

Civics Midterm 58 

Multiple Choice

Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

Reference this quote for the following item.

“No freeman shall be taken, imprisoned... or in any other way destroyed... except by the lawful judgement of his peers or by the law of the land.” --excerpt from Magna Carta

1. Use the quotation to answer the question.
Which constitutional principle is best expressed in this excerpt?
 - a. trial by jury
 - b. checks and balances
 - c. popular sovereignty
 - d. rule of law
2. This document was the first constitution of the United States.
 - a. Magna Carta
 - b. Mayflower Compact
 - c. Declaration of Independence
 - d. Articles of Confederation
3. The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments have this in common.
 - a. All limited the power of the state government.
 - b. All aimed to protect the civil rights of former slaves.
 - c. All increased the power of the states to end slavery.
 - d. All intended to solve the problems created by Reconstruction.

Reference this quote for the following item.

“The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.”

--U.S. Constitution, Amendment 10

4. Use the quote to answer the question.
What type of power does this quote describe?
 - a. delegated power
 - b. reserved power
 - c. concurrent power
 - d. implied powers

Reference this quote for the following item.

“To secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.” --excerpt from the Declaration of Independence

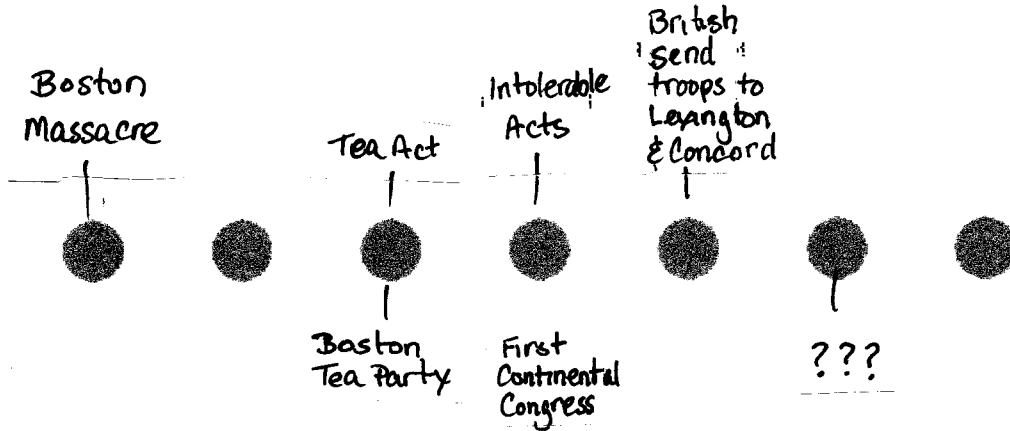
5. Use the quotation to answer the question.
Which Enlightenment idea is expressed in this statement?
 - a. Montesquieu’s theory of separation of power
 - b. John Locke’s idea of the social contract
 - c. Rousseau’s theory of divine right
 - d. Madison’s view of individual liberty

Reference this quote for the following item.

“We, whose names are underwritten... solemnly and mutually... covenant (agree to) and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic (government), for our better Ordering and Preservation.”
--excerpt from the Mayflower Compact

6. Use the quotation to answer the question.
This part of the Mayflower Compact is an example of how the colonists put which of the following into practice?
- a. social contract theory
 - b. common law
 - c. statute
 - d. checks and balances
7. This newspaper headline reports a British action that angered colonists and led to the writing of the Declaration of Independence.
- a. “Boycott British Goods!”
 - b. “The King Grants Independence!”
 - c. “British Taxes: Unfair!”
 - d. “Angry Colonists Dump Tea!”

Reference this diagram for the following item.



8. Use the timeline to answer the question.
Which event correctly completes the timeline?
- a. Articles of Confederation
 - b. Bill fo Rights
 - c. Constitution
 - d. Declaration of Independence

Reference this quote for the following item.

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent for the governed....”

--excerpt from the Declaration of Independence

9. Use the quotation to answer the question.

According to this excerpt, how does the source of natural rights compare to the source of government power?

- a. Natural rights come from the government; government power comes from the people.
- b. Natural rights come from God; government power comes from the people.
- c. Natural rights come from the government; government power comes from God.
- d. Natural rights come from God; government power comes from God.

10. According to the Preamble of the Constitution, which one of the following choices list the basic purposes of government?

