

American Government

Quiz 1 (Ch 1 – 4)

Name _____

Part 1: Answer 10 of the following questions (2 points each)

1. Describe 2 of the basic powers every government holds.
2. Explain the social contract theory of the origin of state.
3. Name and explain 2 of the goals of government as stated in the Preamble of the Constitution.
4. Classify the United States using 2 of the three characteristics of government.
5. Name and explain the significance of 1 of the English documents that shaped the basic notions of government in America.
6. Explain the difference between bicameral and unicameral legislative bodies.
7. What is the main point of the Declaration of Independence? What was its significance?
8. Name and explain 2 weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation.
9. Name and explain 1 major Compromise that delegates agreed to in the Constitution.
10. Define 1 way to formally amend the Constitution.
11. Describe 1 way Congress has informally changed the Constitution.

12. Explain the 2 basic aspects of Federalism.

13. Explain the significance of the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution.

14. Explain the significance of the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the Constitution.

15. Explain the Privileges and Immunities Clause of the Constitution.

Part 2: Answer 2 of the following questions (5 points each)

1. Describe the 5 basic foundations of democracy.
2. Describe the 2 opposing sides in the debate over ratifying the Constitution and explain the 2 features of the Constitution they fought over most.
3. Explain 3 of the basic principles of the Constitution.
4. Explain the Bill of Rights. What is it, why was it created, and what did it do?
5. Name and explain 3 types of powers of the national government.

American Government
Test 2 (Ch 5, 6, 7 & 8)

Name _____

Part 1: Answer 10 of the following questions (2 points each)

1. Explain 2 functions of political parties
2. Explain 2 reasons America has a two-party system.
3. Define coalition.
4. Define and give an example of a one-party system.
5. Explain 2 factors that tend to lead to party choice.
6. Why is the innovator role a source of frustration to minor parties?
7. Explain 2 of the universal requirements for voting in the United States
8. Describe the 2 long-term trends in the history of suffrage in the United States.
9. Name 2 groups of potential voters that absentee voting laws usually cover.
10. Explain 2 essential features of the Australian Ballot.
11. Describe the difference between hard money and soft money.
12. Define Public Opinion.
13. Explain 2 ways to measure public opinion.
14. Describe 2 ways to conduct a poll.
15. Explain 2 areas where the media's influence is most visible.

Part 2: Answer 2 of the following questions. (5 points each).

1. Describe 2 types of minor parties in the United States and give an example of each.
2. Describe the significance of the 15th Amendment and some ways people have tried to work around it to deny African Americans the vote.
3. Explain 3 arguments for and 2 arguments against using a closed primary.
4. Describe 5 sources of private campaign funding.
5. Explain 5 factors that influence the shaping of public opinion.
6. Explain the 5 steps in conducting a Scientific Poll.

American Government

Quiz 3 (Ch 10, 11, 13 & 14)

Name _____

Part 1: Answer 10 of the following questions (2 points each)

1. Describe 2 reasons the United States has a bicameral Congress.
2. Explain the size of the Senate and how it is decided.
3. Describe the term of the Senate and why it is called a "continuous body."
4. Explain the difference between a direct tax and an indirect tax.
5. Describe the difference between strict constructionists and liberal constructionist.
6. Describe the Necessary and Proper clause of the Constitution and why it is called the "elastic clause."
7. Describe the 3 formal qualifications for President.
8. Explain 2 ways the President can be determined to be disabled.
9. Explain the official duties assigned to the Vice President by the Constitution and how the role has changed in recent years.
10. Explain the 3 ways the presidential election changed as a result of the election of 1800.
11. Describe 3 major flaws of the Electoral College system.
12. Describe how the Constitution lays out the power of the President.

13. Explain 3 of the executive powers of the President.

14. Explain 3 of the diplomatic/military powers of the President.

15. Describe 3 of the legislative powers of the President.

Part 2: Answer 2 of the following questions (5 points each)

1. Explain 3 formal requirements for members of the House of Representatives and 2 informal qualifications.
2. Explain the 5 nonlegislative powers of Congress.
3. Explain 5 of the main roles of the President.
4. Describe 4 of the proposed reforms for the Electoral College and 1 major strength of the system.
5. Explain the war powers of the President and how the War Powers Resolution has affected it.

American Government
Quiz 4 (Ch 18-20)

Name _____

Part 1: Answer 10 of the following questions (2 points each)

1. How are federal judges chosen for their posts?
2. Describe how the nation has a dual court system.
3. Name the 2 types of federal courts.
4. Define jurisdiction.
5. Explain the difference between original and appellate jurisdiction.
6. Define Judicial Review.
7. What are the 2 classes of cases that the Supreme Court has jurisdiction over?
8. Explain a Writ of Certiorati.
9. Explain the difference between civil liberties and civil rights.
10. How does federalism affect the guarantees of individual rights?
11. Why does aid to parochial schools often pose a constitutional problem?
12. Explain the difference between libel and slander.

13. What is the most controversial application of the right of privacy?

14. Define Writ of Habeas Corpus.

15. Describe the provisions of the 6th Amendment concerning the rights of the accused

Part 2: Answer 2 of the following questions (5 points each)

1. Describe how the Supreme Court operates (4 steps).
2. Explain the 3 types of opinions of the Supreme Court and describe how one may become a precedent.
3. Explain which amendments set out the guarantees of religious freedom and what 2 things they prohibit.
4. Define police power and give 4 examples when it has been allowed to override civil liberties.
5. Describe the basic rule laid down by the 4th Amendment. What 2 things does it say police must have?