

Test



MULTIPLE CHOICE

DIRECTIONS Select the letter of the best answer.

- 1 Under the Articles of Confederation, which of these powers did Congress have?
- A to collect taxes
 - B to declare war
 - C to create an army
 - D to enforce laws

Use the boxed information to answer question 2.

The different currencies printed in each state under the Articles of Confederation created problems with commerce in the United States.

- 2 What does the word commerce mean in the sentence above?
- A delegates
 - B power
 - C taxes
 - D trade
- 3 Which of these problems in the United States was highlighted by the events of Shays's Rebellion?
- A the poor treatment of American Indians
 - B the weakness of the national government
 - C the need to collect higher taxes
 - D the need for improved transportation

- 4 About which question did the delegates at the Constitutional Convention argue?
- A How strong should the national government be?
 - B How should representation in Congress be divided among political parties?
 - C What courts should be created besides the Supreme Court?
 - D How should new immigrants be counted in each state's population?

Use the boxed information to answer question 5.

"We the people . . . establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

—Constitution of the United States

- 5 Which fundamental idea do these words illustrate?
- A All people have certain rights.
 - B Government derives its power from the people it governs.
 - C All people are born free.
 - D Government should not tax without representation.

(continued)

- 6 Why did the writers of the Constitution divide the powers of the federal government among three branches?
 - A to allow leaders to make decisions without worrying about elections
 - B to prevent any one branch from controlling the government
 - C to ensure that all power belonged to the people
 - D to set guidelines for making amendments to the Constitution

- 7 What is the lawmaking branch of the government?
 - A the legislative branch
 - B the executive branch
 - C the congressional branch
 - D the judicial branch

- 8 Why did many delegates insist on adding ten amendments to the Constitution soon after it was ratified?
 - A to establish guidelines for political parties
 - B to protect the basic rights of the people
 - C to outline the powers of each branch of government
 - D to limit the powers of state governments

Use the boxed information to answer question 9.

“In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury . . .”

—Sixth Amendment,
Constitution of the United States

- 9 Which fundamental right do these words illustrate?
 - A due process of law
 - B freedom of speech
 - C peaceful assembly
 - D reserved powers

- 10 Which of these leaders was most responsible for the formation of the Federalist political party?
 - A Benjamin Franklin
 - B Alexander Hamilton
 - C Thomas Jefferson
 - D George Washington

(continued)

Name _____ Date _____

FILL IN THE BLANKS

DIRECTIONS Complete each sentence by writing *executive*, *legislative*, or *judicial* in the space provided to identify which branch of the national government has that power under the United States Constitution.

- 11 The _____ branch has the power to approve the appointments of Supreme Court justices.
- 12 The _____ branch decides if laws follow the Constitution.
- 13 The _____ branch makes all national laws.
- 14 The _____ branch has the power to veto bills.
- 15 The _____ branch has the power to impeach the President.

SHORT ANSWER

DIRECTIONS Answer each question in the space provided.

- 16 What was the original purpose of the Constitutional Convention of 1787?

- 17 What agreement did the delegates at the Constitutional Convention finally reach under the Great Compromise?

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(continued)

Name _____ Date _____

DIRECTIONS Answer each question in the space provided.

18 What does it mean that the United States of America is a republic?

19 What are two rights that are guaranteed to citizens under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States?

20 What role did George Washington play in forming and serving in the first national government of the United States?
