

CSET CIVICS REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. The Federalist Papers discussed which of the following principles of government?
 - a. checks and balances
 - b. a limited judicial branch
 - c. a limited executive branch
 - d. a strong House and a limited Senate
 - e. a plutocratic form of government

2. When presidents have invoked executive privilege in the past, it has resulted in situations that...
 - a. protect the president from standing trial while still in office
 - b. protect the first lady from handing over personal documents to special investigative groups or special prosecutors
 - c. result in Supreme Court decisions compelling the president to turn over sensitive materials to investigators
 - d. clarify the need for new legislation that would define exactly what executive privilege means
 - e. have rallied public support for the president for him to exercise this power without qualification

3. Which of the following has been proposed as a method to reform the Electoral College?
 - a. close polls simultaneously throughout the country on election day
 - b. prohibit exit polling by the networks
 - c. eliminate the winner-take-all provision of the system
 - d. move up the date that electors vote from December to November
 - e. expand the concept of choosing electors to congressional races

4. All of the following are provisions of the 5th Amendment EXCEPT...
 - a. prohibition of double jeopardy
 - b. the right to a speedy trial in criminal proceedings
 - c. the protection against self-incrimination
 - d. the right of eminent domain
 - e. protection of life, liberty and property

5. When the Founding Fathers agreed to the Great Compromise, it was significant because it...
 - a. guaranteed equal protection of the law for all citizens
 - b. established a judicial branch of government
 - c. counted slaves for the purpose of representation
 - d. established a bicameral legislature
 - e. prohibited import taxes

6. Representation based on a constituent approach indicates a...
 - a. Senator or Representative who consistently votes his conscience
 - b. Senator or Representative who usually follows the party line
 - c. desire on the part of a Senator or Representative to represent the view of those who voted for him
 - d. consistent approach Senator or Representative who challenges the president's programs
 - e. Senator or Representative who introduces a bill which increases defense spending

7. The major difference between the manner in which both houses of Congress operate is that...
 - a. the House allows unlimited debate on bills but the Senate has strict time limits
 - b. the rules of both the House and Senate are the same
 - c. the terms of committee chairman are limited in the Senate but not in the House
 - d. committees in the Senate have an equal number of Republicans and Democrats serving in them
 - e. more amendments to bills are permitted in the Senate than in the House

8. The Supreme Court's decision in *Mapp v. Ohio* and its interpretation of the exclusionary rule was intended to...
 - a. encourage police to knock before they enter a suspected crime scene
 - b. prevent police from stopping suspects and frisking them
 - c. deny the media access to places under police investigation
 - d. demand that police get search warrants to look for evidence in plain view
 - e. disallow evidence that was obtained illegally from being used in a court proceeding

9. The main problem with the Articles of Confederation was that it...
- gave the central government too much power
 - did not give Congress the power to lay and collect taxes
 - did not permit the federal government to govern new territories
 - created a judiciary that was too powerful
 - set term limits for the president
10. In which of the following ways can the Supreme Court check the power of Congress?
- the Court can veto legislation signed by the president
 - the Court can settle disputes between the states
 - the Court can apply original jurisdiction to cases that have been appeal to them
 - the Court can declare bills passed by Congress as unconstitutional
 - the Court can assign the Chief Justice to preside over the impeachment trial of the president held in the House of Representatives
11. The president can bypass congressional approval and implement programs by...
- appointing to the cabinet a member of the opposing party
 - issuing an executive order
 - asking for a referendum by the electorate on controversial legislation
 - delivering a speech to a group that opposes him
 - holding a press conference
12. Since 1960, which presidential power has been challenged by Congress?
- committing troops to foreign countries
 - delivering the State of the Union address
 - appointing cabinet members
 - signing treaties with foreign heads of state
 - receiving ambassadors and consuls
13. The 14th Amendment to the US Constitution was originally interpreted by the Supreme Court to...
- compel the states to follow the Bill of Rights
 - add voting rights for women
 - allow the states to pass laws guaranteeing separate but equal status to their citizens
 - enable Congress to implement affirmative action legislation
 - provide freed slaves equal protection under the law

14. All of the following are steps involved in the law-making process EXCEPT...
- all revenue bills must start in the Senate
 - conference committees are designed to settle differences between bills
 - Senate filibusters can stop bills from coming to a vote
 - there are standing committees in each house which mark up legislation
 - positions taken by congressmen can be indicated by a roll call vote
15. Congressional oversight committees have the main purpose of...
- reviewing governmental operations
 - drawing up appropriation bills
 - drafting articles of impeachment
 - setting time limits for debates
 - drafting constitutional amendments
16. The president and Congress can deal with proposed legislation in all of the following ways EXCEPT...
- the president can allow legislation to sit on his desk without signing it while Congress is in still in session
 - the House and Senate can send different versions of the same bill to the president for his signature
 - the president can allow legislation to sit on his desk without signing it even though Congress has adjourned
 - the president may veto a bill even though it was passed by both houses of Congress
 - Congress may override a presidential veto by two-thirds vote in each house
17. When district boundaries are redrawn to the benefit of the political party in power, this is called...
- a national census
 - reapportionment
 - redistricting
 - multidistrict representation
 - gerrymandering

18. What type of PAC would most likely support Democratic candidates?
- tobacco companies
 - gun advocacy groups
 - labor unions
 - business corporations
 - bankers associations
19. Which of the following rulings by the Supreme Court would judicial activists most support?
- an abortion case mandating a 24-hour waiting period before a woman could get an abortion
 - a search and seizure case that enforces limits on police no-knock restrictions
 - a death penalty habeas corpus case to the federal courts in which the appeal was turned down
 - a free speech case where a provision of a congressional act that restricts access to obscene sites on the Internet was declared unconstitutional
 - a free press case that allows school officials greater authority to censor school newspapers
20. Which of the following components does a strong federal system of government have?
- a weak central government dominated by strong state governments
 - different levels of government unified by a central government
 - three branches of government all possessing separate powers
 - a parliament headed by a prime minister
 - a loosely bound confederation of states
21. According to the 25th Amendment, what happens if a president is disabled while serving in office?
- the House and Senate combined must vote on a referendum to allow the vice president to assume power
 - the first lady is given temporary power of the presidency
 - the Supreme Court convenes to determine when the vice president can assume the office
 - the president's cabinet makes a declaration on the president's incapacity to serve and the vice president then becomes president
 - there is a special presidential election held nationwide to fill the office for balance of the president's term of office

22. The major cause of gridlock is...
- the large number of bills suggested by the president
 - the existence of Congressional lobbyists
 - an executive branch being held by one party and Congress by the other party
 - the increase in the number of southern Republicans elected to Congress
 - the constant shifting among the electorate from one party to the other
23. Which of the following is true of the Electoral College?
- it requires electors to vote for the presidential candidate they are pledged to by state vote
 - it sets up a power base for third-party candidates
 - there have been frequent occasions when a president wins the electoral votes but not the popular vote
 - it was added into the Constitution to give the voters more power
 - it give power to the House of Representatives to decide who will be president if no candidate gets a majority of the electoral votes
24. All of the following are constitutional powers of the president EXCEPT...
- commander-in-chief of the armed forces
 - chief of state
 - making appointments of ambassadors
 - chief of party
 - signing treaties with foreign heads of state
25. Which Enlightenment principle did the Founding Fathers rely on?
- guarantees of life, liberty and property
 - the writ of habeas corpus
 - a single political party system
 - the right to bear arms
 - a unicameral legislature

Source:

Lader, C. (1998). *How to prepare for the advanced placement examination. AP US government and politics*. (2nd ed). New York: Barron's Educational Series, Inc.