitive, and the media being more involved on other issues

12. In which case did the Supreme Court decide that Congress has authority over banning segregation in the Civil Rights Act using the commerce clause?
- A. Engel v. Vitale
  - B. Brown v. Topeka BOE
  - C. Scopes v. 'Monkey'
  - D. Heart of Atlanta motel v. US
  - E. Mapp v. Ohio
13. Which of the following is NOT a method used by special interest groups to influence legislation?
- A. Litigation
  - B. Create problems
  - C. Threats
  - D. Campaign contributions
  - E. Use voting power
14. What was the Framers' main intent of in creating the Electoral College?
- A. They thought that only the educated should be able to vote
  - B. The states wanted fair representation in the new representative government
  - C. The South feared the north's greater population
  - D. Many of the Framers feared fraud
  - E. The Framers feared a the rise of third parties
15. What case is a good example of Judicial restraint in the area of the rights of the accused?
- A. US v. Leon
  - B. Mapp v. Ohio
  - C. Gideon v. Wainwright
  - D. Miranda v. Arizona
  - E. Brown v. Topeka Board of Education
16. Which of the following acts best exemplifies the devolution revolution?
- A. Welfare Reform act of 1996
  - B. Bipartisan Reform Act
  - C. Civil Rights act of 1965
  - D. McCain Feingold Act
  - E. The Pendleton Act
- i.
17. Which of the following is not an advantage of having a system of Federalism?
- A. Allows for separation of powers, preventing the Government from becoming too powerful
  - B. Allows different political groups to gain influence in different places
  - C. Mobilizes political activity by having smaller constituencies
  - D. Allows citizens to get involved in government
  - E. Protect local interests the sometimes go against national plans
18. Which one of these is not an example of powers given to the states by the Constitution?
- A. Issuing driving license
  - B. Setting legal drinking/smoking ages
  - C. Conducting elections
  - D. Enter into agreements with a foreign nation
  - E. Schooling

19. What is one of the formal methods of amending the constitution?

- A.  $\frac{3}{4}$  of States propose an amendment and  $\frac{3}{4}$  Congress approves it.
- B. President proposes an amendment and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of States approve it.
- C.  $\frac{2}{3}$  of Congress proposes amendment and President approves it.
- D.  $\frac{3}{4}$  of State legislatures propose an amendment and the Supreme Court approves it.
- E.  $\frac{2}{3}$  of both houses of Congress proposes and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of State legislatures approve it.

20. What influences and results from Congress's inefficient and slow process?

- A) PACS
- B) Lack of information and passing of extreme measures
- C) Opposing opinions, people wanting different things, and non-extreme bills/measures
- D) Personal beliefs and well thought out and executed bills
- E) Overabundance of information.

***How did you do???***

**Answers:**

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