



Political Science Bee – C Set Qualifying Exam

Name _____

School _____

Grade _____

Email address _____

Instructions – Print the letter of the correct answer in the space provided or leave it blank. Write neatly and in capital letters. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are worth –1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points.

_____ 1. Which of the following is required to be elected president of the United States?

- A. being a military veteran
- B. having been in Congress
- C. being male
- D. being a natural-born citizen of the US

_____ 2. How many voting members are in the House of Representatives if all seats are filled?

- A. 9
- B. 100
- C. 435
- D. 538

_____ 3. All of these constitutional amendments were adopted during reconstruction EXCEPT

- A. the Thirteenth Amendment
- B. the Fourteenth Amendment
- C. the Fifteenth Amendment
- D. the Sixteenth Amendment

_____ 4. Which of the following states gained two congressional seats in the reapportionment following the 2020 US Census?

- A. Texas
- B. California
- C. Illinois
- D. New York

_____ 5. Which of the following is the current Chief Justice of the United States?

- A. Brett Kavanaugh
- B. Clarence Thomas
- C. Elena Kagan
- D. John Roberts

_____ 6. Which of the following is considered a non-governmental organization?

- A. the United States Treasury Department
- B. NATO
- C. the European Union
- D. Doctors Without Borders (MSF)

_____ 7. The ‘Test Clause’ of Article VI of the Constitution prohibits what type of restriction for holding public office in the United States?

- A. religious
- B. sex or gender
- C. race or ethnicity
- D. an age requirement

_____ 8. What former Secretary of State and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff died in October 2021 from complications from Covid-19?

- A. James Mattis
- B. John McCain
- C. Colin Powell
- D. Chuck Hagel

_____ 9. Governor Gavin Newsom recently faced which of the following in California?

- A. an impeachment by the California legislature
- B. a recall vote
- C. a massive criminal prosecution
- D. widespread protests by labor union members over his economic policies

_____ 10. Which long-time Chancellor of Germany chose not to seek reelection in 2021?

- A. Horst Kohler
- B. Christian Wulff
- C. Joachim Gauck
- D. Angela Merkel

_____ 11. As Vice President, which of the following is Kamala Harris’s role in the US Senate?

- A. she has no official role in the Senate
- B. as a former Senator, she is allowed to participate in debates and sit on committees
- C. she is the Senate Majority Leader
- D. she casts tiebreaking votes if necessary

_____ 12. Muhammadu Buhari has served as president of what most populous African country since 2015?

- A. Egypt
- B. Algeria
- C. Nigeria
- D. South Africa

_____ 13. The Supreme Court's role in determining the constitutionality of federal laws is given what name?

- A. appeals
- B. impeachment
- C. judicial review
- D. jurisdiction

_____ 14. Which of the following, which sets a limit on the amount of money the United States government is allowed to borrow, was the subject of an intense showdown in Congress in October of 2021?

- A. cloture
- B. 'cap and trade'
- C. the debt ceiling
- D. unfunded mandates

_____ 15. Which of the following is required by the Constitution with regard to state governments?

- A. states must have a republican form of government
- B. states must be of roughly equal size
- C. states must be of roughly equal population
- D. states cannot be added to the union

_____ 16. In late August of 2021, the United States ended a nearly twenty-year deployment of combat troops to what nation?

- A. Turkey
- B. South Korea
- C. Afghanistan
- D. Germany

_____ 17. Which of these would be considered a 'blue state' in recent presidential elections?

- A. Wyoming
- B. Massachusetts
- C. Kansas
- D. Idaho

_____ 18. The House of Representatives and House of Councillors make up the parliament, or National Diet, of what Asian nation led by Fumio Kishida?

- A. Taiwan
- B. China
- C. Vietnam
- D. Japan

_____ 19. The division of power between the national and state governments in the United States is referred to by what term?

- A. socialism
- B. nationalism
- C. communism
- D. federalism

_____ 20. All of these are part of Great Britain EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Ireland
- B. England
- C. Scotland
- D. Wales

_____ 21. What country has seen widespread pro-democracy protests against its leader Alexander Lukashenko since presidential elections in August 2020?

- A. Poland
- B. Belarus
- C. Greece
- D. Turkey

_____ 22. Which of these places a limit on the number of terms a president can serve in office?

- A. Article II of the Constitution
- B. the Tenth Amendment
- C. the Twelfth Amendment
- D. the Twenty-second Amendment

_____ 23. All of these are among the most common types of municipal government in the United States EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. council-manager
- B. mayor-council
- C. parliamentary
- D. commission

_____ 24. All of these are small island countries who are particularly threatened by climate change and rising global sea levels EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Kiribati
- B. Nauru
- C. Eswatini
- D. Tuvalu

_____ 25. Which of the following is true of the 2022 midterm elections in the US?

- A. no states will elect governors
- B. roughly half of the US Senate will be up for election
- C. the entire US House of Representatives will be up for election
- D. President Biden will stand for reelection

_____ 26. The Supreme Court case of *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954 was an important step in which of the following?

- A. ensuring free speech in antiwar protests
- B. desegregation of American public schools
- C. limiting the power of Congress over taxation
- D. ending the death penalty in America

_____ 27. Which of the following countries combines elements of the governmental systems of the United Kingdom and the United States with distinctive indigenous features?

