

Crete-Monee Middle School U.S. Constitution Test Study Guide

Answers 2010-2011

1. **What is the more “common name” for the first ten amendments to the constitution?**
Bill of Rights
2. **The introduction to the current constitution is known as the:**
preamble
3. **The current constitution was written in the late 1700s in order to _____ the central government of the United States.**
strengthen
4. **The philosopher John Locke believed that people are born with natural rights. What are the three natural rights?**
Life, Liberty, Property
5. **The “technical name” for the type of government “by the people” is:**
democracy
6. **What is the name given to the procedure for removing an individual from an office / position of power within the national government?**

impeachment process
7. **Which principle of government allows the federal court system to rule on both the constitutionality and meaning of a federal law?**
judicial review
8. **The seven original sections of the current constitution that discuss rules and procedures are known as the:**
articles
9. **The additions / changes made in the current constitution over the years are known as the:**
amendments
10. **How many “additions / changes” have been made in the current constitution over the years?**
27
11. **The U.S. Congress, the President—White House, and the Supreme Court are all located in what city?**
Washington, D.C.
12. **Which branch of the central government makes / enacts / passes laws?**
legislative
13. **Which branch of the central government enforces laws?**
executive
14. **Which branch of the central government decides if a law is constitutional?**
judicial

- 15. Which branch of government appoints federal judges?**
executive
- 16. Which branch of government accuses and tries (impeaches and convicts) and then removes federal officials from office?**
legislative
- 17. Which government(s) can print and coin money?**
federal only
- 18. Which government(s) can declare war?**
only the federal government
- 19. Which person in the executive branch has the power to appoint justices to the Supreme Court?**
The President
- 20. The Constitutional Convention that wrote the current constitution was held in:**
Philadelphia
- 21. Who is considered the “Father of the Constitution” for his efforts in the writing of the current constitution?**
James Madison
- 22. This plan was created by James Madison for representation based on population in Congress.**
Virginia Plan
- 23. This plan was liked by states with small populations and called for representation to be based on equal representation.**
New Jersey Plan
- 24. The “Great Compromise” at the Constitutional Convention created how many houses?**
two houses
- 25. What vote of the states was required to “ratify” (adopt) the current constitution?**
9/13's
- 26. The information regarding the Legislative Branch can be found in:**
Article I
- 27. What is the “official name” of the legislative branch of the federal government?**
Congress
- 28. What two groups make up the Legislative Branch/ Congress?**
House of Representatives and Senate
- 29. Which house of Congress is based on proportional representation?**
House of Representatives
- 30. Which house of Congress is based on equal representation?**
Senate

31. If Congress overrides a president's veto what size vote must they secure?

2/3

32. Which house has equal representation?

Senate

33. What is the first step in the process for a bill to become a law?

Bill is an idea

34. A bill must be passed by _____ to become a law:

Both the House and Senate

35. How does the president check the power of Congress?

The President vetoes a bill passed by Congress.

36. How does Congress check the power of the president?

Congress impeaches and tries a President or They override his veto

37. Who officially declares war?

Congress

38. The U.S. Congress is "bicameral." This means?

It has two houses

39. The U.S. House of Representatives has how many members?

435

40. The U.S. Senate has how many members?

100

41. How many senators are there from each state?

2

42. The power to make treaties with foreign nations lies with the:

President

43. Who served as the first official president of the United States?

George Washington

44. Article III contains information about this branch of government:

Judicial

45. What Article of the Constitution can you look at to find information about the executive branch?

Article II

46. What is the name for the form or plan of government in which powers are divided among one national government and many state governments?

federal system

47. The principle that divides powers and duties among the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of a government is known as:

separation of powers

48. The principle that gives the legislative, executive, or judicial branches the right to block the misuse of power by any of the other branches of government is known as:
checks and balances

49. What was the name of the first document of national government / constitution for the United States?
Articles of Confederation

50. A written plan of government that lists all laws for a country is called a:
Constitution

51. How many years in a president's term?
four

52. How many full terms may one person serve as president?
two

53. What is the maximum number of years one person may serve as president?
eight

54. Presidential / federal elections are held in what month of the year?
November

55. Which of these bodies has the first opportunity to officially elect a U.S. President?
The Electoral College

56. All states have the same number of electoral votes.
False

57. Nationwide there are how many electoral votes?
538

58. How many electoral votes does a candidate need to receive to win the presidency in the Electoral College?
270

59. The candidate who receives the most electoral votes automatically wins the presidency.
true

60. Which group elects the president if the Electoral College fails to do so?
House of Representatives

61. The current Speaker of the House of Representatives is:
Joseph Boehner

62. The current presiding officer in the U.S. Senate is:
Vice-President Joseph Biden

63. According to the 2000 census, Illinois has how many U.S. Representatives?
19

64. How many Congressional District are there in the state of Illinois?
19

- 65. Crete Monee Middle School is in which Illinois Congressional district?**
2nd
- 66. Illinois has how many U.S. Senators?**
two
- 67. Who is the current senior U.S. Senator from Illinois?**
Richard Durbin
- 68. Who is the junior U.S. Senator from Illinois?**
Mark Kirk
- 69. The term of office of a U.S. Representative is:**
two years
- 70. The term of office of a U.S. Senator is:**
six years
- 71. What fraction / percentage of the U.S. Senate is elected every two years?**
 $\frac{1}{3}$ (33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %)
- 72. What is the age requirement for a U.S. Representative?**
25
- 73. What is the age requirement for a U.S. Senator?**
30
- 74. What is the "title" of the presiding officer in the U.S. House of Representatives?**
Speaker
- 75. What is the "title" of the presiding officer in the U.S. Senate?**
Vice-President/President of the Senate
- 76. Which power belongs to the U.S. House of Representatives?**
The power to impeach officials.
- 77. Who tries impeachment cases?**
the Senate
- 78. Who approves treaties (agreements with other nations)?**
the Senate
- 79. In which body must all tax bills originate (be introduced)?**
House of Representatives
- 80. Which body approves all presidential appointments?**
US Senate
- 81. Which body elects the president if the Electoral College fails to do so?**
House of Representatives
- 82. How many judges serve on the US Supreme Court?**
nine
- 83. How long is the term of a federal judge?**

life

84. What is the minimum age for voting in the US?

eighteen

85. What did the prohibition amendment ban / end?

alcoholic beverages

86. Who officially ratifies / approves amendments to the US Constitution?

the States

87. On what date / day is the president inaugurated (sworn into office)?

January 20

88. Who is the current Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court?

John Roberts

89. What is the name of the legislative branch of Illinois State government?

General Assembly

90. What is the title of the chief executive officer of Illinois?

Governor

91. What city is the state capital of Illinois?

Springfield

92. Illinois judges are

elected.

93. To which branch of state government do the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Comptroller, and State Treasurer belong?

Executive

94. The 4th Amendment to the US Constitution bans

illegal searches of suspects.

95. Freedom of speech, press, religion, and assembly are guaranteed by this amendment:

Amendment 1

96. The 19th Amendment gave

Women the right to vote

97. The 26th Amendment gave:

18 year olds the right to vote

98. The 15th Amendment gave:

Black males the right to vote

99. The original trial courts of the federal system where all criminal cases are heard for the first time:

District Court

100. This court of law decides if laws follow the Constitution or not?

Supreme Court