UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT · ILLINOIS

United States Government
Practice Test

Unit 2: Institutions and Participation

25 Questions

Original practice test based on the Illinois curriculum. Work through each question, then check your answers at the end.

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button to let Brett know so he can fix it.

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Question 1

How many members are in the House of Representatives?

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Question 2

How long is a term for a member of the House of Representatives?

A) 2 years

B) 4 years

C) 6 years

D) 8 years

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Question 3

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

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Question 4

What is the minimum age to serve in the United States Senate?

A) 21

B) 25

C) 30

D) 35

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Question 5

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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Question 6

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

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Question 7

In an impeachment case, which describes the roles of the two houses?

A) The Senate brings charges and the House holds the trial

B) The Supreme Court brings charges and the Senate holds the trial

C) The House brings charges and the Senate holds the trial

D) The president brings charges and the House holds the trial

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Question 8

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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Question 9

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

A) 2 years

B) 4 years

C) 6 years

D) 8 years

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Question 10

How many electoral votes must a presidential candidate win to win the presidency?

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Question 11

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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Question 12

A treaty made by the president must be approved by

A) two thirds of the Senate

B) a simple majority of the House

C) a simple majority of the Senate

D) the Supreme Court

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Question 13

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

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Question 14

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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Question 15

Federal judges serve

A) during good behavior

B) two year terms

C) six year terms

D) until the president who appointed them leaves office

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Question 16

How many justices serve on the Supreme Court?

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Question 17

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

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Question 18

A group that meets with legislators to persuade them to support a bill is engaged in

A) campaigning

B) lobbying

C) gerrymandering

D) filing a lawsuit

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Question 19

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

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Question 20

Which amendment gave women the right to vote?

A) The Nineteenth Amendment

B) The Fifteenth Amendment

C) The Twenty Sixth Amendment

D) The Seventeenth Amendment

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Question 21

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

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Question 22

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 I - A Bill and a Veto

Use this reading for question 23.

The House of Representatives and the Senate both passed a bill to fund a new national park program. The president returned the bill unsigned with a written message explaining his objections. Leaders in Congress announced they would try to pass the bill over the president's objection.

Question 23

To pass the bill over that objection, each house must vote by

A) a simple majority

B) three fourths

C) a unanimous vote

D) two thirds

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Source II - Residents Work for a Bill

Use this reading for question 24.

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.

Question 24

The tactic described in Source II is called

A) lobbying

B) voting

C) gerrymandering

D) judicial review

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Question 25

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

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ANSWER KEY

1. 435
2. A
3. 6
4. C
5. D
6. D
7. C
8. C
9. B
10. 270
11. B
12. A
13. B
14. B
15. A
16. 9
17. C
18. B
19. C
20. A
21. C
22. B
23. D
24. A
25. D

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