**1**

Constitutional Democracy

 Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Who was the primary author of the Declaration of Independence and

a champion of constitutional democracy?

a. Thomas Jefferson

b. George Washington

c. John Adams

d. John Locke -- Consider This: Much of the wording of the Declaration of Independence is drawn from Locke’s work.

**Answer:** a

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.2.1

**Topic:** U.S. Government and Politics in Context (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.2: Describe the importance of citizen participation in constitutional democracy.

**Page Reference:** 5

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

**Difficulty Level:** Easy

2. What is a constitutional democracy?

a. democracy where government is limited by a written constitution

b. required voting by law

c. simple participatory democracy -- Consider This: A constitutional democracy can be quite complex.

d. voting rights tied to property ownership

**Answer:** a

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.2.2

**Topic:** U.S. Government and Politics in Context (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.2: Describe the importance of citizen participation in constitutional democracy.

**Page Reference:** 6

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

3. How is democracy defined?

a. all people must be involved in politics and policy making -- Consider This: not everyone needs to be involved in every decision, but the government must represent the people.

b. government by the people

c. the fragmentation of powers

d. government by the few

**Answer:** b

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.3.3

**Topic:** Defining Democracy (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.3: Describe democracy and the conditions conducive to its success.

**Page Reference:** 7

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

**Difficulty Level:** Easy

4. How does the Constitution guard against tyranny of the majority?

a. by protecting certain rights, such as freedom of speech

b. by giving states the power to nullify federal laws

c. by requiring the Supreme Court to issue decisions supported by public opinion

d. by requiring free and fair elections -- Consider This: Elections in and of themselves do not protect minority rights, but the protection of certain practices does.

**Answer:** a

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.3.4

**Topic:** Defining Democracy (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.3: Describe democracy and the conditions conducive to its success.

**Page Reference:** 12

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

5. What is the idea that a just government must derive its powers from the people it governs called?

a. equality

b. popular consent

c. electoral politics

d. national supremacy -- Consider This: A system of national supremacy could override the people’s will.

**Answer:** b

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.3.5

**Topic:** Defining Democracy (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.3: Describe democracy and the conditions conducive to its success.

**Page Reference: 11**

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

**Difficulty Level:** Easy

6. Governance according to the expressed preferences of the majority is known as which of the following?

a. tyranny of the majority -- Consider This: The tyranny of the majority is a term used to describe the overriding of minority rights.

b. individual rights

c. majority rule

d. plurality principle

**Answer:** c

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.3.6

**Topic:** Defining Democracy (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.3: Describe democracy and the conditions conducive to its success.

**Page Reference:** 12

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

**Difficulty Level:** Easy

7. In which type of election is the winner always determined by who gets the most votes?

a. a runoff election

b. a plurality

c. a recall election

d. a majority -- Consider This: you can win the election without necessarily winning more than 50% of the vote.

**Answer:** b

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.3.7

**Topic:** Defining Democracy (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.3: Describe democracy and the conditions conducive to its success.

**Page Reference:** 12

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

**Difficulty Level:** Easy

8. Head Start, a program for disadvantaged preschool children, reflects the belief in ensuring \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. balanced government

b. political equality -- Consider This: Programs like Head Start seek to redress inequalities and ensure each child has the right to a good education.

c. individualism

d. equal opportunity

**Answer:** d

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.3.8

**Topic:** Defining Democracy (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.3: Describe democracy and the conditions conducive to its success.

**Page Reference:** 10

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

9. Which of the following is a central feature of capitalism?

a. private property

b. separation of powers

c. political equality

d. freedom from poverty -- Consider This: In a capitalist system there are always winners and losers.

**Answer:** a

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.3.9

**Topic:** Defining Democracy (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.3: Describe democracy and the conditions conducive to its success.

**Page Reference:** 10

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

10. What is a favorable condition for democracy?

a. a prosperous upper class

b. ideological separation of groups in society

c. instability in society -- Consider This: instability is one of the reasons democracy fails in a society.

d. an educated citizenry

**Answer:** d

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.3.10

**Topic:** Defining Democracy (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.3: Describe democracy and the conditions conducive to its success.

**Page Reference:** 14

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

11. What role did George Washington play in the Constitutional Convention?

a. He represented the views of the Antifederalists.

b. He was the chief negotiator of the three-fifths compromise.

c. He presided over the meeting, but spoke little during deliberations.

d. He did not attend the convention, though he supported the creation of a new constitution. -- Consider This: Washington’s presence at the convention helped lend credibility to the proceedings.

