

Chapter 2 : Practice Test

Indicate whether the statement is true or false.

- ___ 1. The major debates at the Constitutional Convention were not over the basic ideas of the new government, but how they would put these ideas into practice.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- ___ 2. In 1787 the states met to revise the Articles of Confederation, but instead wrote the Constitution.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- ___ 3. The Virginia Plan proposed a weaker executive branch than the New Jersey Plan.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- ___ 4. The Judeo-Christian concept of an agreement between man and God influenced the early colonists' views of the role of government.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- ___ 5. Shays's Rebellion forced leaders to realize that the Articles were too weak.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- ___ 6. Following the Declaration of Independence, the Second Continental Congress instructed the states to begin writing constitutions.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- ___ 7. In order for the Bill of Rights to become part of the Constitution, it had to be approved by Congress and ratified by the states.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- ___ 8. Many people believe the inalienable rights set forth in the Declaration of Independence are not human-made, but come from higher powers.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- ___ 9. In colonial charters, all the power of the government was given to the governor.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- ___ 10. Britain reacted to the First Continental Congress by weakening its control over the colonies.
 - a. True
 - b. False

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- ___ 11. Patrick Henry opposed the new Constitution because it created a weak national government.
a. True
b. False
- ___ 12. While women could not vote, most colonies allowed all adult white men to vote.
a. True
b. False
- ___ 13. The colonists used word-of-mouth and printing to share the events leading to the Declaration of Independence; today we could use technologies such as e-mail to accomplish this task more efficiently.
a. True
b. False
- ___ 14. The colonists were familiar with representative government from Britain's Parliament.
a. True
b. False
- ___ 15. Pilgrim leaders wrote the Mayflower Compact to provide rules for governing themselves.
a. True
b. False
- ___ 16. A major reason leaders such as Jefferson wanted a strong central government was their experiences with Great Britain's monarchy.
a. True
b. False
- ___ 17. The members of the Second Continental Congress supported republicanism by establishing a legislature in their new government.
a. True
b. False
- ___ 18. The Three-Fifths Compromise lasted until the Fourteenth Amendment declared that everyone would be counted as a whole person.
a. True
b. False
- ___ 19. Under the Articles of Confederation, the government could borrow money and levy taxes.
a. True
b. False
- ___ 20. Because of what they saw as unfair taxation, colonists stopped buying British goods.
a. True
b. False

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Indicate the answer choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- ___ 21. In 1776, states began creating written constitutions because they
- knew that once they were independent, they needed orderly governments.
 - realized they needed British protection in order to survive.
 - wanted the states to be united under a single national government.
 - wanted to increase the amount of goods they were trading with Britain.
- ___ 22. The Fourteenth Amendment did away with the Three-Fifths Compromise by stating that
- every individual counted as a whole person.
 - interstate commerce could not be taxed.
 - legislative representation should be based entirely on population.
 - the people should directly elect the president.
- ___ 23. When the Declaration of Independence states it is drawing on “the Laws of Nature and Nature's God,” it is expressing an idea that primarily originated with
- George Washington.
 - John Locke.
 - Richard Henry Lee.
 - Samuel Adams.
- ___ 24. Which of John Locke’s beliefs had a major influence on the colonists?
- All people have certain “natural” or inalienable rights such as the right to liberty.
 - Monarchs are appointed by God and should have supreme power.
 - People need government to maintain order and prevent conflict.
 - The powers of government must be separated.
- ___ 25. Shays’s Rebellion caused the new nation’s leaders to realize that
- a stronger national government was needed.
 - the Articles did an inadequate job of protecting individual rights.
 - the Articles did an inadequate job of protecting states’ rights.
 - the nation needed to outlaw slavery.
- ___ 26. An important accomplishment of the Articles of Confederation was that it
- created fair policies for settling lands west of the Appalachian Mountains.
 - developed a national court system.
 - stopped the ability of states to charge tariffs on goods imported from other states.
 - strengthened the national government’s ability to levy and collect taxes.
- ___ 27. As the Articles of Confederation were written, a major debate centered around whether
- slavery should be legal.
 - the government should have both an executive and a legislative branch.
 - the national government or state and local governments should be stronger.
 - there should be an army under the control of the national government.

