

Government Finals Study Guide

Foundations of Government Quiz

Which of these defines Switzerland as a sovereign state? It has a central government that creates laws for the entire nation.

In 1986 the country of Greece implemented decentralization, dividing the country into regions, each with its own administrative unit. Before 1986, the country of Greece was most likely which of these? unitary system

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation is an agency created by the U.S. Congress to monitor and assist financial private institutions to protect consumers. This agency fulfills which function of government? provide economic security

Which of these examples highlights a disadvantage of the federal system of government? Looser federal environmental laws are enforced over stricter state laws.

In a true free market economy, which of the following would occur? Access to natural resources would be uncontrolled.

Thomas Hobbes stated that life would be "nasty, brutish, and short" without a state or government. Which of these functions of government would likely be most important, according to Hobbes? Establishing prisons to hold criminals and reduce crime.

How do the goals of socialism differ from the goals of capitalism? Only capitalism stresses private ownership of business.

The president of the U.S. can veto a bill passed by the Congress, preventing it from becoming a law. This is an example of which principle of democracy? control of the abuse of power.

Which of these characterizes one predicted result of a laissez-faire system? producer competition for resources.

Which of these is an example of a government maintaining order? Officers screen visitors for weapons at the entrance of a courthouse.

Which of these is a public service performed by government in the U.S.? filling of potholes on streets.

Although Ohio is considered a state, it is different from a country such as Japan, which is also considered a state. What makes Ohio different from Japan? Ohio is subject to laws from another entity.

In a truly democratic society, which of the following happens during an election? The elected candidate takes office without violence from the rival party.

Origins of American Government Quiz

The Magna Carta recognized the principle of limited government because it? restricted the power of the monarchy.

One way that the English Bill of Rights expanded on the Magna Carta was by? stating that the monarch must have Parliament's consent to levy taxes.

What did Britain do in response to the French and Indian War that caused the colonists to boycott British goods? Britain taxed the colonists.

The purpose of the Preamble to the Declaration of Independence was to? establish the source of the rights of all Americans.

Any powers not specifically stated in the Articles of Confederation? were given to the states.

Shay's Rebellion caused the new nation's leaders to realize that? a stronger national government was needed.

The Bill of Rights was created because the Anti-Federalists were concerned that? the new national government could trample on individual rights.

The Federalist papers were successful primarily because they? clearly explained the principles of American constitutional government.

Which of the following lists the steps required to add the Bill of Rights to the Constitution in the correct sequence? Madison introduced it, Congress approved it, and the states ratified it.

The Founders created a federal system of government because they? wanted power to be split between the national and the state governments.

Constitution Quiz

In the Federalist Papers, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay supported? division of power into three branches of government.

The Seventeenth Amendment changed how U.S. Senate positions were filled by? allowing U.S. citizens to directly elect senators.

The Articles of the Constitution include the Supremacy Clause, which states that? the Constitution is the supreme law of the U.S.

How does the state legislature method of amendment ratification differ from the state convention method? State conventions allow people to directly vote for amendments.

The Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments are alike in that they both? protect the rights of former slaves and their descendants.

State governments are like the federal government in that they? have a judiciary with courts to uphold laws.

According to national supremacy, if a state constitutional amendment is in conflict with the U.S. Constitution, then the amendment must be? removed from the state constitution.

What must happen before a local government can be established? The state government must issue a local charter.

To protect freedom of religion, the Founders established separation of _____ and state. Church.

A change to an original document, such as the Constitution, is a(n)? Amendment.

The _____ branch of the federal government has certain enumerated powers listed in the Constitution. Legislative.

Which of the following statements is true of the elastic clause? It gives Congress the power to make laws deemed necessary and proper.

In the system of checks and balances, veto power is balanced by? the power of Congress to override the veto.

Which of the following is an example of judicial review? The Supreme Court interprets the Constitution and overturns a state law.

FEDERALISM QUIZ

What was the main reason that the Framers created federalism? to protect themselves from an all-powerful central government

A concurrent power is? shared by both federal and state governments.

Which of the following is a denied power to both federal and state government? granting someone a title of nobility

Before a territory can become a state? Congress must pass an enabling act.

What is the main reason that federal land-grant schools were created? to give more Americans access to a college education

To establish residency in another state, a person may have to? live in that state for a certain period of time.

