ALABAMA UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT · FINAL EXAM

Final Exam — Practice Test

Alabama United States Government • 50 questions

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1 **Under the compromise reached at the Constitutional Convention in 1787, each enslaved person was counted as**

- A a full person for representation
- B not counted at all
- C a full person for taxation only
- D three fifths of a person for representation and taxation

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

2 **How many members are in the House of Representatives?**

ANSWER _____

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

3 **In what year was the Declaration of Independence adopted?**

ANSWER _____

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4 **How many years is a term for a United States senator?**

ANSWER _____

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

5 **Shays Rebellion showed that the government under the Articles of Confederation was**

A the states had too little power

B the central government was too weak to help maintain order

C the president had too much power

D Congress had too large an army

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6

Who leads the House of Representatives?

A The Vice President

B The President pro tempore

C The Majority Leader

D The Speaker of the House

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7

The Great Compromise provided that

A both houses would have equal representation for each state

B the House would be based on population and the Senate would have equal representation for each state

C both houses would be based on population

D the House would have equal representation and the Senate would be based on population

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

8 **To override a presidential veto, each house of Congress must vote by**

- A a simple majority
- B three fifths
- C three fourths
- D two thirds

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

9 **According to John Locke, natural rights include**

- A life, liberty, and property
- B the right to vote in every election
- C free public education
- D trial by jury in all cases

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

10 **What is the minimum age to serve as president of the United States?**

- A 25
- B 30
- C 35
- D 40

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11 **The Anti Federalists feared a strong central government and**

- A demanded a bill of rights to protect individual liberties
- B supported a strong central government with no limits
- C wanted a king to rule the United States
- D opposed all state governments

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

12 **How long is one term for the president of the United States?**

- A 2 years
- B 4 years
- C 6 years
- D 8 years

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

13 **The idea that government power comes from the people is called**

- A rule of law
- B popular sovereignty
- C federalism
- D judicial review

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14 **As commander in chief, the president commands the**

A Speaker of the House

B armed forces

C Chief Justice

D Secretary of State

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Source I - A Town Meeting Report

Use this reading for question 15.

Each spring, the voters of our town meet in the school gym. They debate the proposed budget line by line, and then every registered voter present casts a ballot. The budget that wins the most votes is the budget the town follows for the next year.

15 **Source I best illustrates the principle of**

A popular sovereignty

B judicial review

C federalism

D separation of powers

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16 **The Cabinet is made up of the**

A judges of the Supreme Court

B heads of the executive departments

C members of Congress

D governors of the states

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

17 **Dividing power between the national government and the state governments is called**

A federalism

B popular sovereignty

C limited government

D separation of powers

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

18 **Judicial review, the power of courts to declare laws unconstitutional, was established in**

A McCulloch v Maryland

B Marbury v Madison

C Brown v Board of Education

D Plessy v Ferguson

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19 **The clause that makes the Constitution the highest law of the land is the**

A necessary and proper clause

B full faith and credit clause

C supremacy clause

D commerce clause

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20 **How many justices serve on the Supreme Court?**

ANSWER _____

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

21 **Congress used its power to create a national bank, although no listed power mentions banks. The clause Congress relied on to do this is the**

A supremacy clause

B commerce clause

C establishment clause

D necessary and proper clause

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

22 **A main function of a political party is to**

A run a business

B report the news

C nominate candidates for office

D enforce federal laws

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

23 **In the Preamble, to insure domestic tranquility means to**

- A keep peace within the country
- B defend against foreign attack
- C provide for the public welfare
- D secure liberty for future generations

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24 **The main purpose of a primary election is to**

- A choose the president directly
- B ratify an amendment
- C choose a party nominee for office
- D confirm a federal judge

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

25 **An amendment proposed by Congress must be approved by what fraction of each house?**

A One third

B One half

C Two thirds

D Three fourths

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

26 **A main role of the media in a democracy is to**

A make laws

B enforce laws

C inform the public and check the power of government

D nominate candidates

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

27 **An amendment proposed by Congress becomes part of the Constitution when it is ratified by**

A one half of the states

B two thirds of the states

C nine of the thirteen original states

D three fourths of the states

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

28 **The federal bureaucracy mainly works to**

A make laws

B implement and enforce laws passed by Congress

C interpret the Constitution

D elect officials

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Source II - A Newspaper Report on a Court Case

Use this reading for question 29.

A state passed a law that set its own rules for goods shipped across state lines. A federal law already set different rules for the same shipments. A court ruled that the state law could not stand where it conflicted with the federal law.

