

Introduction to Australian Constitutional Law

Constitutional Law · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. In what year did the Australian Constitution officially come into effect?

- A) 1788
- B) 1901**
- C) 1945
- D) 1999

2. Which document serves as the supreme law of Australia?

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

3. Who is the formal head of state of Australia according to the Constitution?

- A) The Prime Minister
- B) The Governor-General
- C) The Monarch of the United Kingdom**
- D) The Chief Justice

4. What is the name of the meeting of representatives that wrote the Australian Constitution?

- A) The Constitutional Conventions**
- B) The Royal Commission
- C) The High Court
- D) The Senate Inquiry

5. The Australian Constitution divides the federal government into how many main branches?

- A) Two
- B) Three**
- C) Four
- D) Five

6. Which branch of government is responsible for making laws in Australia?

- A) The Parliament**
- B) The High Court
- C) The Police Force
- D) The Local Council

7. Which branch of government is responsible for interpreting the law?

- A) The Executive
- B) The Legislature
- C) The Judiciary**
- D) The Cabinet

8. The Australian Parliament is bicameral, which means it has how many houses?

- A) One
- B) Two**
- C) Three
- D) Four

9. What are the two houses of the Australian Federal Parliament?

- A) The Senate and the House of Representatives**
- B) The High Court and the Supreme Court
- C) The President and the Vice President
- D) The King and the Prime Minister

10. Which house of Parliament is known as the 'People's House' because members are elected to represent specific electorates?

- A) The Senate
- B) The House of Representatives**
- C) The High Court
- D) The Executive Council

11. How are changes to the Australian Constitution officially made?

- A) By a vote of the Prime Minister
- B) By a royal decree
- C) By a public referendum**
- D) By a decision of the police

12. What is the minimum number of states required to vote 'yes' for a referendum to succeed, in addition to a majority of total voters?

- A) A majority of states**
- B) All states
- C) One state
- D) Three states

13. Which section of the Constitution gives the High Court the power to decide if laws are valid?

- A) Section 1
- B) Section 71**
- C) Section 128
- D) Section 51

14. The Australian Constitution lists specific powers for the federal government in which section?

- A) Section 51**
- B) Section 10
- C) Section 20
- D) Section 100

15. What is the title of the person who represents the Monarch in Australia?

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

16. What type of system is Australia's government based on, inherited from the United Kingdom?

- A) Absolute Monarchy
- B) Totalitarianism
- C) Constitutional Monarchy**
- D) Military Dictatorship

17. According to the Constitution, which level of government has the power to make laws regarding 'trade and commerce with other countries'?

- A) Local government
- B) State government
- C) Federal government**
- D) Community groups

18. The Australian Constitution was approved by the British Parliament through which historical act?

- A) The Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900**
- B) The Magna Carta Act
- C) The Australian Freedom Act
- D) The Federation Statute