If they are unable to resolve their disputes, what recourse do states have? They can take their case to the Supreme Court.

Public policy is? a course of action that a government decides to take.

According to the Supreme Court, what made the 2010 Affordable Care Act constitutional? It fell under Congress's taxing power.

Which of these groups of adjectives would most likely describe someone who supports a nationalist position? liberal, Democrat, progressive.

What was Alexander Hamilton's main objective for ratifying the Constitution? establishing federalism.

The "Necessary and Proper Clause" of the Constitution is sometimes called the? "Elastic Clause."

Which of the following pairs best represents the division of federal and state powers? Federal, coining money; State, conducting elections.

What is the main reason that one state might receive more in a block grant than another state? one may have more population.

Regarding election of national government officials? Congress can alter state election laws.

What is the main reason that a state wants to attract businesses? to benefit its economy and provide employment for its residents

State laws? cannot be prohibited by the Constitution or national law.

Federalism lessen the risk of? one party having a monopoly of political power.

What key element of federalism increases the opportunity for political participation? sovereign power of voters.

Structure of Congress Quiz

The requirement of unanimous consent that applies to the Senate, but not the House, requires which of the following? cooperation between majority and minority leadership.

Who might you MOST expect to see talking with the president about a particular house bill? Speaker of the House.

The censure of a member of Congress results in which of the following? statement of formal disapproval.

Personal staff and subcommittee staff may both do which of the following? collect information and draft bills.

Which statement is true about a standing committee in the Senate? The party makeup of each committee can shift after each election.

Why might a seat in the Senate be more attractive to a candidate than a seat in the House? Senators do not have to run for office as often.

Which of these statements is true about congressional districts and representation? Each congressional district has a comparable number of citizens.

Which of these bills would most likely have parts that must be sent to two separate committees by the Rules Committee? a bill to investigate the connection between cancer and air pollution.

A senator represents a northern industrial state that produces automobiles. Which of these committee assignments should the member request from party leadership in order to increase his chances of winning reelection? Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

A candidate who runs for the U.S. House of Representatives must meet which of the following qualifications? legal resident of the state.

Which of these statements describes what happens to a bill in conference committee? The difference between the two versions of the bill are resolved.

What is one way that the success of a political party during an election can influence which bills get to the House floor for a vote? An election determines which party will control the Rules Committee, which sets the calendar for bills to be heard on the House floor.

Which of these is an example of a check on the power of the legislative branch? Both houses must agree on a bill before it can be passed into law.

Which of these is a member of the Senate majority party who fills a role that parallels the Speaker of the House? president pro tempore.

Presidency Quiz

Which of these bodies would the president consult to obtain advice about setting import taxes for goods from China? Council of Economic Advisers.

Which of the following is a tool that the president can use to obtain congressional support for his or her legislative agenda? promise of campaign support to a senator.

When President Truman enacted new policy by racially integrating the armed forces, he did it using which one of these? executive order.

Which of these was a successful check on the power of a president? After Truman seized steel mills, the court declared the action unconstitutional.

When playing the role of chief diplomat, the president must get approval from Congress for which of these? Treaty.

Acting as head of state, the president might do which of the following? invite famous poets to dinner at the White House.

A controversial bill passes in the House by a wide majority but barely passes in the Senate. The president is against the bill, and so are his supporters. What is the likely course of action that would be taken by the president, to try to prevent the bill from becoming a law? veto the bill.

A U.S. military base is attacked in a Middle Eastern country. Which of the following is best equipped to respond quickly to the incident? executive branch.

As chief diplomat, the president is able to negotiate which of these with a foreign leader without getting congressional approval? executive agreement.

When the president calls engineers at NASA to congratulate them on a successful space mission, he or she is acting as which of these? head of state.

The U.S. president acting as chief executive might do which of the following? appoint heads of agencies.

Which of the following would prevent someone from running for president? not being at least 35 years old.

Abraham Lincoln's ability to rally the nation to preserve the Union is an example of his? effective communication.

Which leader has the greatest chance of becoming president through the line of succession? president pro tempore.

How did the Twelfth Amendment change the Constitution? It provided guidelines for establishment of the Electoral College.

How is the selection of presidential and vice presidential candidates changing? Recent candidates reflect more diversity.

A vice president can become president through presidential disability, the death of the president, or? after the president is impeached.

