Contemporary Canada and Constitutional Change — Practice Test

Saskatchewan History 30: Canadian Studies • 25 questions

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Source I - A Young Canadian Reflects on the Constitution, 1985

Use this reading for questions 1 to 3.

We now have our own Constitution with a Charter of Rights, and no longer need Britain to change it. That feels like growing up as a country.

Yet the Charter raises new questions. Whose rights count most, and how do we balance individual freedom with the needs of communities?

1 **The main idea of Source I is that patriation with a Charter felt like growing up as a country, but it raised questions about whose rights count most and how to balance freedom with**

- A only government power
- B community needs
- C only court power
- D only provincial power

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2 **According to Source I, what does having our own Constitution with a Charter feel like?**

A Staying a colony

B Growing up as a country

C Losing all rights

D Changing trade deals

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3 **According to Source I, what new questions does the Charter raise?**

A Whose rights count most, and how to balance them

B Which flag to use

C Which anthem to sing

D How to change military plans

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4 **Patriation in 1982 meant bringing the Canadian Constitution under full Canadian control, so amendments no longer required the British**

- A Crown only
- B Supreme Court only
- C Senate only
- D Parliament

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5 **The Constitution Act, 1982 includes the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which guarantees fundamental freedoms, democratic rights, mobility rights, legal rights, and**

- A equality rights
- B only property rights
- C only language rights
- D only voting rights

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6 **Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms existing Aboriginal and treaty rights, a provision central to Indigenous peoples constitutional**

A only hunting rights

B status

C only fishing rights

D only land claims in the north

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7 **The Charter applies mainly to governments, not to private individuals or businesses, and it can be limited by Section 1 where limits are reasonable and**

A only popular

B only temporary

C demonstrably justified

D only federal

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8 **The notwithstanding clause, Section 33, allows governments to override certain Charter rights temporarily, a controversial feature intended as a compromise during**

A only language debates

B only trade talks

C only defence planning

D patriation negotiations

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9 **Multiculturalism became official Canadian policy in 1971 and was later enshrined in the Multiculturalism Act of 1988, reflecting Canada growing**

A diversity

B only immigration from Britain

C only bilingualism

D only Indigenous cultures

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10 **Immigration to Canada since the 1960s has become more diverse as the points system replaced country of origin preferences with criteria based on education, skills, and**

- A only wealth
- B language
- C only family ties
- D only age

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11 **The points system introduced in 1967 changed immigration by assessing applicants on factors rather than race or country of**

- A only age
- B only wealth
- C origin
- D only education

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12 **Canada refugee policy includes government and private sponsorship, and Canada has resettled refugees from conflicts including Vietnam, Syria, and**

A only Europe

B only Asia

C only the Middle East

D Ukraine

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13 **Contemporary Canada faces debates about reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, including implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to**

A Action

B Silence

C Forgetfulness

D Compensation only

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14 **The Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which operated from 2008 to 2015, documented residential school experiences and called for action in education, health, justice, and**

A only education

B child welfare

C only apologies

D only memorials

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15 **Contemporary economic issues in Canada include regional disparities, resource development debates, housing affordability, and**

A only farming

B only mining

C global trade

D only manufacturing

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16 **Housing affordability in Canadian cities has become a major issue as prices rise faster than incomes, especially in Vancouver and**

A only Regina

B only Saskatoon

C only Winnipeg

D Toronto

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17 **Climate change is a contemporary Canadian issue because Canada warming at twice the global average affects the Arctic, forests, and**

A coastal communities

B only cities

C only farms

D only mines

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18 **Canada Arctic sovereignty is debated as melting ice opens shipping routes and resource access, raising questions about control of the Northwest**

A only Hudson Bay

B Passage

C only Beaufort Sea

D only Arctic Ocean in general

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19 **Contemporary Canadian identity is debated as Canada becomes more diverse, urban, and globally connected, while also grappling with its colonial history and**

A only British heritage

B only French heritage

C treaty relationships

D only American influence

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20 **The Canadian Charter has shaped contemporary Canada through court decisions on issues such as abortion, same sex marriage, and**

A only language

B only voting

C only property

D Indigenous rights

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21 **Same sex marriage was legalized across Canada in 2005, following court decisions and parliamentary debate, reflecting changing social**

A values

B only legal rules

C only religious views

D only provincial policies

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22 **The Supreme Court of Canada is the final court of appeal and interpreter of the Constitution, and its decisions on the Charter shape rights across**

A only Ontario

B Canada

C only Quebec

D only federal cases

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23 **Contemporary Canada participation in global affairs includes peacekeeping, trade agreements, climate negotiations, and support for**

A only trade

B only peacekeeping

C Ukraine after the 2022 invasion

D only climate talks

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24 **A student studying contemporary Canada should consider continuity and change, including how past decisions on Confederation, rights, and treaties continue to shape**

- A only present debates
- B only past debates
- C only future debates
- D present debates

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25 **The future of Canada constitutional debates may involve Senate reform, Indigenous self government, Quebec place in Confederation, and balancing rights with**

- A collective goals
- B only Senate reform
- C only Quebec
- D only Indigenous issues

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ANSWER KEY

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

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