

1. A first-term member of the House of Representatives from North Dakota who wished to maximize opportunities for constituent service would be most likely to seek placement on which of the following committees?
  - (A) Judiciary
  - (B) Agriculture
  - (C) Rules
  - (D) Foreign Affairs
  - (E) Science and Technology
2. The power of the Rules Committee in the House of Representatives rests on its authority to:
  - (A) choose the chairs of other standing committees and issue rules for the selection of subcommittee chairs
  - (B) initiate all spending legislation and hold budget hearings
  - (C) place a bill on the legislative calendar, limit time for debate and determine the type of amendments allowed
  - (D) determine the procedures by which nominations by the President will be approved by the House
  - (E) choose the President if no candidate wins a majority in the electoral college
3. Most of the bills introduced in the House and the Senate are then:
  - (A) passed by one chamber but not the other
  - (B) passed by both chambers but vetoed by the President
  - (C) referred to committee but never sent to the full Congress
  - (D) voted down during the amendment stage of the floor debate
  - (E) killed in the Rules Committee
4. The details of legislation are usually worked out in which of the following settings?
  - (A) A party caucus
  - (B) The majority leader's office
  - (C) The floor of the House
  - (D) Legislative hearings
  - (E) A subcommittee
5. Most of the work of legislating in Congress takes place in
  - (A) joint committees
  - (B) ad hoc committees
  - (C) select committees
  - (D) conference committees
  - (E) standing committees
6. When a bill passes the House and the Senate in different versions, the bill is resolved by which of the following types of committee?
  - (A) Conference
  - (B) Select
  - (C) Reconciliation
  - (D) Rules
  - (E) Standing
7. The House Rules Committee is an important part of the legislative process because it
  - (A) determines ethics rules for members' conduct
  - (B) determines whether a bill should be referred to a policy committee for consideration
  - (C) determines the terms and conditions of debate when a bill goes to the House floor
  - (D) has the authority to limit the Speaker and Minority leader in their use of patronage
  - (E) negotiates compromises on bills with the Senate Rules Committee
8. Which of the following is a primary function of the Senate Judiciary Committee?
  - (A) Conducting oversight hearings on the Supreme Court budget
  - (B) Conducting investigations into allegedly subversive activities
  - (C) Conducting hearings on judicial appointments made by the president
  - (D) Conducting investigations into wrongdoing by the executive branch
  - (E) Initiating appointments to the Supreme Court
9. Which of the following committees plays a major role in the House in shaping tax policy?
  - (A) Finance
  - (B) Ways and Means
  - (C) Commerce
  - (D) Appropriations
  - (E) Governmental Affairs
10. To which of the following congressional committees would a proposal to reform the national income-tax system initially be sent?
  - (A) House Appropriations Committee
  - (B) House Ways and Means Committee
  - (C) House Budget Committee
  - (D) Senate Budget Committee
  - (E) Senate Finance Committee
11. Congressional standing committees are best describes as
  - (A) specially appointed investigative bodies
  - (B) joint committees of the two Houses of Congress
  - (C) committees created for each session
  - (D) permanent subject-matter committees
  - (E) advisory staff agencies
12. Which of the following is an accurate statement about committees in Congress?
  - (A) The work of a committee ends when it submits a bill to the full House or Senate for consideration
  - (B) An individual representative or senator can serve on only one committee and one subcommittee
  - (C) Membership on key committees such as House Rules and Senate Finance is limited to fixed terms
  - (D) Standing committees oversee the bureaucracy's implementation of legislation
  - (E) Committee recommendations tend to have little influence on floor voting

13. The committee system is more important in the House than in the Senate because:
- (A) the seniority system plays no role in the House and therefore committees must play a larger role
  - (B) the Constitution mandates the type of committee structure in the House
  - (C) committee members are appointed by the President
  - (D) the House is so large that more work can be accomplished in committees than on the floor
  - (E) the majority party in the House prefers to give priority to the work of the committees
14. The role of a conference committee in Congress is to:
- (A) hold hearings on proposed legislation
  - (B) oversee the actions of the executive branch of the government
  - (C) decide which bills should be considered by the full Senate
  - (D) conduct hearings that make information available to the public
  - (E) reconcile differences in bills passed by the House and Senate
15. A committee chair in the House of Representatives is always
- (A) the member with the longest service on the committee
  - (B) the member with the longest service in the House
  - (C) a representative of the Speaker
  - (D) a member of the majority party in the chamber
  - (E) a trusted ally of the President
16. The committee that resolves differences between House and Senate versions of a bill is called a
- (A) joint committee
  - (B) select committee
  - (C) special committee
  - (D) conference committee
  - (E) standing committee
17. Which of the following is true of the seniority system of Congress in relation to committee leadership and committee staffing?