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- ___ 28. The Bill of Rights was created because the Anti-Federalists were concerned that
- a. the Constitution would not implement separation of powers.
 - b. the new national government could trample on individual rights.
 - c. representation in the Senate would be based on population.
 - d. small states would have as much power as large states.
- ___ 29. After considerable discussion, the First Continental Congress
- a. decided to go to war against the British.
 - b. established a central government and chose John Hancock as its president.
 - c. imposed an embargo on Britain.
 - d. instructed the colonies to create written constitutions.
- ___ 30. George Mason refused to sign the draft Constitution because
- a. he believed the length of the president's term should be two years.
 - b. he thought the president should be elected by the people, not the Electoral College.
 - c. it created a bicameral legislature, which he thought gave the small states too much power.
 - d. it prohibited the government from restricting the slave trade for 20 years.
- ___ 31. By agreeing to amend the Constitution by adding the Bill of Rights,
- a. the Anti-Federalists were incorporating the ideas of Charles de Montesquieu.
 - b. the Founders were incorporating the ideas of William Blackstone.
 - c. the Founders were responding to Anti-Federalists' fears of an overly powerful national government.
 - d. the Founders were responding to Anti-Federalists' fears of overly powerful state governments.
- ___ 32. The Founders created a federal system of government because they
- a. believed that representation on Congress should be based entirely on population.
 - b. did not want the president to become as powerful as a monarch.
 - c. wanted individuals to have the right to a fair and speedy trial.
 - d. wanted power to be split between the national and the state governments.
- ___ 33. Colonists valued limited government because they
- a. believed monarchs should have absolute power over their people.
 - b. did not accept the concept of a representative government.
 - c. thought people should be protected from punishment by an unjust government.
 - d. thought that order could be maintained without a government.
- ___ 34. Which of the following lists the steps required to add the Bill of Rights to the Constitution in the correct sequence?
- a. Madison introduced it, Congress approved it, and the states ratified it.
 - b. Madison introduced it, the House modified it, and Congress enforced it.
 - c. Madison introduced it, the states approved it, and the Senate modified it.
 - d. Madison introduced it, the states ratified it, and Congress enforced it.

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- ___ 35. Citizens such as Henry Knox were concerned that the national government
- denied individuals' rights.
 - did not have the power to coin money.
 - was taking on powers that belonged to the states.
 - was unable to provide citizens with security.
- ___ 36. Which of the following was a positive achievement under the Articles of Confederation?
- establishing an executive branch
 - levying and collecting taxes
 - signing a peace treaty with Britain
 - stopping states from coining their own money
- ___ 37. The convention delegates supported the concept of separation of powers as expressed
- by Charles de Montesquieu.
 - by John Locke.
 - in the Articles of Confederation.
 - in the New Testament.
- ___ 38. The authors of the Declaration of Independence were influenced by the idea in the Old Testament that
- everyone had the right to a fair trial.
 - governments should be based on the concept of republicanism.
 - societies should establish social contracts that everyone was required to follow.
 - the law should apply uniformly to everyone, even kings.
- ___ 39. The Connecticut Charter set up a representative government because it
- established the governor as the king's agent in the colony.
 - gave people the right to elect the governor and judges.
 - allowed for taxation without the consent of the people.
 - stated that all colonists had the right to vote.
- ___ 40. New Jersey delegates did not support the Virginia Plan because they thought
- it gave too much power to the large states.
 - the legislature would be able to control the executive branch.
 - the judicial branch would not be independent.
 - the number of votes a state had in the legislature should be based on population.
- ___ 41. By 1776, the colonial governments
- accepted the king as head of the church.
 - had significant experience in representative government.
 - primarily practiced direct democracy for all citizens.
 - were virtually identical to one another.

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- ___ 42. The Founders incorporated Jean Jacques Rousseau’s concept of freedom of religion into the Constitution by stating that
- a. all citizens must practice a religion, but it may be a religion of their choosing.
 - b. Congress can establish a state religion.
 - c. Congress cannot make any laws preventing people from practicing their religion.
 - d. religious groups cannot be taxed or treated differently from other types of groups.
- ___ 43. The Magna Carta recognized the principle of limited government because it
- a. established a system of checks and balances in Parliament.
 - b. guaranteed the right to a fair and speedy trial.
 - c. restricted the power of the monarchy.
 - d. stated that everyone was equal under the law.
- ___ 44. The purpose of the Preamble to the Declaration of Independence was to
- a. describe the wrongs the king had committed.
 - b. emphasize the importance of social contracts.
 - c. establish the source of the rights of all Americans.
 - d. list the reasons the colonists believed they deserved independence.
- ___ 45. The Declaration of Independence states that governments
- a. can establish standing armies without the consent of the legislatures.
 - b. derive their powers from the consent of the governed.
 - c. do not have the right to tax those they govern.
 - d. have divine rights that set them above the people they govern.
- ___ 46. The First Continental Congress’s embargo on Britain likely hurt the colonies’ private businesses because
- a. it decreased income from tariffs.
 - b. they could no longer make money from British imports.
 - c. the value of British goods was greatly reduced.
 - d. enforcing the embargo was very expensive.
- ___ 47. In *The Federalist*, No. 10, James Madison argued in favor of a large republic because
- a. it would make it easier for Congress to regulate interstate commerce.
 - b. the chances of the majority having common motives would decrease.
 - c. the president’s power would be decreased.
 - d. the states with smaller populations would have more power.
- ___ 48. Any powers not specifically stated in the Articles of Confederation
- a. could not be exercised by either the central or state governments.
 - b. were given to the central government.
 - c. were given to the states.
 - d. were shared by the central government and the states.