What is a drawback of the winner-take-all system of Electoral College voting? It makes it possible for candidates to lose the popular vote, yet win the elections.

**Which series shows the correct sequence of steps to becoming president?
primary, convention, general election, Electoral College vote.**

Who has the best chance of winning election as president? a moderate Democrat or Republican.

The Twenty-second Amendment clarified? the number of terms a president can serve.

Judicial Branch Quiz

The judicial branch promotes the rule of law by using judicial review to? hold government accountable to the laws.

Why must the judicial branch be an independent branch of government? to keep judges fair and impartial.

The final clause in the Sixth Amendment has been used to justify the provision of which of the following? public defenders.

Many people accused of crimes settle criminal cases through plea bargains to? be sentenced for a lesser crime.

Juries are important in part because they enable citizens to? participate in the court process.

The U.S. Supreme Court case *Hernandez v. Texas* protected citizens' rights to? a jury of their peers.

Justices in an appellate court who agree with the ruling opinion but disagree with the reasons for the opinion may? contribute a concurrent opinion.

A successful appeal will most likely? align with precedent.

Family law, juvenile law, probate law, and traffic law all fall under the jurisdiction of? state courts.

Which judges may be selected by popular vote, legislative vote, or appointment? only state court judges.

In order to safeguard against corruption and ensure impartiality, federal judges are? appointed for life terms.

The power of judicial review serves to? check the executive and legislative branches.

Criminal courts resolve cases between? state prosecutors and defendants.

Who most benefits from public defenders? defendants who cannot afford their own counsel.

Jurisdiction is determined by? geography, parties, and type of laws involved.

In the case of *Roper v. Simmons*, what constitutional right did the Court say was being violated? an individual's right to be free from cruel and unusual punishment.

A major criterion the Supreme Court uses when determining whether to hear a case is if? lower courts have interpreted federal law in several different ways.

The Supreme Court's right to judicial review? was established with the court case *Marbury v Madison*

What kind of jurisdiction does the Supreme Court have when hearing a case involving a water rights dispute between two states? Original

How did *McCulloch v. Maryland* affect the balance of power? It said the the federal government was more powerful than the states when carrying out a constitutional duty.

When the Supreme Court hears a case? oral arguments last a total of one hour.

Reading an amicus curiae brief can help citizens? stay informed about a specific interest group's view on a case before the Supreme Court.

In what way did the Court's decision in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* demonstrate how a changing society influences Supreme Court decisions? Racial segregation in public schools became less socially acceptable.

Congress's ability to impeach justices is an example of? how the legislative branch can check the power of the judicial branch.

Which of the following lists the steps in filling a Supreme Court vacancy? The individual is nominated by the president and confirmed by the Senate.

In recent years the Supreme court has become more representative of the entire country because? there is a wider variety of racial and ethnic backgrounds.

Political Party Quiz

A teenager who is beginning to engage in the political process is most likely to do which of the following? canvass potential voters.

To become a member of a particular political party, one must do which of these? call yourself a member.

A young white man who wants government to act on issues such as climate change and homelessness is most likely to identify himself as which of these? Democrat.

From the Republican Party's viewpoint, which one of these qualities in a candidate might be the most important? ability to communicate the party platform clearly.

The Progressive Party (or Bull Moose Party), created by former Republican president Theodore Roosevelt, was which type of third party? splinter party.

A moderate-conservative might make which of the following statements? People should be free to live their own lives, but sometimes people do need help.

The most political power is likely to be held by the Democratic Party in which of these geographic locations? Northwest coast.

If a state uses plurality to decide the winner of a primary, which of these is true? The candidate receiving the most votes will win the primary.

Which of these statements is currently true about the nomination of a party's presidential candidate? Delegates simply nominate the candidate that has been chosen by party leaders.

Polarization can cause political gridlock and prevent meaningful legislation from being passed. Which make of the House is likely to lead to the most polarization and gridlock? 50% ideological Democrats, 50% ideological Republicans

At a party's national convention, which of these statements can be true? Candidates can interact with delegates to try to get their vote.

In a political party, how does the state committee influence the national committee? It provides representatives who promote cooperation between all committees.

Which of these is a conservative ideology that is part of the 2012 Democratic Party's platform? Taxes should be decreased for some Americans.

A Green Party presidential candidate is likely to accomplish which of these during the campaign? draw attention to issues related to energy use.