- a. provide services, provide laws, and guarantee freedoms
- b. establish justice, ensure tranquility, provide for common defense, and promote welfare
- c. ensure life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness
- d. collect taxes, print money, establish a military, and regulate commerce

Reference this quote for the following item.

“We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity (future generations), do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

--excerpt from the Preamble of the United States Constitution

11. Use the quotation to answer the question.

Which of the following most clearly reveals the Founders ideas about the source of government power?

- a. “We the People”
- b. “a more perfect Union”
- c. “this Constitution”
- d. “our Posterity”

12. The power of judicial review acts as a check in this manner.

- a. Courts can declare presidential acts unconstitutional.
- b. Courts can declare congressional acts unconstitutional.
- c. Courts can declare acts of the President and Congress unconstitutional.
- d. Courts can review acts of other courts.

13. This is true of the Federalists.
- a. They opposed ratification of the Constitution.
 - b. They opposed a strong central government.
 - c. They supported the division of the United States into 13 separate countries.
 - d. They feared the Articles of Confederation could not keep the country united.
14. Consider this situation: A president of a nation-state orders lawyers and judges to be put in jail so that he/she can remain in power and not be tried for crimes against the people.

What basic principle of American government does this not violate?

- a. checks and balances
- b. rule of law
- c. federalism
- d. separation of power

Reference this quote for the following item.

“Congress shall make not law respectin an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

--excerpt from the U.S. Constitution

15. Use the quotation to answer the question.
From which amendment is this quotation?
- a. 1st
 - b. 4th
 - c. 6th
 - d. 13th
16. The 9th and the 10th Amendments limit the power of the federal government in this manner.
- a. by listing the specific rights that belong to the states
 - b. by listing specific rights that belong to the people
 - c. by preventing the federal government from changing the Constitution
 - d. by reserving powers not granted to the federal government for the states and the people
17. This is a limitation of the 1st Amendment’s guarantee of the right to freedom of speech.
- a. People may not criticize the actions of their neighbors.
 - b. People may not criticize the government.
 - c. People may not deliver a speech in public.
 - d. People may not tell lies that might harm another person.
18. This statement best describes how the 1st Amendment effects religion in the United States.
- a. The government cannot dictate religion.
 - b. The government has an official religion.
 - c. There can be no religion in the United States.
 - d. State employees cannot have a religion.
19. The 13th Amendment resulted in this change.
- a. African Americans got the right to vote.
 - b. All citizens were guaranteed equal protection under the law.
 - c. The right to own slaves was extended for 20 years.
 - d. Slavery was outlawed in all states and the U.S. territories.

- 20. The 15th Amendment established that citizens can no longer be denied the right to vote on this basis.
 - a. employment
 - b. gender
 - c. race or color
 - d. religion
- 21. The most important way that an American citizen can participate in government is by
 - a. volunteering
 - b. working for an interest group
 - c. voting in elections
 - d. running for office

Reference this diagram for the following item



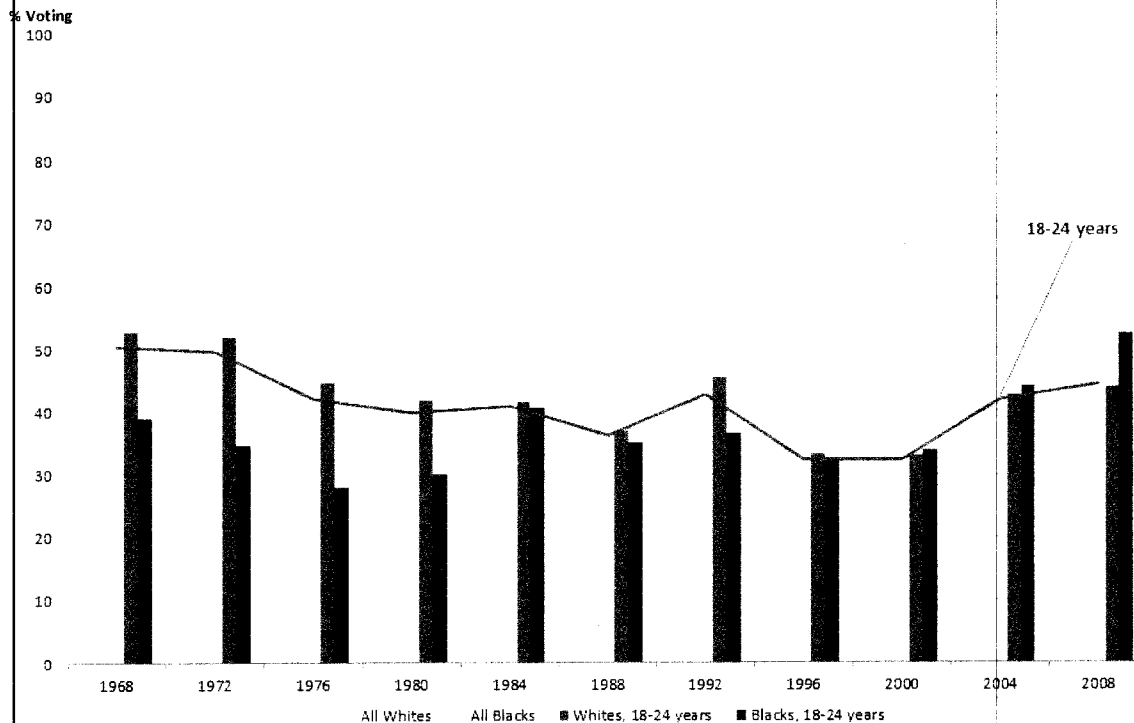
- 22. Use the diagram to answer the question.

