

Student Name: _____



Missouri

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

End-of-Course Assessment

Government



Released 2009

Acknowledgments:

Excerpt from Manuscript Draft of Thomas Jefferson's First Inaugural Address, March 4, 1801. American Treasures of the Library of Congress. Library of Congress.
<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trm070.html> (accessed: 10 April 2008).

Excerpt from "Federalist No. 51; The Structure of the Government Must Furnish the Proper Checks and Balances Between the Different Departments" by Alexander Hamilton or James Madison, from the New York Packet. February 8, 1788. THOMAS; Rare Book and Special Collections Division, Continental Congress & Constitutional Convention Broadside Collection. Library of Congress.
http://thomas.loc.gov/home/histdox/fed_51.html (accessed: 8 April 2008).

Adapted excerpt from *The Library of Original Sources: Editors Edition*, edited by Oliver J. Thatcher. Published 1907 by University Research Extension Company: Milwaukee, WI.

Adapted excerpt from *Democracy in America* by Alexis de Tocqueville, translated by Henry Reeve. Published 1904 by D. Appleton and Company.



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Directions to the Student

Today you will be taking the Missouri Government Test. This is a test of how well you understand the course level expectations for Government.

There are several important things to remember:

- 1** Read each question carefully and think about the answer. Then choose the one answer that you think is best.
- 2** Make sure you completely fill in the bubble for the answer on your answer sheet with a number 2 pencil.
- 3** If you do not know the answer to a question, skip it and go on. You may return to it later if you have time.
- 4** If you finish the test early, you may check over your work.
- 5** Do NOT write any answers in your test booklet. Mark your answers directly on your answer sheet with a number 2 pencil.

Government

1. Which of these is the main function of the legislative branch?

- A. to make laws
- B. to enforce laws
- C. to define laws
- D. to interpret laws

2.

State Populations	
Texas:	23,507,783
Florida:	18,089,880
Michigan:	10,095,643
Missouri:	5,842,713

According to the chart, which state has the largest delegation in the United States House of Representatives?

- A. Missouri
- B. Florida
- C. Michigan
- D. Texas

3. Which **best** explains why groups may hold meetings to discuss unpopular ideas in the United States?

- A. State laws allow their actions.
- B. Executive orders protect their actions.
- C. Constitutional rights protect their actions.
- D. Municipal ordinances permit their actions.

4.

2000 Presidential Election	
Percentage of Eligible Voters Who Cast a Ballot	
18–24 Years Old	29%
All Voters	55%

Which of these can **best** be concluded from the information in the chart?

- A. Many Americans did not know their political rights.
- B. Many college students volunteered in their communities.
- C. Many young people neglected their civic responsibilities.
- D. Many American citizens actively participated in civic life.

5. Mason thinks he has a great idea for a law. What is the best action for Mason to take to get the law passed?
- A. post his opinions on a website
 - B. talk with his best friend about his idea
 - C. write a letter to the editor of the local paper
 - D. contact his representative in Congress about his idea
6. Which example best demonstrates a change in government involvement in the economy?
- A. involvement in the United Nations
 - B. creation of the Social Security Administration
 - C. deployment of military troops to Iraq
 - D. implementation of the Voting Rights Act

7. Which is a result of having a political system dominated by two political parties?

- A. It is easier to obtain a majority of votes.
- B. There is less confusion in the primaries.
- C. There are fewer legal challenges to elections.
- D. It increases voter turnout.

8. The Articles of Confederation represented the

- A. rejection of weaknesses in the Bill of Rights
- B. first attempt at self-government in the United States
- C. acceptance of British rule in the colonies
- D. early effort to improve United States ties to other nations

9. Which issue is exclusively the responsibility of federal law?

- A. driver's licenses
- B. gun control
- C. teaching certifications
- D. counterfeit money

10. Congress is prohibited from establishing an official religion by the

- A. First Amendment
- B. Second Amendment
- C. Fourth Amendment
- D. Fifth Amendment

11. Which person is a member of the legislative branch?

- A. president
- B. Speaker of the House
- C. secretary of education
- D. ambassador to the United Nations

12. Which feature of ancient Rome made it a republic?

- A. absence of a king or emperor
- B. rule by elected representatives
- C. right to speak in civic gatherings
- D. equality for all adult male citizens

13. The expansion of suffrage in the United States best illustrates society's changing views of
- A. civil rights
 - B. limited government
 - C. popular sovereignty
 - D. due process of law
14. Which part of the Connecticut (or Great) Compromise benefits states with smaller populations?
- A. Each state has two representatives in the Senate.
 - B. The Senate ratifies all treaties with foreign nations.
 - C. All bills for spending money must originate in the House of Representatives.
 - D. A state's population determines how many members it has in the House of Representatives.
15. **Mexico has a governmental system in which the power is divided between the national government and each state.**

Based on the information above, what type of government system does Mexico have?