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- ___ 49. Leaders such as Thomas Jefferson formed committees of correspondence that
- began writing a national constitution.
 - established colonial legislatures.
 - sent soldiers to fight in the French and Indian War.
 - urged resistance to the British.
- ___ 50. What did Britain do in response to the French and Indian War that caused the colonists to boycott British goods?
- Britain increased the colonists' taxes.
 - Britain prohibited the colonies from creating their own charters.
 - Britain removed all its troops from the colonies.
 - Britain stopped exporting goods to the colonies.
- ___ 51. Under the Articles of Confederation, Congress could
- declare war, but it could not make treaties.
 - establish post offices, but it could not levy taxes.
 - force everyone to abide by the law, but it could not establish a court system.
 - levy taxes, but it could not establish an executive branch.
- ___ 52. A serious problem following the Revolutionary War was that
- many states refused to help pay off the extensive war debt.
 - the national government could not regulate affairs with Native Americans.
 - the national government was unable to coin money.
 - the states refused to give the central government the right to make treaties.
- ___ 53. The Federalist Papers were successful primarily because they
- clearly explained the principles of American constitutional government.
 - limited the power of the executive branch.
 - presented a way of solving the dilemma between the large and small states.
 - set up a clear way of separating the powers of the three governmental branches.
- ___ 54. One way that the English Bill of Rights expanded on the Magna Carta was by
- establishing an independent judiciary.
 - re-establishing the supremacy of the monarchy.
 - stating that the monarch must have Parliament's consent to levy taxes.
 - stating that people had the right to a fair and speedy trial.
- ___ 55. An inalienable right that is stated in the Declaration of Independence and contributes to our current national identity is the right to
- a representative government.
 - be able to vote in elections.
 - be economically secure.
 - pursue happiness.

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- ___ 56. The Anti-Federalists demanded that the Constitution have a bill of rights because they
- believed it was needed in order to protect individual liberties.
 - did not want the national government to be able to restrict the slave trade.
 - wanted representation in the Senate to be based on population.
 - were concerned that the judicial branch would be overly powerful.
- ___ 57. As the result of events such as Shays's Rebellion,
- each state was given a single vote, regardless of its size.
 - leaders realized the Articles of Confederation were too weak.
 - the British stopped enforcing the Stamp Act.
 - the central government had no power to regulate affairs with American Indians.
- ___ 58. A major reason for Shays's Rebellion was that
- citizens were upset about farm foreclosures.
 - Congress wanted more power over the states.
 - legislators thought the central government should provide better security.
 - states could not agree on how western lands should be settled.
- ___ 59. What document stated that monarchs could not interfere with parliamentary elections?
- the English Bill of Rights
 - the Magna Carta
 - the New Testament
 - the Old Testament
- ___ 60. A major problem with the legislature set up under the Articles was that
- it could not make treaties with other nations.
 - it had no power to regulate affairs with Native Americans.
 - it was bicameral rather than unicameral.
 - regardless of its population, each state had one vote.

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- a. Virginia Plan
- b. Bill of Rights
- c. charter
- d. boycott
- e. New Jersey Plan
- f. Three-Fifths Compromise
- g. John Locke
- h. Articles of Confederation
- i. Alexander Hamilton
- j. Moses

- ___ 61. said laws should be applied equally to all people
- ___ 62. created a “league of friendship” among the states
- ___ 63. an agreement not to buy goods from a specific source
- ___ 64. supported by the small states
- ___ 65. said that slaves would be counted as less than a whole person
- ___ 66. wrote public letters in support of the proposed Constitution
- ___ 67. supported by the large states
- ___ 68. stated that people had “natural rights”
- ___ 69. constitution containing rules for a government
- ___ 70. constitutional amendments that protected individual freedoms

- a. representative government
- b. The Federalist Papers
- c. unicameral legislature
- d. First Continental Congress
- e. Magna Carta
- f. *Leviathan*
- g. colonial charters and constitutions
- h. English Bill of Rights
- i. limited government
- j. Connecticut Compromise

- ___ 71. stated that society was created by a social contract
- ___ 72. established the authority of Parliament
- ___ 73. imposed an embargo on Britain
- ___ 74. gave colonists experience with limited self-government
- ___ 75. concept that a government’s power is not absolute
- ___ 76. writings that supported adoption of the Constitution
- ___ 77. type of congress created by the Articles of Confederation
- ___ 78. resulted in a bicameral legislature
- ___ 79. a government in which citizens elect delegates
- ___ 80. recognized the rights of the English nobles