

APGOV Reading Guide Review Questions Chapter 2
***Answers are in the notebook in my classroom.**

1. Which of the following statements is FALSE?
 - a. A constitution is a nation's basic laws.
 - b. A constitution is an unwritten accumulation of traditions and precedents.
 - c. A constitution allocates power within government.
 - d. A constitution sets neutral rules of the game of politics.

2. During the colonial period, the British King and Parliament
 - a. were involved in nearly every aspect of colonial life.
 - b. confined themselves to governing America's foreign policy and trade.
 - c. allowed the colonies a limited number of representatives in Parliament.
 - d. put strict limits on American freedom.

3. The motion for declaring the United States as free and independent was made by
 - a. Thomas Jefferson.
 - b. Benjamin Franklin.
 - c. Richard Henry Lee.
 - d. John Adams.

4. Which of the following concepts is inconsistent with the political philosophy associated with John Locke?
 - a. natural rights
 - b. the divine rights of kings
 - c. limited government
 - d. the sanctity of property

5. John Locke held that people should revolt when
 - a. injustices become deeply felt.
 - b. transient issues emerge.
 - c. government no longer has their consent.
 - d. both a. and c.

6. Which of the following Lockean concepts of government does not have a direct parallel in Thomas Jefferson's draft of the Declaration of Independence?
 - a. natural rights
 - b. limited government
 - c. the sanctity of property
 - d. the right to revolt

7. The revolutionary thought found in the American colonies was based entirely on the political philosophy of John Locke.
 - True
 - False

8. Our first constitution was the Articles of Confederation.
 - True.
 - False

9. Most governmental authority in the early American experience rested in
- a. state legislatures.
 - b. local townships.
 - c. the Continental Congress.
 - d. voluntary alliances.
10. The Articles of Confederation established the
- a. presidency.
 - b. Senate and the House of Representatives.
 - c. Supreme Court.
 - d. Continental Congress.
11. The Continental Congress did not have the power to
- a. tax.
 - b. issue securities.
 - c. maintain a military.
 - d. print money.
12. Which of the following did NOT occur under the Articles of Confederation?
- a. Shay's Rebellion
 - b. a power shift in the states away from the elite
 - c. an aborted meeting at Annapolis
 - d. sweeping policies favoring creditors over debtors
13. Shay's Rebellion was
- a. a battle in the War for Independence.
 - b. an attack on courthouses to prevent foreclosure proceedings.
 - c. a constitutional debate.
 - d. a colonial newspaper.
14. Which of the following does NOT, in general, describe the "Gentlemen in Philadelphia"?
- a. college educated
 - b. wealthy
 - c. Western
 - d. successful
15. James Madison believed that factions would check themselves.
- True
 - False
16. The philosophy of the founders was based in part on
- a. the faith that self-restraint was part of human nature.
 - b. a belief that political conflict is unrelated to the distribution of wealth in society.
 - c. a view that the principle object of government is the preservation of property.
 - d. the idea that the separation of power is not needed in balanced government.

17. Which of the following was NOT one of the key equality issues debated at the Constitutional Convention?
- a. representation of the states in Congress
 - b. equal opportunity for women
 - c. slavery
 - d. political equality
18. Representation of the states in Congress was settled at the Constitutional Convention with the
- a. Connecticut Compromise.
 - b. three-fifths compromise.
 - c. New Jersey Plan
 - d. Virginia Plan
19. Regarding the issue of slavery, the delegates to the Constitutional Convention agreed
- a. to abolish slavery.
 - b. not to count slaves in determining representation in Congress.
 - c. to sanction slavery officially.
 - d. to limit future importing of slaves.
20. Delegates to the Constitutional Convention left it up to the states to decide who could vote in national elections.
- True
 - False
21. One of the major economic issues that the writers of the Constitution felt they needed to address was
- a. tariffs erected by the states.
 - b. virtually worthless paper money forced on creditors in some states.
 - c. the inability of the Continental Congress to raise needed money.
 - d. all of the these.
22. Which of the following statements is TRUE?
- a. The writers of the Constitution believed that the national economy was in good shape.
 - b. Economic issues were nonexistent at the writing of the Constitution.
 - c. The power of Congress to make economic policy is carefully spelled out in the Constitution.
 - d. The writers of the Constitution were men of little wealth.
23. The original Constitution says very little about personal freedoms.
- True
 - False