- A. capitalism
- B. communism
- C. federalism
- D. totalitarianism

- 16.
- **1980: Candy Lightner establishes Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) to advocate for strong drunk driving laws**
 - **1988: Minimum drinking age set at twenty-one in all fifty states**
 - **1992: Alcohol-related driving deaths drop 26 percent since 1984**

The best title for the chart is

- A. The Critical Need for Federal Speed Limit Reform
- B. The Growing Problem of Drunk Driving in the United States
- C. Why Alcohol Advertising Needs to Be Banned
- D. How an Individual Citizen Helped Improve Community Safety

17. Which statement best describes a function of interest groups?

- A. They nominate candidates to run for elected office.
- B. They attempt to override presidential actions by protesting.
- C. They advocate for citizens who have similar ideas about issues.
- D. They organize public education forums to raise money for a cause.

18. Enlightenment-era political philosophers such as Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, and Montesquieu

- A. rejected governmental policies that allowed the expansion of property rights
- B. adhered to traditional social customs in the creation of governmental offices
- C. emphasized governmental structures based on reason and social progress
- D. pursued strict obedience to religious scripture in governmental affairs

19. Which of these circumstances illustrates a danger of majority rule?

- A. A law is ruled unconstitutional by a judge.
- B. A law is used to oppress a group of people.
- C. A petition is signed by many people.
- D. A prisoner is wrongly let out of prison.

20.

Mr. Leonard was not required to testify at his own trial for armed robbery.

This is known as

- A. right to legal counsel
- B. right against false testimony
- C. right to legal privacy
- D. right against self-incrimination

21. Which of these received increased authority under the reserved powers clause of the Constitution?

- A. states
- B. Congress
- C. businesses
- D. Supreme Court

22. Some people believe that the Supreme Court has too much power because justices

- A. accumulate great sums of campaign contributions
- B. can ignore the outcome of confirmation hearings
- C. issue decisions in cases brought to them
- D. serve until they die or choose to retire

23. Which headline best illustrates an example of checks and balances?

- A. "President to Seek Second Term"
- B. "House Passes Tax Legislation"
- C. "Senate Confirms New Chief Justice"
- D. "Supreme Court Rejects Case"

24.

"Government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

—President Abraham Lincoln, 1863

Which is the best conclusion about President Lincoln's quotation?

- A. He believed all men are created equal.
- B. He intended to be reelected.
- C. He supported a republic.
- D. He was against slavery.

25. The most important role of the Electoral College is to

- A. nominate candidates to local offices and Congress
- B. vote for the president and vice president
- C. settle national elections in case of a tie
- D. educate voters prior to an election

26.

Chris challenged the law in his home state that allowed the chief of police to identify him as “a dangerous driver” based on observation. This classification denied him the right to renew his driver’s license. Chris successfully argued that he was entitled to a hearing before the state could post his name on the dangerous driver list.

Which constitutional principle does the scenario represent?

- A. judicial review
- B. due process of law
- C. popular sovereignty
- D. checks and balances

27. Which activity of an interest group for teachers would have the most significant political impact?

- A. providing legal advice for members who feel their rights have been violated
- B. ensuring that continuing education is provided for experienced educators
- C. providing instructors with lesson plans that align with curriculum
- D. lobbying elected officials to enact new education laws

28. “No freeman shall be taken, or imprisoned, . . . or in any way harmed . . . save by the lawful judgment of his peers, or by the law of the land. . . . To none will we sell, to none deny or delay, right or justice.”

—*Magna Carta, 1215*

According to the statement in the chart, which constitutional guarantee is most related to the Magna Carta?

- A. rights to bear arms
 - B. rights of the accused
 - C. rights of former slaves
 - D. rights of the convicted
29. **In order for a bill to become law, what happens after both houses of Congress pass it?**
- A. The president signs it.
 - B. The Supreme Court reviews it.
 - C. The president vetoes it.
 - D. The Supreme Court interprets it.

30. “It is equally evident, that the members of each department should be as little dependent as possible on those of the others Were the executive magistrate, or the judges, not independent of the legislature in this particular, their independence in every other would be merely nominal.”

—*Federalist No. 51*

Which constitutional principle is described in the quotation?