The diagram identifies the steps in becoming a U.S. citizen. Which of the following best completes the diagram?

 - a. be interviewed and pass citizenship tests
 - b. complete a background check
 - c. receive appointment letter
 - d. wait for five years
- 23. A person born in any U.S. territory automatically becomes
 - a. a native-born citizen
 - b. a naturalized citizen
 - c. a permanent resident alien
 - d. a refugee
- 24. It is important for citizens to pay taxes because it
 - a. allows the country to start a draft.
 - b. helps citizens become informed voters.
 - c. makes sure that laws are up-to-date.
 - d. provides money to pay for government services.

Reference this diagram for the following item

Percent Voting by Race and Age: Presidential Elections



Note: Percent of the civilian noninstitutionalized population, age 18 and over.
 Source: Current Population Survey, Voting and Registration Supplements, historical table A-1.
 Available: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/socdemo/voting/index.html>



25. Use the line/bar graph to answer the question.
 Which of the following best describes the trend of voting among Americans aged 18 to 24 between 1988 and 2008 presidential elections?
- a. a gradual decline, followed by a sharp increase, and then a sharp decline
 b. a gradual increase, followed by a gradual decline, and then a sharp decline
 c. a sharp decline, followed by a gradual increase, and then a gradual decline
 d. a sharp increase, followed by a sharp decline, and then a gradual increase
26. Registering to vote fulfills a responsibility of citizenship by
- a. communicating your opinions to your representatives.
 b. making you eligible to be called for jury duty.
 c. making you eligible to vote.
 d. making it legal for you to give money to political campaigns.
27. Which one of the following best defines the term citizen?
- a. an individual who exercises political authority over a group of people
 b. an individual who is able to vote in elections
 c. a legally recognized member of a country
 d. a person who is loyal to and proud of his or her country
28. A citizen should know and understand the law so that he/she can
- a. break it
 b. change it
 c. ignore it
 d. use it

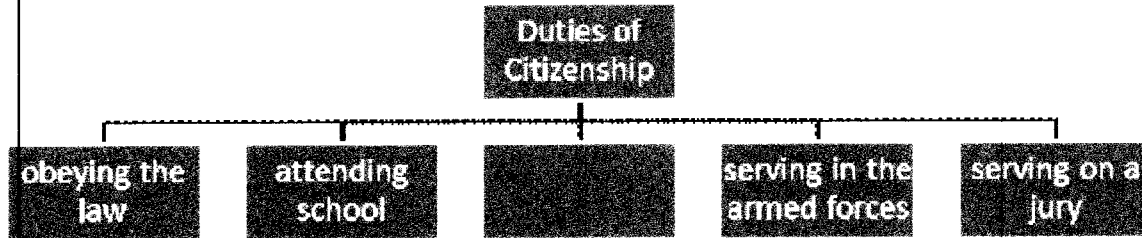
Name: _____

ID: A

29. Attending school is considered a civic duty because

- a. educated citizens are vital to the success of a democracy.
- b. the more education a person has, the more money he/she is likely to earn.
- c. school districts depend on having a certain number of students.
- d. today's high-technology society needs educated employees.

