

Constitutional Law: Historical Milestones

Constitutional Law · Practice Test · 13 Questions

1. The landmark Supreme Court case Marbury v. Madison (1803) established which fundamental principle of U.S. constitutional law?

- A) Executive privilege
- B) Judicial review
- C) Stare decisis
- D) Habeas corpus

2. Which amendment, ratified after the Civil War, includes the Equal Protection Clause and the Due Process Clause, significantly expanding civil rights protections?

- A) First Amendment
- B) Tenth Amendment
- C) Fourteenth Amendment
- D) Nineteenth Amendment

3. Who was the primary author of Federalist No. 78, which discussed the power of judicial review and the independence of the judiciary?

- A) James Madison
- B) John Jay
- C) Alexander Hamilton
- D) George Washington

4. The Supreme Court case McCulloch v. Maryland (1819) affirmed the doctrine of implied powers and which other significant constitutional principle?

- A) State nullification
- B) Federal supremacy
- C) Originalism
- D) Judicial activism

5. When were the first ten amendments, collectively known as the Bill of Rights, officially ratified?

- A) 1776
- B) 1787
- C) 1791
- D) 1803

6. Which constitutional convention drafted the United States Constitution in 1787?

- A) Albany Convention
- B) Philadelphia Convention
- C) Annapolis Convention
- D) Continental Congress

7. The 'Great Compromise' during the Constitutional Convention resolved the dispute over representation by creating what?

- A) A bicameral legislature
- B) A strong executive branch
- C) A federal court system
- D) A bill of rights

8. Which amendment abolished slavery and involuntary servitude in the United States?

- A) Eleventh Amendment
- B) Twelfth Amendment
- C) Thirteenth Amendment
- D) Fifteenth Amendment

9. The case of Dred Scott v. Sandford (1857) ruled that African Americans, whether enslaved or free, could not be American citizens and that Congress could not prohibit slavery in federal territories, contributing significantly to what major conflict?

- A) War of 1812
- B) Mexican-American War
- C) American Civil War
- D) Spanish-American War

10. Which president issued the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, a pivotal executive order during the Civil War?

- A) Andrew Jackson
- B) Abraham Lincoln
- C) Ulysses S. Grant
- D) James Buchanan

11. The 19th Amendment, ratified in 1920, granted which group the right to vote?

- A) African American men
- B) Native Americans
- C) Women
- D) 18-year-olds

12. The Supreme Court case *Gibbons v. Ogden* (1824) significantly interpreted which clause of the U.S. Constitution?

- A) Necessary and Proper Clause
- B) Supremacy Clause
- C) Commerce Clause
- D) Privileges and Immunities Clause

13. Which amendment guarantees freedom of speech, religion, press, assembly, and the right to petition the government?

- A) First Amendment
- B) Second Amendment
- C) Fourth Amendment
- D) Fifth Amendment