Constitution Review Test

1. One idea contained in the Declaration of Independence is that a government gets its power from

- a. the king
- b. the president
- c. the people
- d. the Congress

2. Article I of the Illinois Constitution provides that persons with physical or mental handicaps

- a. are excused from jury duty
- b. cannot own guns
- c. will not be discriminated against
- d. all of the above

3. The Illinois Constitution now in effect was adopted in

- a. 1970
- b. 1776
- c. 1787
- d. 1818

4. Who wrote most of the Declaration of Independence?

- a. James Madison
- b. George Washington
- c. Benjamin Franklin
- d. Thomas Jefferson

5. A federal system of government

- a. forbids separation of powers
- b. collects taxes from its citizens each year
- c. divides power between a national government and state governments
- d. gives unlimited power to the national government

6. To be eligible to run for president, a person must be a natural born citizen of the United States and

- a. be 30 years old and lived in the U.S. for 20 years
- b. be male, be 35 years old, and lived in the U.S. for at least 14 years
- c. be 35 years old and lived in the U.S. for at least 14 years
- d. be 45 years old and lived in the U.S. for 15 years

7. The number of members of the House of Representatives

- a. is the same as the number of Senators
- b. always totals 435
- c. can be changed by the President
- d. always totals 100

8. The President is not elected directly by the people. Instead, the President is elected by the

- a. Electoral College
- b. governors of the states
- c. Democratic Party
- d. Supreme Court

9. Article I of the Illinois Constitution guarantees due process and equal protection under the law to all Illinois citizens. This means

- a. no one can be treated differently because of race or religion
- b. all persons are entitled to basic civil rights
- c. police and courts must follow proper procedures
- d. all of the above

10. Both the U.S. Constitution and the Illinois Constitution can be amended or changed. A proposed amendment to the Illinois Constitution must be approved by

- a. the Supreme Court
- b. three-fifths of all the voters during a general election
- c. the Governor
- d. both the Senate and the House of Representatives

11. Congress cannot suspend a person's right to the writ of habeas corpus. This protects a person from

- a. high taxes
- b. cruel and unusual punishment
- c. unjust imprisonment
- d. self incrimination

12. The right of eminent domain allows

- a. the governor to appoint state officials
- b. the general assembly to make laws for local governments
- c. the state of Illinois to buy private property for public use
- d. the police to search a house without a warrant

13. Article III of the Constitution defines treason. Article III also says that a person can be convicted of treason only if the person confesses in open court or

- a. one eyewitness testifies against the person
- b. the FBI presents incriminating evidence
- c. two eyewitnesses testify against the person
- d. the House of Representatives finds the person guilty

14. If the U.S. flag is displayed with flags of other countries,

- a. the flags of all countries including the U.S. flag should be about the same size
- b. the flags of all countries including the U.S. flag should be the same height
- c. no one country's flag should be higher than another's
- d. all of the above

15. To vote in Illinois, a person must be a U.S. citizen,

- a. 21 years old, a resident of Illinois for 6 months, and registered to vote
- b. 18 years old, a resident of Illinois for at least 30 days before the election, and registered to vote
- c. 18 years old, a resident of Illinois for 1 year, and registered to vote
- d. 18 years old, a resident of Illinois for 2 years, and registered to vote

16. Article I requires the Congress to meet

- a. at least once a year
- b. at least once a month
- c. Monday through Friday for 36 weeks each year
- d. at least once every two years

17. One power the President does have is to

- a. set up a court system
- b. collect taxes
- c. act as commander-in-chief of the military
- d. change the price of stamps

18. The legislative department of Illinois government is called

- a. the General Assembly
- b. the Illinois Supreme Court
- c. the governor's office
- d. the Congress

19. If the U.S. flag is flown on the same pole and halyard with flags of other states or cities,

- a. flags are arranged in alphabetical order
- b. the U.S. flag should be at the bottom
- c. flags are arranged according to their size
- d. the U.S. flag should be at the top

