

Middle School Civics and Government Quiz

Civics & Government · Practice Test · 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