

Foundations of Australian Constitutional Law

Constitutional Law · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Which document, enacted by the British Parliament, gave Australia its legal authority to federate in 1901?

- A) The Bill of Rights 1689
- B) Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900**
- C) The Magna Carta
- D) The Statute of Westminster

2. Under Section 51 of the Australian Constitution, which body holds the power to make laws for the 'peace, order, and good government' of the country?

- A) The High Court
- B) The Federal Parliament**
- C) The Privy Council
- D) The State Governors

3. What is the primary role of the High Court of Australia regarding the Constitution?

- A) To write new laws for states
- B) To interpret and apply the Constitution**
- C) To select the Prime Minister
- D) To veto all legislation

4. Section 128 of the Australian Constitution outlines the specific process required for what action?

- A) Appointing a Governor-General
- B) Changing the Constitution via referendum**
- C) Dissolving the Senate
- D) Declaring war on a foreign nation

5. Which section of the Australian Constitution requires that trade, commerce, and intercourse among the States shall be 'absolutely free'?

- A) Section 92**
- B) Section 51
- C) Section 71
- D) Section 109

6. What happens when a valid Commonwealth law conflicts with a State law, according to Section 109 of the Constitution?

- A) The State law prevails
- B) They both become void
- C) The Commonwealth law prevails**
- D) The High Court must rewrite both

7. The Australian Constitution establishes the 'separation of powers' by dividing government into which three distinct branches?

- A) Monarchy, Senate, and House
- B) Parliament, Executive, and Judiciary**
- C) Federal, State, and Local
- D) Police, Military, and Courts

8. Which part of the Australian Constitution specifically established the Senate as a house of review representing the States?

- A) Chapter I**
- B) Chapter II
- C) Chapter III
- D) Chapter IV

9. What title is given to the representative of the British Monarch in the Australian federal government structure?

- A) The Prime Minister
- B) The Chief Justice
- C) The Governor-General**
- D) The President

10. Before the Constitution could take effect, it had to be approved by the people through a process known as what?

- A) A Royal Decree
- B) A Referendum**
- C) A Parliamentary Vote
- D) A Constitutional Convention