24. A writ of habeas corpus
- a. enables persons detained by authorities to secure an immediate inquiry into the causes of their detention.
 - b. allows for the punishment of people without a judicial trial.
 - c. allows for people to be punished or to have their penalties increased for acts that were not illegal or not punishable when committed.
 - d. narrowly defines and outlines strict rules of evidence for conviction of treason.
25. The principle of separation of powers resulted from the fact that the Constitution writers feared the possibility of a tyranny of the majority.
- True
 - False
26. The Madisonian model of government is based on the idea that
- a. as much of government as possible should be beyond the direct control of a majority.
 - b. the power of government's different institutions should be separated.
 - c. a system of checks and balances is needed in government.
 - d. all of these.
27. In the Madisonian model of government, majority rule is accomplished by the election of the
- a. Senate.
 - b. House of Representatives.
 - c. President of the United States.
 - d. Supreme Court.
28. The president's veto power is an example of
- a. checks and balances.
 - b. majority rule.
 - c. presidential supremacy.
 - d. judicial review.
29. The Madisonian system
- a. created a form of direct democracy.
 - b. had a liberal bias toward change.
 - c. created a republic based on the consent of the governed.
 - d. made change virtually impossible.
30. The final version of the Constitution was read aloud at a public meeting in Philadelphia.
- True
 - False
31. Immediately after the Constitution was signed, the delegates to the convention
- a. returned to their rooms.
 - b. adjourned to a tavern.
 - c. attended religious services.
 - d. composed the national anthem.

32. The Federalist Papers were published under the name
- a. Philadelphienis.
 - b. Hobbesiasis.
 - c. Aggrippa.
 - d. Publius.
33. The Anti-Federalists were an unpatriotic and un-American group.
- True
 - False
34. Which of the following was NOT an Anti-Federalist argument against the ratification of the Constitution?
- a. a charge that it was a class-based document
 - b. a claim that it would weaken the power of the states
 - c. a claim that the Bill of Rights was unnecessary
 - d. a charge that it would benefit creditors
35. The Constitution was ratified by
- a. state conventions.
 - b. a general election.
 - c. state legislatures.
 - d. a referendum.
36. The unwritten constitution
- a. is a body of tradition, practice, and procedure.
 - b. is represented by the Bill of Rights.
 - c. does not affect the spirit of the Constitution.
 - d. does not encompass political parties.
37. An amendment to the Constitution can be ratified by the legislature of three-fourths of the states or by special conventions called in three-fourths of the states.
- True
 - False
38. Taken as a whole, the amendments to the Constitution make it
- a. more democratic.
 - b. elite- and class-oriented.
 - c. less egalitarian.
 - d. more focused on economic issues.
39. The Equal Rights Amendment failed in part because of the system of checks and balances.
- True
 - False
40. The Constitution does not formally provide for the
- a. two-party system.
 - b. the role of television in politics.
 - c. binding members of the electoral college to the preference of voters.
 - d. all of these.

41. The case of *Marbury v. Madison*
- a. firmly established the power of judicial review.
 - b. forced the delivery of court commissions.
 - c. gave Congress the right to review the judiciary.
 - d. diminished the power of the Supreme Court.
42. The writers of the Constitution
- a. favored the formation of a two-party system.
 - b. intended there to be no popular vote for the president.
 - c. required presidential electors to pledge in advance to vote for the candidate that won their state's popular vote.
 - d. established the electoral college as a rubber stamp for the popular vote.
43. The roles of political parties and members of the Electoral College are examples of constitutional change through political practice.
- True
 - False
44. Which of the following statements regarding the US Constitution is FALSE?
- a. The US Constitution is a very flexible document.
 - b. The US Constitution is the oldest functioning constitution.
 - c. The US Constitution is very long compared to other constitutions.
 - d. The only court provided for by the US Constitution is the Supreme Court.
45. The Constitution is in many ways an undemocratic, even anti-democratic document.
- True
 - False
46. Which of the following statements regarding the Constitution is FALSE?
- a. One of the central themes of American history has been the gradual democratization of the Constitution.
 - b. The original Constitution was characterized by numerous restrictions on direct voter participation.
 - c. The original Constitution offers numerous guidelines on voter eligibility.
 - d. Five of the seventeen constitutional amendments passed since the Bill of Rights have focused on the expansion of the electorate.
47. During the early years of the civil rights movement, African-Americans had the most luck getting their interests on the political agenda through the
- a. Congress.
 - b. President of the United States.
 - c. Supreme Court.
 - d. state legislatures.
48. The separation of powers and the system of checks and balances promote
- a. the politics of bargaining.
 - b. compromise.
 - c. playing one institution against the another.
 - d. all of these.