

Middle School Civics and Government Quiz

Civics & Government · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which document is considered the supreme law of the United States?

- A) The Bill of Rights
- B) The Declaration of Independence
- C) The U.S. Constitution**
- D) The Articles of Confederation

2. What is the primary responsibility of the Judicial Branch?

- A) To enforce laws
- B) To interpret laws**
- C) To write new bills
- D) To command the armed forces

3. In a representative democracy, how do citizens influence government decisions?

- A) By inheriting political positions
- B) By voting for elected officials**
- C) By controlling the judicial courts
- D) By direct participation in every law

4. What are the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution collectively known as?

- A) The Preamble
- B) The Articles
- C) The Bill of Rights**
- D) The Reconstruction Amendments

5. Which level of government is responsible for issuing driver's licenses?

- A) Federal government
- B) State government**
- C) Local government
- D) International government

6. What is the term for a system where power is divided between a central government and regional governments?

- A) Federalism**
- B) Monarchy
- C) Oligarchy
- D) Totalitarianism

7. How long is a single term for a member of the U.S. House of Representatives?

A) Two years

B) Four years

C) Six years

D) Ten years

8. Which branch of government has the power to declare war?

A) Executive

B) Judicial

C) Legislative

D) State

9. What is required to override a presidential veto?

A) A majority vote in the Supreme Court

B) A two-thirds vote in both houses of Congress

C) The approval of the Cabinet

D) A unanimous vote by the Governors

10. Which amendment guarantees the right to freedom of speech?

A) First Amendment

B) Second Amendment

C) Fifth Amendment

D) Tenth Amendment

11. What is the main role of a political party?

A) To collect taxes for local schools

B) To nominate candidates and influence policy

C) To interpret the legality of statutes

D) To oversee the daily operations of the military

12. Which document established the principle of limited government in 1215?

A) The Mayflower Compact

B) The Magna Carta

C) The Petition of Right

D) The English Bill of Rights

13. Who serves as the Commander in Chief of the United States military?

A) The Secretary of Defense

B) The Chief Justice

C) The President

D) The Speaker of the House

14. What is the purpose of the 'checks and balances' system?

A) To ensure one branch does not become too powerful

B) To allow the President to control the courts

C) To restrict voting rights of citizens

D) To centralize all power in the legislature

15. What is the legal process by which a person not born in a country becomes a citizen?

A) Naturalization

B) Naturalism

C) Extradition

D) Delegation