**Answer:** c

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.5.11

**Topic:** The Constitutional Convention of 1787 (Action)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.5: Identify the issues resolved by compromise during the writing of the Constitution.

**Page Reference:** 20

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

12. Under the Articles of Confederation, how were disputes between the states settled?

a. by the Supreme Court -- Consider This: The Supreme Court would not be established until the Constitution was ratified.

b. by the president

c. by state courts

d. by state legislatures

**Answer:** c

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.4.12

**Topic:** The Roots of the American Constitutional Experiment (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.4: Identify pre-Revolutionary concepts central to the new government and the problems under the Articles of Confederation.

**Page Reference:** 17

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

13. In the spring of 1787, delegates gathered in Philadelphia for the purpose of accomplishing which of the following tasks?

a. write the Declaration of Independence -- Consider This: Although the delegates met in Philadelphia for the Declaration of Independence, the country had been free of British rule for nearly a decade in 1787.

b. amend the Articles of Confederation

c. abolish state laws

d. secede from Great Britain

**Answer:** b

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.4.13

**Topic:** The Roots of the American Constitutional Experiment (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.4: Identify pre-Revolutionary concepts central to the new government and the problems under the Articles of Confederation.

**Page Reference:** 18

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

14. Why did Patrick Henry oppose ratification of the new Constitution?

a. He believed that the new Constitution would threaten liberty.

b. He was disappointed that the new Constitution did not abolish slavery.

c. He believed that bicameralism was an inefficient form of government.

d. He preferred equal representation for states in Congress. -- Consider This: Henry was unconvinced by Madison’s arguments that a Bill of Rights would be sufficient.

**Answer:** a

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.6.14

**Topic:** To Adopt or Not to Adopt? (Impact)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.6 Evaluate the arguments for and against the ratification of the Constitution.

**Page Reference:** 26

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

**Difficulty Level:** Difficult

15. Which country has a centralized authority in charge of its political system?

a. Germany

b. the United States -- Consider This: Although the U.S. has states, a statist government places the governments interests above the peoples interests.

c. China

d. Mexico

**Answer:** c

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.3.15

**Topic:** Defining Democracy (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.3: Describe democracy and the conditions conducive to its success.

**Page Reference:** 9

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

16. Historian Charles Beard argued that the primary motive of the Framers of the Constitution was which of the following?

a. protection from foreign threats

b. the enshrinement of the majority rule principle -- Consider This: The framers did not extend the franchise to slaves, women or even the poor.

c. protection of their own economic self-interests

d. westward expansion of the country

**Answer:** c

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.4.16

**Topic:** The Roots of the American Constitutional Experiment (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.4: Identify pre-Revolutionary concepts central to the new government and the problems under the Articles of Confederation.

**Page Reference:** 18

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

17. What was Shays’ Rebellion?

a. the initial uprising by the Americans against the British in 1753

b. a demonstration of the need for every state to deal with domestic unrest on its own -- Consider This: The need for assistance to put down the rebellion and the slow response led to the calls for amending the Articles of Confederation.

c. a revolt by slaves in South Carolina that led to the inclusion of the three-fifths compromise in the Constitution

d. an uprising by farmers in western Massachusetts protesting mortgage foreclosures

**Answer:** d

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.4.17

**Topic:** The Roots of the American Constitutional Experiment (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.4: Identify pre-Revolutionary concepts central to the new government and the problems under the Articles of Confederation.

**Page Reference:** 18

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

18. Which of the following is true in a balanced government?

a. No single interest dominates.

b. The president and Congress have no shared powers. -- Consider This: Congress and the President often share powers, but the system of checks and balances means that neither becomes too powerful.

c. State governments can veto laws of the national government.

d. The people must approve constitutional amendments by popular vote.

**Answer:** a

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.5.18

**Topic:** The Constitutional Convention of 1787 (Action)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.5: Identify the issues resolved by compromise during the writing of the Constitution.

**Page Reference:** 20

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

**Difficulty Level:** Difficult

19. Which of the following is the best characterization of the Framers of the Constitution?

a. visionary idealists

b. political philosophers -- Consider This: Most of the framers had served in the revolution or state legislatures prior to the convention.

c. experienced, practical politicians

d. spokespeople for the average person

**Answer:** c

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.6.19

**Topic:** To Adopt or Not to Adopt? (Impact)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.6 Evaluate the arguments for and against the ratification of the Constitution.