- A. Mexico
- B. Australia
- C. Nicaragua
- D. El Salvador

_____ 28. Which of the following is guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the Constitution?

- A. freedom of the press
- B. the right to keep and bear arms
- C. freedom from cruel and unusual punishment
- D. the right to trial by jury

_____ 29. What practice in the United States Senate, which essentially requires 60 votes to pass most legislation, has been a topic of controversy since the beginning of the Biden administration?

- A. the filibuster
- B. the veto override
- C. 'advice and consent'
- D. the committee system

_____ 30. The Abraham Accords are an international agreement brokered by the Trump administration in 2020 between what two nations?

- A. the UAE and Israel
- B. Egypt and Germany
- C. Russia and Japan
- D. India and Pakistan

_____ 31. Which of the following is true of intergovernmental organizations?

- A. they are created by treaties or international agreements
- B. they are primarily composed of sovereign states
- C. they are governed by international law
- D. all of these are true of IGOs

_____ 32. Naftali Bennett and Yair Lapid will lead which of the following nations in a rotation government following legislative elections in 2021?

- A. France
- B. Brazil
- C. Israel
- D. Mexico

_____ 33. A monarchy is a government with which of the following as its head?

- A. a president
- B. a prime minister
- C. a dictator
- D. a king, queen or emperor

_____ 34. Traffic fines and citations like speeding tickets are usually the responsibility of which of the following?

- A. municipal or county courts
- B. federal district courts
- C. federal appeals courts
- D. the Supreme Court

_____ 35. In the United States, all of these terms are used to refer to first-order political subdivisions of states EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. parish
- B. province
- C. borough
- D. county

_____ 36. Prior to his election, President Biden served in all of these roles EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. US ambassador to the Soviet Union
- B. Vice President
- C. US Senator from Delaware
- D. member of the New Castle, Delaware city council

_____ 37. In many American states and cities, elections in which no candidate receives a majority of votes result in which of the following?

- A. a completely new election with the same candidates
- B. a run-off election, usually featuring the top two candidates
- C. a completely new election with different candidates
- D. the president stepping in to determine a winner

_____ 38. Which of these people is NOT currently eligible to become president of the United States?

- A. Bill Clinton
- B. Jill Biden
- C. Donald Trump
- D. Nancy Pelosi

_____ 39. Which of the following is part of the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution?

- A. a definition of national citizenship
- B. the Due Process Clause
- C. the Equal Protection Clause
- D. the concept of 'reserved powers'

_____ 40. The Democratic Movement (MDB), Worker's Party (PT) and Social Democracy Party (PSDB) are the major political parties in what large South American nation?

- A. Peru
- B. Argentina
- C. Brazil
- D. Chile

_____ 41. The Senate power of 'advice and consent' is an example of which of the following in the Constitution?

- A. use of the Commerce Clause
- B. 'checks and balances'
- C. federalism
- D. the impeachment power

_____ 42. Which of these is true of the governors of the 50 US states?

- A. a majority of the governorships in the US are held by Republicans
- B. a majority of the governorships in the US are held by Democrats
- C. there is an even split between Democrats and Republicans, with each party holding 25 governorships
- D. there is more than one state with a third-party governor, so Republicans and Democrats each hold fewer than 25

_____ 43. Article I of the Constitution outlines the powers of which of the following?

- A. Congress
- B. the President
- C. the Supreme Court
- D. the United States military

_____ 44. Following the Constitutional Convention, what faction of Americans opposed the ratification of the Constitution?

- A. the federalists
- B. the anti-federalists
- C. the 'free soilers'
- D. the 'Know Nothings'

_____ 45. Which of the following describes the legal relationship between the United States government and Native American reservations within the US?

- A. reservations have 'limited autonomy' within the US but not their own legal systems or courts
- B. reservations are considered 'domestic dependent nations'
- C. reservations have complete autonomy and can make their own foreign policy and alliances with other nations
- D. tribes have no legal authority within reservations

_____ 46. Which of these is true of the state of Nebraska?

- A. it is the only state without a governor
- B. it is the only state without a legislature
- C. it is the only state with a unicameral legislature
- D. it is the only state where people below 16 years old can vote

_____ 47. The process of someone born outside the United States becoming a citizen is known by what term?

- A. election
- B. referendum
- C. initiative
- D. naturalization

_____ 48. Which country celebrated the administration of its one billionth Covid vaccine dose in October 2021?

- A. France
- B. the United States
- C. Canada
- D. India

_____ 49. Which of these is NOT true of the president's State of the Union message?

- A. it is required by the Constitution
- B. it is often attended by foreign diplomats, Supreme Court justices, and Cabinet secretaries
- C. for over 100 years it has been given as a public speech before Congress
- D. the Constitution requires it be delivered in front of an audience

_____ 50. The Necessary and Proper Clause in Article I of the Constitution is also called the 'elastic clause' because it does which of the following?

- A. allows Congress to impeach presidents
- B. allows Congress to increase the money supply
- C. helps to expand the power of Congress by allowing it to exceed its enumerated authority
- D. greatly restricts the power of Congress