- (A) Members of Congress with the longest continuous service are assured the chairmanship of major congressional committees.
  - (B) Members of Congress must be elected from safe seats to accrue committee seniority.
  - (C) Members of congressional committees are the most senior members of the body's majority party.
  - (D) The oldest members of Congress have the most seniority.
  - (E) The chairs of congressional committees tend to be senior members of the body's majority party.
18. Which of the following committees of the House of Representatives sets the conditions for debate and amendment of most legislation?
- (A) Ways and Means
  - (B) Appropriations
  - (C) Judiciary
  - (D) Rules
  - (E) Government Operations
19. Which of the following best describes pork barrel politics?
- (A) The Office of Management and Budget negotiates with Congress to get the president's budget proposal passed.
  - (B) Senators from states with agricultural economies promote farm price supports.
  - (C) Voters in rural areas support different issue positions than do voters in metropolitan areas.
  - (D) Members of Congress negotiate bills so that individual districts get money for projects that do not benefit the nation as a whole.
  - (E) Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee refuse to endorse the president's nominees to the federal courts.
20. The term "pork barrel" refers to legislation specifically designed to
- (A) encourage a balanced federal budget
  - (B) ensure the careful inspection of farm goods and other foodstuffs
  - (C) distribute excess produce to the poor
  - (D) provide funding for local projects that are intended to benefit constituents
  - (E) equalize representation between farming and nonfarming states
21. "Pork barrel" legislation helps the reelection chances of a member of Congress because such legislation:
- (A) gives the member of Congress national standing and coverage on national television news
  - (B) helps earn the member of Congress a reputation for service to his or her district
  - (C) attracts campaign contributions from ideological political action committees (PACs)
  - (D) prevents other candidates from claiming that the member of Congress is too liberal for his or her district
  - (E) requires the member of Congress to travel extensively
22. Which of the following actions by a congressional representative is an example of "pork barreling"?
- (A) Misusing campaign contributions
  - (B) Directing federal funds into the representative's district through legislation
  - (C) Accepting money from a political action committee (PAC)
  - (D) Attempting to kill a bill with unacceptable amendments
  - (E) Voting for a salary increase

23. The boundary lines of congressional districts are drawn by
- the United States House of Representatives
  - the United States Senate
  - United States district courts
  - state governors
  - state legislatures
24. The boundaries of United States congressional districts are usually determined by
- the Federal Election Commission (FEC)
  - the state legislatures
  - the House Rules Committee
  - a conference committee of the House and Senate
  - the director of the United States Census Bureau
25. Which of the following Supreme Court cases involved the principle of "one person, one vote"?
- Baker v. Carr*
  - Roe v. Wade*
  - Mapp v. Ohio*
  - Korematsu v. United States*
  - Gideon v. Wainwright*
26. Which of the following is generally true of the gerrymandering of congressional districts?
- It results in more Democrats being elected to the House.
  - It results in more Republicans being elected to the House.
  - It guarantees that all minority parties will be equally represented.
  - It creates districts that favor one political party over another.
  - It violates the principle of one-person, one-vote.
27. Which of the following best describes gerrymandering?
- The party in power wins four or five surrounding districts by very small margins.
  - The Supreme Court requires that state legislatures must adopt the doctrine of one person, one vote.
  - The party in control of the state legislature draws district boundaries in such a way as to favor its own candidates in subsequent elections.
  - By polling voters, party officials are able to determine how citizens will vote.
  - The public decides which issues are most important and tells the elected officials how to vote on specific bills.
28. Which of the following statements about gerrymandering is true?
- It has been banned by United States Supreme Court decisions beginning with *Baker v. Carr*.