- A. federalism
 - B. due process
 - C. judicial review
 - D. separation of powers
- 31. What happens when a state law conflicts with a federal law?**
- A. The federal government can penalize the state.
 - B. The federal government must change its law.
 - C. The state government can enforce its own law.
 - D. The state must yield to the federal government.

32. “The most powerful, and perhaps the only, means of interesting men in the welfare of their country which we still possess is to make them partakers in the government.”

—*Alexis de Tocqueville*

Which statement best reflects Tocqueville’s point of view?

- A. Becoming involved in society will make businesses prosper.
 - B. Taking an active role in society will help promote contributions to a nation.
 - C. Encouraging people to become involved in communities will improve schools.
 - D. Participating in the creation of legislation is particularly important for young citizens.
33. Which executive action best demonstrates a check on legislative branch power?
- A. The Senate rejects a Supreme Court nominee.
 - B. The Supreme Court overturns a presidential pardon.
 - C. The president vetoes a bill passed by Congress.
 - D. The Speaker of the House consults with the vice president.

- 34.
- Under the Articles of Confederation, taxes were applied by Congress and collected by the states.
 - Under the Constitution, taxes are both applied and collected by Congress.

Which of these best describes the change in government reflected in the chart?

- A. reducing duties of the executive branch
 - B. reducing duties of the legislative branch
 - C. expanding political power of state governments
 - D. expanding political power of the national government
35. In a presidential form of government, the head of the executive branch is
- A. elected independently from the legislative branch and serves a fixed term
 - B. selected from the legislative branch and serves an indefinite term
 - C. elected to become the ruling member of the legislature and serves a fixed term
 - D. selected by the legislature to rule independently and serves an indefinite term
36. Which of these situations illustrates citizens responsibly practicing the freedoms of a democratic society?
- A. Melissa loudly argues with the grocery store manager about high food prices.
 - B. Lindsay falsely accuses Jim of reckless driving in the local newspaper.
 - C. Billy celebrates homecoming by honking his car horn in a residential neighborhood at midnight.
 - D. Miko and some friends picket the local shoe factory because of recent layoffs.

37. Which interest group would most likely oppose eliminating the social security system?

- A. National Rifle Association (NRA)
- B. American Federation of Labor (AFL)
- C. Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
- D. American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)

38. Which of these is an example of popular sovereignty?

- A. Federal courts overrule laws passed by Congress.
- B. Some states decided to prohibit slavery by a vote of residents.
- C. Political parties choose presidential candidates at national conventions.
- D. Former colonial governments declared independence from British control.

39. Since the 1960s, which political party in the United States most closely represents the views of conservative voters?

- A. Democratic Party
- B. Republican Party
- C. Socialist Party
- D. Green Party

40. Which view of presidential power led to the Twenty-Second Amendment?

- A. The office of the president had too much power in the nineteenth century.
- B. Original checks and balances in the Constitution sufficiently limit the president's power.
- C. Congress should have more power to check the president's power.
- D. Term limits are needed to keep any one president from growing too powerful.

Released Form

Government

Released Form

Item Position	Correct Answer	
1	A	Describe the structure of government and the purposes of laws (with emphasis on the federal and state
2	D	Apply the following principles of constitutional democracy to historical and contemporary issues:
3	C	Explain the importance of the following principles of government:
4	C	Determine the civic responsibilities of individual citizens
5	D	Explain the processes pertaining to:
6	B	Assess the changing roles of government
7	A	Evaluate the roles and influence of political parties and interest groups
8	B	Describe the historical foundations of the United States governmental system as reflected in the following documents
9	D	Describe the structure of government and the purposes of laws (with emphasis on the federal and state
10	A	Explain the relevance and connection of constitutional principles in the following documents:
11	B	Describe the structure of government and the purposes of laws (with emphasis on the federal and state
12	B	Identify and give examples of democracies and republics
13	A	Explain the importance of the following principles of government:
14	A	Apply the following principles of constitutional democracy to historical and contemporary issues:
15	C	Explain the processes pertaining to:
16	D	Determine the civic responsibilities of individual citizens
17	C	Evaluate the roles and influence of political parties and interest groups
18	C	Describe the historical foundations of the United States governmental system as reflected in the following documents
19	B	Explain the importance of the following principles of government:
20	D	Explain the relevance and connection of constitutional principles in the following documents:
21	A	Describe the structure of government and the purposes of laws (with emphasis on the federal and state
22	D	Assess the changing roles of government
23	C	Explain the importance of the following principles of government:
24	C	Identify and give examples of democracies and republics
25	B	Explain the processes pertaining to:
26	B	Apply the following principles of constitutional democracy to historical and contemporary issues:
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