Reference this diagram for the following item.



30. Use the diagram to answer the question.

Duties of citizenship are things we must do. Responsibilities of citizenship are things we should do. Which duty of citizenship is missing from the diagram?

- a. being informed
- b. paying taxes
- c. volunteering in the community
- d. voting

31. The 14th Amendment protects individual rights by

- a. defining citizenship, it declares that all citizens have the same rights.
- b. granting women the right to vote, it ensures that women have a say in government.
- c. imposing presidential term limits, it prevents the President from gaining too much power.
- d. requiring the direct election of senators, it protects the principle of direct representation.

32. This phrase has come to mean that each person's rights are as important as every other person's rights.

- a. "all men are created equal"
- b. "all power is vested in, and derived from, the people"
- c. "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness"
- d. "We the People"



33. Use the photograph to answer the question.
What 1st Amendment right are the people in this photograph expressing?
- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| a. freedom of assembly | c. freedom of religion |
| b. freedom of the press | d. freedom to privacy |
34. This one statement best describes an aspect of American government.
- | | |
|--|--|
| a. The press can print anything it wants. | c. Citizens have the right to protect their reputation against lies. |
| b. The President has the power to establish a national religion. | d. Congress can decide which citizens may vote. |
35. The 14th Amendment's due process clause extends the Bill of Rights by
- | | |
|--|---|
| a. claiming additional rights not mentioned in the Bill of Rights. | c. granting full citizenship to African Americans. |
| b. extending the right to vote to all U.S. citizens. | d. preventing states from denying rights granted in the Bill of Rights. |
36. Use the quotation to answer the question.
According to the Supreme Court, why should juveniles have the same right to to a fair trial as do adults?
- | | |
|---|------|
| a. Being a child is not a good enough reason to deny them this right. | c. 1 |
| b. p41 # 23 | d. 1 |
37. Which one of the following statements best describes an aspect of American government?
- | | |
|--|---|
| a. The press can print anything it wants. | c. Citizens have the right to protect their reputations against lies. |
| b. The President has the power to establish a national religion. | d. Congress can decide which citizens may vote. |

Reference this quote for the following item.

“In practically all jurisdictions, there are rights granted to adults which are withheld from juveniles.... Under our Constitution, the condition of being a boy (or girl) does not justify a kangaroo court (an unfair trial).”

-Justice Abe Fortas, *In re Gault*, 1967

38. Use the quotation to answer the question.

According to the Supreme Court, why should juveniles have the same right to a fair trial that do adults?

- a. Being a child is not a good enough reason to deny them this right.
- b. Juveniles should not be tried for their crimes at all.
- c. Since they are denied other rights, they deserve this one.
- d. The U.S. Constitution does not protect juvenile delinquents.

39. An U.S. citizen is required to

- a. serve on a jury
- b. perform community service
- c. volunteer for a campaign
- d. vote in an election

40. This duty of citizenship is critical to support government services

- a. obeying the law
- b. paying taxes
- c. serving on a jury
- d. serving in the military

Reference this quote for the following item.

“(Party loyalty) serves always to distract the public councils and enfeeble the public administration. I agitate the Community with ill-founded jealousies and false alarms....”

--President George Washington’s Farewell Address, 1776.

41. Use the quote to answer the question.

Which statement best summarizes George Washington’s views of political parties?

- a. A two-party system is essential to democracy.
- b. Parties must compromise to work together.
- c. Wealthy citizens use political parties to serve their interests.
- d. Parties can divide people and weaken government.

42. Identify the role of a political party.

- a. nominate political candidates for office
- b. form agreements with other parties
- c. finance government services
- d. limit campaign contributions

Name: _____

ID: A

Reference this quote for the following item.

“This case has shown that punch card balloting machines can produce an unfortunate number of ballots which are not punched in a clean, complete way by the voter. After the current counting, it is likely legislative bodies nationwide will examine ways to improve the mechanisms and machinery for voting.” --*Bush v. Gore*, 2000

43. Use the quotation to answer the question.
How did the Supreme Court expect *Bush v. Gore* to affect voting practices in the United States?
- a. Fewer people would turn out to vote.
 - b. More people would sign up for absentee ballots.
 - c. More states would use punch card balloting.
 - d. States would improve voting methods.

Reference this chart for the following item.