  - It was used traditionally to maintain urban control of the House of Representatives.
  - It can be used by a political party to draw boundary lines to control as many districts as possible.
  - It guarantees greater constituency control over elected representatives.
  - It ensures liberal control of the House of Representatives.
29. Advocates of shifting the task of drawing United States House districts from state legislatures to independent commissions are likely to claim which of the following as an advantage of independent commissions?
- House districts drawn by independent commissions are immune from challenges by the United States Department of Justice.
  - Independent commissions are more likely to create majority-minority districts where they are appropriate.
  - Independent commissions significantly reduce the influence of partisan gerrymandering in the redistricting process.
  - Independent commissions are more likely to create districts where minor parties can be victorious.
  - Independent commissions are more able to draw legislative districts that comply with the one person, one vote standard.
30. Elections for the House of Representatives provide
- approximately equal representation for every voter
  - an equal chance of getting elected for both incumbents and challengers
  - a system in which only those candidates who receive a majority of the votes cast win on the first ballot
  - proportional representation based on the percentage of votes cast for each party
  - proportional representation of racial and ethnic minorities
31. Which of the following statements about rules of procedure in the House and Senate is correct?
- Debate by a determined minority in either chamber cannot be halted
  - The rules in each chamber are determined by the majority whip
  - The rules are specified in Article I of the Constitution
  - The rules can be changed by the President during a national emergency
  - The House operates more by formal rules, while the Senate operates more on informal understandings

32. Which of the following has the most influence on the outcome of a congressional election?
- Local performance of a candidate's party in the presidential race
  - A candidate's incumbency status
  - The amount of a candidate's campaign spending relative to that of his or her opponent
  - The level of support from local party leaders
  - The level of voter turnout
33. A "cloture motion" passed in the Senate does which of the following?
- Returns a bill to committee.
  - Cuts off debate on a bill.
  - Criticizes a senator guilty of improprieties.
  - Removes a President who has been impeached by the House.
  - Brings a bill directly to a vote without formal committee approval.
34. The franking privilege refers to the
- Federal Reserve Board's control over interest rates
  - practice of permitting senators to preview lists of judicial nominees
  - practice whereby legislators with the most seniority select the committees on which they want to serve
  - right of the chair to control the schedule of his or her congressional committee
  - right of members of Congress to send mail to their constituents at the government's expense
35. Communication between congressional representatives and constituents occurs mainly through
- committee hearings
  - the media
  - the personal staffs of representatives
  - the federal bureaucracy
  - staff members of congressional committees
36. The advantages of incumbency in congressional elections includes which of the following?
- Incumbents receive more campaign contributions than do challengers
  - Incumbents are able to provide important services for individual voters
  - The government provides campaign funds for incumbents
  - The President usually endorses incumbents for reelection
  - Most American voters believe Congress does a good job
- I and II only
  - III and IV only
  - I, IV, and V only
  - II, III, and V only
  - III, IV, and V only
37. A major difference between the House of Representatives and the Senate is that
- filibusters are possible only in the House
  - revenue bills must originate in the Senate
  - judicial nominations originate in a House committee
  - each state has equal representation in the House but not in the Senate
  - there is unlimited debate in the Senate but not in the House
38. Debate of a bill in the House of Representatives under a "closed rule" means that:
- the bill can only be amended by section
  - debate on the bill will consist of five-minute speeches, pro and con
  - only senior members are allowed to participate
  - amendments to the bill cannot be offered
  - the bill must be approved by two-thirds of the House
39. Which of the following statements about the Senate is true?
- Each state is represented in the Senate according to its population.
  - The Senate, unlike the House, has a Rules Committee.
  - Individual senators can exercise substantial influence over the legislative process.
  - The Senate has a strict time limit on debates.
  - The Senate is more responsible than the House for initiating appropriations legislation.
40. Which of the following statements about Congress is TRUE?
- Members of Congress only occasionally are interested in and pay attention to constituents
  - The legislative process is frequently lengthy, decentralized, and characterized by compromise and bargaining
  - Lobbyists and political action committees (PAC's) successfully induce most members of Congress to trade their votes for campaign contributions
  - The growth in the size of Congress as an organization is the principal cause of growth in the federal budget deficit
  - Debate in both houses is structured by elaborate rules enacted by leaders of the majority party
41. The Constitution states that all revenue bills must originate in
- a White House budget resolution
  - the Congressional Budget Office
  - the United States Senate
  - the United States House of Representatives
  - the Office of Management and Budget

42. Which of the following are differences between the legislative process in the House of Representatives and that in the Senate?