**Page Reference: 24-27**

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

**Difficulty Level:** Difficult

20. Most delegates to the Constitutional Convention accepted the idea of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. state supremacy -- Consider This: The framers wanted to maintain some state autonomy, but also guarantee effective leadership by experienced statesmen.

b. direct democracy

c. republican government

d. executive hegemony

**Answer:** c

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.3.20

**Topic:** Defining Democracy (Structure)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.3: Describe democracy and the conditions conducive to its success.

**Page Reference:** 8

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Difficult

21. The three-fifths compromise was mainly a compromise between which of the following?

a. Whigs and Democratic Republicans

b. northern and southern states

c. Federalists and Antifederalists

d. large and small states -- Consider This: The three-fifths compromise helped ensure the political power of an economically important region.

**Answer:** b

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.5.21

**Topic:** The Constitutional Convention of 1787 (Action)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.5: Identify the issues resolved by compromise during the writing of the Constitution.

**Page Reference:** 23

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Difficult

22. Why were the proceedings of the Constitutional Convention kept secret?

a. to make it difficult for delegates to change their minds after debate and discussion

b. to encourage delegates to speak freely

c. so that opponents of the convention wouldn’t have easy arguments against decisions made at the convention -- Consider This: The delegates would likely have had to take into account public opinion back home if the proceedings were public.

d. so that foreign leaders wouldn’t sabotage the convention

**Answer:** b

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.5.22

**Topic:** The Constitutional Convention of 1787 (Action)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.5: Identify the issues resolved by compromise during the writing of the Constitution.

**Page Reference:** 20

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

**Difficulty Level:** Difficult

23. As a delegate from a small state at the Constitutional Convention, you would have been most likely to support which of the following as the basis for representation in the legislature?

a. the Connecticut Plan -- Consider This: The Connecticut Compromise balanced the interests of large states and small states in regards to proportional or equal representation.

b. the bicameral plan

c. the supremacy clause

d. the New Jersey Plan

**Answer:** d

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.5.23

**Topic:** The Constitutional Convention of 1787 (Action)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.5: Identify the issues resolved by compromise during the writing of the Constitution.

**Page Reference:** 22

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

**Difficulty Level:** Difficult

24. What did the Federalists favor?

a. strong state governments, relative to the central government

b. an all-powerful central government -- Consider This: None of the delegates supported an overly strong central government.

c. a stronger central government, relative to the state governments

d. strong economic ties to Europe

**Answer:** c

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.6.24

**Topic:** To Adopt or Not to Adopt? (Impact)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.6 Evaluate the arguments for and against the ratification of the Constitution.

**Page Reference:** 24-25

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

**Difficulty Level:** Difficult

25. Why did the Federalists argue against inclusion of a bill of rights in the Constitution?

a. Explicit guarantee of some rights might imply that other rights did not exist.

b. All rights were already covered by the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

c. Trying to come to an agreement on what rights to include would tear the new country apart. -- Consider This: The federalists also did not want to accidentally grant powers to the national government that it did not already have.

d. All states currently had their own bills of rights.

**Answer:** a

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.6.25

**Topic:** To Adopt or Not to Adopt? (Impact)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.6 Evaluate the arguments for and against the ratification of the Constitution.

**Page Reference:** 25

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

**Difficulty Level:** Difficult

26. What regions of the country tended to oppose ratification of the new Constitution?

a. urban areas -- Consider This: Most urban areas were tied to the rest of the country economically.

b. seaboard regions

c. backcountry regions from Maine through Georgia

d. southern states

**Answer:** c

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.6.26

**Topic:** To Adopt or Not to Adopt? (Impact)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.6 Evaluate the arguments for and against the ratification of the Constitution.

**Page Reference:** 24-25

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate

27. What was *The Federalist*?

a. a book written by George Washington explaining the reasons for American independence

b. a book written by Thomas Jefferson while he was in Paris as the U.S. ambassador to France -- Consider This: The Federalist Papers were written by three men under the pseudonym Publius.

c. a device by the Antifederalists to encourage opposition to the Annapolis Convention

d. a series of essays written to encourage ratification of the proposed Constitution

**Answer:** d

**Test Bank Item Title:** TB\_Q1.6.27

**Topic:** To Adopt or Not to Adopt? (Impact)

**Learning Objective:** LO 1.6 Evaluate the arguments for and against the ratification of the Constitution.

**Page Reference:** 24-25

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

**Difficulty Level:** Moderate