29 **According to Source II, when a state law and a federal law conflict, which law prevails?**

- **A** The state law prevails
- **B** The federal law prevails
- **C** The newer law always prevails
- **D** The court must ask voters to decide

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Source II - Residents Work for a Bill

Use this reading for question 30.

Residents who want a clean water bill passed have hired a person to meet with members of Congress, explain the bill, and answer questions about how it would affect their town.

30 **The tactic described in Source II is called**

- A lobbying
- B voting
- C gerrymandering
- D judicial review

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31 **How many articles does the original Constitution contain?**

ANSWER _____

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

32 **Who presides over the Senate and may cast a tie breaking vote?**

- A The Speaker of the House
- B The Chief Justice
- C The Secretary of State
- D The Vice President

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

33 **What does limited government mean?**

- A government power is limited by law
- B government may do anything it chooses
- C only the courts are limited
- D states have no limits on their power

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34 **How often is a national census taken for reapportionment of House seats?**

ANSWER _____

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35 **The power to tax is an example of a concurrent power because it belongs to**

A the national government only

B the state governments only

C both the national government and the state governments

D neither level of government

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36 **How many Senate votes are needed for cloture, which ends debate on most bills?**

ANSWER _____

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37 **Which is an enumerated power of the national government?**

A Declaring war

B Setting up local public schools

C Issuing drivers licenses

D Establishing a local police force

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

38 **An executive order is a direction by the president to**

A executive agencies

B Congress to pass a law

C courts to interpret a law

D state governors to change state law

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

39 **Which freedom is NOT protected by the First Amendment?**

A Freedom of speech

B Freedom of the press

C Freedom of religion

D The right to bear arms

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40 **The State of the Union address is**

A a budget document only

B an annual message from the president to Congress about the nation

C a decision of the Supreme Court

D a political party platform

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41

The Nineteenth Amendment

A ended slavery

B lowered the voting age

C gave women the right to vote

D banned poll taxes

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42

Which amendment limits a president to two elected terms?

A The Twentieth Amendment

B The Twenty First Amendment

C The Twenty Second Amendment

D The Twenty Fifth Amendment

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Source I - A New Citizen

Use this reading for question 43.

After years of living in the United States as a lawful permanent resident, Ana studied American history and government, passed a civics test, and took an oath of allegiance in a courtroom ceremony. She left the ceremony as a United States citizen.

43 **The process described in Source I is called**

- **A** deportation
- **B** naturalization
- **C** impeachment
- **D** reapportionment

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44 **Which federal courts are the trial courts of the federal system?**

- **A** Courts of appeals
- **B** The Supreme Court only
- **C** State supreme courts
- **D** Federal district courts

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45 **In what year was the Constitution written at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia?**

ANSWER _____

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46 **Voter turnout in midterm elections is usually**

- **A** higher than in presidential elections
- **B** the same as in presidential elections
- **C** lower than in presidential elections
- **D** zero, because no voting takes place

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47 **In what year was the Bill of Rights ratified?**

ANSWER _____

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Source I - A Party Document

Use this reading for question 48.

Before the election, the party published a document that listed its positions on taxes, education, health care, and national defense. Candidates running under the party name said they supported the positions in the document.

48 **The document described in Source I is called a**

A platform

B bill

C treaty

D executive order

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49 **The Federalist Papers were written to**

A argue against the Constitution

B report daily news from Philadelphia

C argue in favor of ratifying the Constitution

D write laws for the states

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50 **To vote in a United States election, a person must generally be**

A any resident of any age

B a citizen under age 18

C a noncitizen resident

D a citizen age 18 or older who meets state rules

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ANSWER KEY

1.	D	**10.**	C	**19.**	C	**28.**	B	**37.**	A	**46.**	C
2.	435	**11.**	A	**20.**	9	**29.**	B	**38.**	A	**47.**	1791
3.	1776	**12.**	B	**21.**	D	**30.**	A	**39.**	D	**48.**	A
4.	6	**13.**	B	**22.**	C	**31.**	7	**40.**	B	**49.**	C
5.	B	**14.**	B	**23.**	A	**32.**	D	**41.**	C	**50.**	D
6.	D	**15.**	A	**24.**	C	**33.**	A	**42.**	C		
7.	B	**16.**	B	**25.**	C	**34.**	10	**43.**	B		
8.	D	**17.**	A	**26.**	C	**35.**	C	**44.**	D		
9.	A	**18.**	B	**27.**	D	**36.**	60	**45.**	1787		

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