- Debate is more restricted on the House floor than on the Senate floor.
  - The amendment process is more restricted in the House than in the Senate.
  - Bills are more likely to bypass committee consideration in the House than in the Senate.
  - A Rules Committee sets the guidelines for floor debate in the House but not in the Senate.
- III only
  - I and II only
  - II and IV only
  - I, II, and IV only
  - I, II, III, and IV
43. Registered voters directly elect which of the following?
- The President and Vice-President
  - Supreme Court Justices
  - Members of the Senate
  - Members of the House of Representatives
- I only
  - IV only
  - I and II only
  - III and IV only
  - II, III, and IV only
44. Congressional legislative powers include all of the following EXCEPT
- legislating federal appropriations
  - approval of treaties
  - establishing a lower-court system
  - passing federal laws
  - pardoning felons
45. Which of the following statements about motions for cloture is true?
- They force a bill out of committee so that the full House can vote on it.
  - They are applied to bills that failed in the previous session of Congress.
  - They are applied only to appropriation bills.
  - They are used by senators to end a filibuster and bring a bill to a vote.
  - They occur whenever a bill is reported out of committee.
46. Of the following, which is the most powerful figure in Congress?
- The Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee
  - The Speaker of the House
  - The Minority Whip of the Senate
  - The Majority Whip of the House
  - The Chair of the Senate Finance Committee
47. Which of the following powers is shared by the House of Representatives and the Senate?
- Holding trials of impeachment
  - Establishing federal courts
  - Approving treaties
  - Holding confirmation hearings
  - Approving major presidential appointments
48. Members of Congress who have adopted the delegate role of representation normally cast their votes based on which of the following?
- The preferences of the majority of their constituents
  - Their judgment of what is best for their constituency
  - The instructions of their political party's leadership
  - Their political party's most recent policy platform
  - The advice of congressional staffers and political consultants
49. A discharge petition is used by the House to
- override a presidential veto
  - amend a bill that has already passed one house but not the other
  - get a bill stalled in committee onto the floor for consideration
  - amend a bill in a manner that will make it quite unpopular
  - make revisions and additions to a bill before it is voted on
50. Which of the following is true of both members of the House of Representatives and senators?
- They must be citizens of the United States.
  - They serve two-year terms of office.
  - They can have their election chances directly affected by reapportionment.
  - They must be at least thirty years of age.
  - They must have statewide appeal in order to get elected.
51. The franking privilege is one example of
- logrolling
  - soft money
  - a legislative privilege
  - an election law violation
  - an incumbency advantage
52. All of the following are formal or informal sources of presidential power EXCEPT:
- presidential authority to raise revenue
  - presidential access to the media
  - precedents set during previous administrations
  - public support
  - the Constitution

53. A President may persuade recalcitrant members of Congress to vote for a particular bill by:
- having members who oppose the bill transferred to unpopular committees
  - denying campaign funds to members who oppose the bill
  - threatening to deny renomination to members who oppose the bill
  - threatening to item veto part of a different bill that enjoys bipartisan support in Congress
  - making a direct appeal to the public through the mass media
54. The President's veto power is accurately described by which of the following statements?
- A President sometimes threatens to veto a bill that is under discussion in order to influence congressional decision-making.
  - A President typically vetoes about a third of the bills passed by Congress.
  - Congress is usually unable to override a President's veto.
- I only
  - III only
  - I and III only
  - II and III only
  - I, II, and III
55. All of the following statements pertaining to the presidential veto are true EXCEPT:
- Congress overrides fewer than ten percent of presidential vetoes.
  - A vetoed bill is often revised and passed in another form.
  - Presidents often threaten to veto bills to increase their leverage with Congress.
  - A President may veto part of a bill.
  - Congress often places provisions the President wants into a bill the President dislikes to make a veto less likely.