2008 U.S. Presidential Election Results			
Candidate	Political Affiliation	Electoral Votes	Popular Votes
Barack Obama	Democratic	365	66,882,230
John McCain	Republican	173	58,343,671
TOTAL		538	125,225,901

Source: CNN

44. Use the table to answer the question.
How many more votes did the Democratic candidate win than the Republican candidate to be elected President?
- a. 173
 - b. 192
 - c. 365
 - d. 538
45. This statement about the Republican Party is most accurate.
- a. It is more likely to support increasing the power of the federal government.
 - b. Its members are said to be more conservative.
 - c. Its members are said to be more liberal.
 - d. Its members generally believe social programs should be run by the federal government.

Reference this chart for the following item.

Percentage of Voting-Age Florida Residents Who Voted	
Year	Percentage
1972	59.0
1976	54.7
1980	55.5
1984	53.3
1988	54.5
1992	55.8
1996	50.7
2000	51.6
2004	56.1
2008	56.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

46. Use the table to answer the question.
Which of the following best describes the trend of voting among Florida residents since 1996? The percentage of Florida residents who voted has
- decreased.
 - increased.
 - stayed the same.
 - exceeded the national average.
47. The following statement about the Democratic Party is most accurate.
- It is more likely to support reducing the power of the federal government.
 - Its members are said to be more conservative.
 - Its members generally believe the government should run social programs.
 - It is more likely to support revolutions to end government.
48. It is important to analyze political ads carefully before choosing a candidate because the ads
- are designed to convince you to vote for a candidate and may not present all sides of an issue.
 - are usually an afterthought for a campaign and probably do not contain up-to-date information.
 - only contain propaganda and lies and should not be a factor when selecting a candidate.
 - often present a balanced viewpoint of all issues and therefore can be a good source of information.
49. The most direct way to use the mass media in order to promote political change is by
- purchasing an advertisement.
 - staging a political demonstration.
 - voting.
 - writing letters to a politician.
50. The responsibility of citizenship that most helps a person detect card stacking is
- expressing one's opinions.
 - running for political office.
 - staying well informed.
 - voting.
51. A rock star promotes a social services program by writing an emotionally patriotic song about how a particular politician ought to be elected. This is an example of which type of propaganda?
- bandwagon
 - card stacking
 - glittering generalities
 - testimonial

Name: _____

ID: A

52. The most important thing that a political debate can teach a voter about a candidate is
- a. the amount of support the is being given to a candidate.
 - b. his television personality.
 - c. where the candidate stands on certain issues.
 - d. whether the candidate is comfortable on camera.
53. The most effective way for a special-interest group to try to influence the outcome of a presidential election is to
- a. conduct a public opinion poll.
 - b. hire a lobbyist.
 - c. hold a primary election.
 - d. run television advertisements.
54. Which power is shared by both the state and national government?
- a. declaring war
 - b. collecting taxes
 - c. establishing local governments
 - d. issuing driver's licenses
55. Which is a duty of a state governor?
- a. preside over the state senate
 - b. appoint heads to major political parties
 - c. distribute state funds to local schools
 - d. prepare a state's budget

Reference this quote for the following item.

“Being fiscally responsible and keeping our city safe will always be two of my top priorities.”

56. Use the quote to answer the question.
Which official would most likely make the statement
- a. governor
 - b. mayor
 - c. state senator
 - d. county commissioner
57. This level of government is most responsible for providing police protection, fire departments, and trash collection.
- a. federal
 - b. national
 - c. state
 - d. local
58. According to the Constitution, the hierarchy of authority is (most to least) as follows:
- a. federal, state, local
 - b. local, state, federal
 - c. state, federal, local
 - d. state, local, federal

**Civics Midterm 58
Answer Section****MULTIPLE CHOICE**

1. ANS: D PTS: 1
2. ANS: D PTS: 1
3. ANS: A PTS: 1
4. ANS: B PTS: 1
5. ANS: B PTS: 1
6. ANS: A PTS: 1
7. ANS: C PTS: 1
8. ANS: D PTS: 1
9. ANS: B PTS: 1
10. ANS: B PTS: 1
11. ANS: A PTS: 1
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- 49. ANS: B PTS: 1
- 50. ANS: C PTS: 1
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- 52. ANS: C PTS: 1
- 53. ANS: D PTS: 1
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- 56. ANS: B PTS: 1
- 57. ANS: D PTS: 1
- 58. ANS: A PTS: 1