

# Exploring Government and Civics

Political Science · Answer Key · 20 Questions

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**1. What is the name of the document that lays out the fundamental principles and laws of a country, often considered its highest law?**

- A) Bill of Rights
- B) Magna Carta
- C) Constitution**
- D) Declaration of Independence

**2. In a democracy, what is the term for the right of citizens to vote in elections?**

- A) Sovereignty
- B) Suffrage**
- C) Representation
- D) Legislation

**3. Which system of government divides power between a central government and regional governments (like states or provinces)?**

- A) Unitary system
- B) Confederation
- C) Federal system**
- D) Monarchy

**4. What branch of government is responsible for making laws?**

- A) Executive branch
- B) Judicial branch
- C) Legislative branch**
- D) Bureaucracy

**5. Who is the head of government in a parliamentary system where the monarch is the head of state?**

- A) President
- B) Prime Minister**
- C) Chancellor
- D) King/Queen

**6. What is the term for a political system where the state holds total authority and regulates nearly every aspect of public and private life?**

- A) Democracy
- B) Republic
- C) Anarchy
- D) Totalitarianism**

**7. In international relations, what does the term 'sovereignty' refer to?**

- A) A country's ability to trade goods
- B) A country's right to govern itself without outside interference**
- C) A country's military strength
- D) A country's membership in the United Nations

**8. What is the primary role of a constitution in a country's government?**

- A) To declare war
- B) To establish the rules for how the country is run**
- C) To negotiate peace treaties
- D) To appoint military leaders

**9. Which of the following is a system of government where power is held by a small group of people, often based on wealth or military power?**

- A) Democracy
- B) Oligarchy**
- C) Monarchy
- D) Anarchy

**10. What is a political party?**

- A) A group of people who study law
- B) An organized group of people who share similar political aims and opinions**
- C) A group of individuals who work in the military
- D) A club for people who enjoy debate

**11. What is the term for the process of officially approving a new law?**

- A) Veto
- B) Ratification**
- C) Impeachment
- D) Filibuster

**12. In Australia, who is the head of state?**

- A) The Prime Minister
- B) The Governor-General
- C) The King/Queen**
- D) The Speaker of the House

**13. What is the name for the official residence and workplace of the head of government in many countries?**

- A) Embassy
- B) Capitol Building
- C) Palace

**D) Government House**

**14. What is the fundamental principle of a democracy where citizens have the power to choose their leaders?**

- A) Rule of law

**B) Popular sovereignty**

- C) Separation of powers
- D) Checks and balances

**15. Which branch of government interprets laws and administers justice?**

- A) Legislative branch
- B) Executive branch

**C) Judicial branch**

- D) Parliamentary branch

**16. What is the term for a formal agreement between two or more countries, often related to trade or peace?**

- A) Constitution

**B) Treaty**

- C) Bill of Rights
- D) Legislation

**17. In a presidential system, what is the title of the person who is both the head of state and the head of government?**

- A) Prime Minister
- B) Chancellor
- C) Monarch

**D) President**

**18. What is the practice of dividing government powers among different branches (e.g., legislative, executive, judicial) called?**

- A) Checks and balances
- B) Federalism

**C) Separation of powers**

- D) Constitutionalism

**19. What is the term for the established system of political ideas and beliefs that influences how people view and participate in government?**

A) Culture

**B) Ideology**

C) Economy

D) Society

**20. What is a formal written request, signed by many people, appealing to authority about a particular cause called?**

A) Debate

**B) Petition**

C) Legislation

D) Referendum