56. The request of recent Presidents for the line-item veto is a challenge to which of the following principles?
- separation of powers
  - senatorial courtesy
  - eminent domain
  - executive privilege
  - congressional oversight
57. Which of the following is true about the line-item veto?
- It is specifically granted to the President by the Constitution.
  - It is used by many state governors.
  - It is basically the same as a pocket veto.
  - Its use was upheld by the Supreme Court.
  - It would, if instituted, strengthen the power of congressional leaders.
58. Supporters of granting the President a line-item veto would most likely argue that this power would increase a President's ability to
- work effectively with the cabinet
  - negotiate understandings with foreign heads of government
  - control federal spending
  - avoid costly disputes with the judiciary
  - provide effectively for national defense
59. In general, Congress is most likely to defer to the President
- in the area of foreign policy
  - in the area of fiscal policy
  - in the area of social policy
  - late in the President's term
  - when the economy is strong
60. Which of the following is true of an executive agreement made between a United States President and another head of state?
- It does not require Senate approval, but may require congressional allocation of funds for implementation.
  - It does not require congressional funding because the President can use the power of the purse to raise implementation funds.
  - It has more legal force than a treaty.
  - It is binding on all succeeding Presidents and Congresses.
  - It has been used extensively to end armed conflicts.
61. A President attempting to influence Congress to pass a legislative program might employ all of the following strategies EXCEPT:
- using the media to draw attention to the legislative program
  - assigning legislative liaisons in the Executive Office of the President to lobby legislators
  - denying campaign reelection funds to legislators who oppose the President's policy stand
  - exploiting a partisan majority for the President's party in both the House and Senate
  - reminding legislators of high popularity ratings for the President in public opinion polls
62. All of the following powers are granted to the President by the Constitution EXCEPT
- commissioning officers in the armed forces
  - addressing the Congress on the state of the union
  - receiving ambassadors
  - granting pardons for federal offenses
  - forming new cabinet-level departments

63. The President can do which of the following without seeking the consent of either the House or the Senate?
- Ratify a treaty.
  - Appoint ambassadors.
  - Appoint district court judges.
  - Deploy troops.
  - Declare war.
64. In which of the following did Congress move to regain powers previously lost to the executive branch?
- Budget and Impound Control Act
  - Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act
  - Presidential Disability Act
  - Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
  - Persian Gulf War Resolution
65. All of the following have contributed to an increase in presidential power in the post-1945 era EXCEPT
- tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War period
  - an increase in public expectations for services from the federal government
  - economic and domestic problems such as inflation, unemployment, and civil rights issues
  - increasing United States involvement in international affairs
  - legislation granting the President the power to impound funds appropriated by Congress
66. In which of the following scenarios would a presidential veto most likely be upheld?
- The President has the support of the Supreme Court.
  - The President is in a second term, removed from partisan politics.
  - The proposed legislation enjoys widespread bipartisan support.
  - The proposed legislation was originally adopted by a large majority in both houses of Congress.
  - Two-thirds of the representatives and senators are members of the same party as the President.
67. Which of the following is NOT a presidential role authorized by the Constitution?
- To be commander in chief of the armed forces
  - To lead the political party of the President
  - To negotiate treaties with foreign nations
  - To be chief executive
  - To present the State of the Union address
68. Since the 1970's, Presidents have made use of executive orders at an increasing rate because executive orders
- are noncontroversial measures that can be easily implemented
  - are rarely defeated in Congress
  - do not need to be passed by Congress
  - avoid judicial review
  - must be ratified by the Senate rather than by the House
69. In recent presidential administrations, the principal staff for the President has been made up of members of the
- White House Office
  - cabinet
  - Congress
  - national committee of the President's party
  - civil service
70. The primary function of the White House staff is to
- initiate policy
  - advise the president
  - represent the bureaucratic agencies
  - provide information to the Office of Management and Budget
  - act as liaison with members of Congress
71. In selecting members of the White House staff, Presidents primarily seek people who:
- give the White House ideological balance
  - are personally loyal to the President
  - have extensive governmental experience
  - will help the President develop a good working relationship with Congress
  - can bring a nonpartisan perspective to policy deliberations
72. Senate confirmation is required for which of the following presidential appointments?
- Secretary of state
  - White House chief of staff
  - Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
  - Attorney general
- I only
  - II and III only
  - II and IV only
  - I, III, and IV only
  - I, II, III, and IV
73. The Senate must confirm all of the following presidential appointments EXCEPT
- United States attorneys
  - United States Supreme Court justices
  - White House staff
  - heads of executive agencies
  - federal judges
74. If Congress adjourns during the ten days the president has to consider a bill passed by both houses of Congress, but which the president has not yet signed, what is the result?
- Line-item veto
  - Legislative veto
  - Executive veto
  - Judicial review
  - Pocket veto

75. All of the following are ways that the legislative branch can check the powers of the executive branch EXCEPT:
- (A) Congress may remove the president through its impeachment and conviction powers.
  - (B) Congress may override a presidential veto.
  - (C) Congress may pass a law declaring a presidential action unconstitutional.
  - (D) The Senate may refuse to approve a presidential appointment.
  - (E) The Senate may refuse to approve a treaty negotiated by the president.
76. Which of the following is true about the pocket veto?
- (A) It is used to strike down a provision of a bill that the President finds disagreeable.
  - (B) It may be overridden by a two-thirds vote in Congress.
  - (C) It occurs when the President takes no action on a bill for ten days during which Congress is adjourned.
  - (D) It is used when the President expects to reach a compromise with Congress about how a bill should be modified.
  - (E) It is used when both houses of Congress pass separate versions of the same bill.
77. Generally, when is a president more likely to get congressional approval of proposed policies?
- (A) After midterm congressional elections
  - (B) In the second term rather than in the first
  - (C) When public opinion is sharply divided over policies
  - (D) In social policy areas rather than in economic policy areas
  - (E) In foreign affairs rather than in domestic affairs
78. Executive agreements have been cited as evidence that
- (A) modern presidents often try to avoid legislative checks and balances on their authority
  - (B) the executive branch has become too large and bureaucratic
  - (C) presidents have less power in handling foreign policy than in handling domestic policy
  - (D) interest groups have too much power in the contemporary governmental system
  - (E) the courts have few means of limiting presidential power
79. Invocation of the War Powers Act of 1973 would be most important in determining which of the following?
- (A) The nature of the commitment of United States Marines to a peacekeeping role in Lebanon
  - (B) The amount of financial aid to the Contras of Nicaragua
  - (C) The timing of naval maneuvers off the coast of Libya
  - (D) The appointment of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
  - (E) The legality of extraditing foreign agents responsible for acts of terrorism against United States citizens abroad
80. The War Powers Resolution (1973) was designed to
- (A) allow the Joint Chiefs of Staff to advise the President during periods of conflict
  - (B) allow Congress to suspend certain civil liberties during times of war
  - (C) require a congressional declaration of war before allowing military forces to be used overseas
  - (D) assure congressional involvement in decisions committing military forces in hostile situations overseas
  - (E) ensure funding for military operations lasting more than 60 days
81. The War Powers Resolution does which of the following?
- (A) Gives the president the power to declare war
  - (B) Requires that Congress report to the president before it cuts military appropriations
  - (C) Requires that the president notify Congress within 48 hours of deploying troops
  - (D) Allows the National Security Council to conduct military operations if the president is incapacitated
  - (E) Shifts military command responsibility from the president to the Joint Chiefs of Staff
82. Which of the following is articulated in the War Powers Resolution?
- (A) The President may declare war
  - (B) The President must finance any war efforts from a special contingency fund
  - (C) The President must bring troops home from hostilities within 60 to 90 days unless Congress extends the time
  - (D) The President may not nationalize state militias without congressional consent
  - (E) The President may not send troops into hostilities without a declaration of war from the United Nations
83. Which of the following is responsible for the preparation of executive spending proposals submitted to Congress?
- (A) Treasury Department
  - (B) Council of Economic Advisors
  - (C) Federal Trade Commission
  - (D) Department of Commerce
  - (E) Office of Management and Budget
84. The Office of Management and Budget has the primary responsibility for doing which of the following?
- (A) Implementing federal unemployment policy
  - (B) Preparing the budget
  - (C) Auditing the budget
  - (D) Appropriating funds for the budget
  - (E) Approving the budget