20. Congress cannot pass an ex post facto law. An ex post facto law

- a. applies only to post office employees
- b. allows discrimination based on religious preference
- c. makes an act illegal after it was done, even though when it was done, it was legal
- d. takes an unusually long time to go into effect

21. To be in the Illinois General Assembly, a person must be

- a. a U.S. citizen, 21 years old, and a resident of the district to be represented for at least 2 years
- b. a U.S. citizen, 35 years old, and a resident of the district to be represented for at least 2 years
- c. a U.S. citizen, 18 years old, and a resident of the district to be represented for at least 2 years
- d. a U.S. citizen, 25 years old, and a resident of the district to be represented for at least 2 years

22. The Great Compromise settled one important issue at the Constitutional Convention, how to

- a. choose members of Congress
- b. choose a vice president
- c. choose a Supreme Court
- d. choose a president

23. The first ten amendments to the Constitution, approved in 1791, are known as the

- a. the Gettysburg Address
- b. the Preamble
- c. Declaration of Independence
- d. the Bill of Rights

24. The Illinois Constitution says the General Assembly must redistrict the legislative districts after the census every 10 years. The Illinois Constitution says these districts must be

- a. spread equally across the state of Illinois
- b. exactly equal in population
- c. the same size
- d. compact, contiguous, and about the same in population

25. Reserved powers are

- a. given to the federal government only
- b. powers that may be used only in a national emergency
- c. given to both the national and state governments
- d. powers that state governments may use if the powers are not given to the national government and are not forbidden to the states

26. Concurrent powers are powers that

- a. are given to both the national and state governments
- b. are forbidden to state governments
- c. are given to the federal government only
- d. are given to state governments only

27. Bills passed by the General Assembly must be presented to the governor. This must be done

- a. within 7 days after the bill has been passed
- b. within 6 months after the bill has been passed
- c. within 48 hours after the bill has been passed
- d. within 30 days after the bill has been passed

28. Judicial review, the power of the Supreme Court to say that laws are unconstitutional, was established in 1803 in the case of

- a. Brown versus Topeka Board of Education
- b. Marbury versus Madison
- c. Miranda versus Arizona
- d. Clinton versus Jones

29. Articles I, II, and III of the Constitution divide the power of the federal government into three branches. This principle is called

- a. concurrent powers
- b. separation of powers
- c. power to the people
- d. federalism

30. The main duty of the lieutenant governor of Illinois is to

- a. coordinate crime fighting activities among state and local governments
- b. keep all the official records of Illinois government
- c. perform any duties stated in Illinois law or assigned by the governor
- d. appoint officials to Illinois agencies

31. If the U.S. flag is displayed on the wall from crossed staffs, it should be

- a. placed in the middle with its staff in front of other staffs
- b. on its own left with its staff in front of the other staffs
- c. on its own right with its staff in front of the other staffs
- d. placed in the middle with its staff behind other staffs

32. According to the 22nd amendment, a person can be elected president of the United States

- a. no more than three times
- b. only once
- c. as often as he or she can win the election
- d. only twice

33. The chief legal officer in Illinois is

- a. the secretary of state
- b. the lieutenant governor
- c. the attorney general
- d. the governor

34. Americans are free to practice any religion they choose or practice no religion at all. The amendent which guarantees this right is

- a. the first amendment
- b. the second amendment
- c. the fifth amendment
- d. the fourth amendment

35. For the most part, the eligibility to vote is left up to

- a. each state
- b. each county's Board of Elections
- c. the federal government
- d. the U.S. Supreme Court

36. If the governor of Illinois dies or is unable to act as governor, the position is filled by

- a. the lieutenant governor
- b. the Illinois senate
- c. the U.S. president
- d. the secretary of state

37. A bill becomes a law only after it has been passed by both the Senate and the House of Representatives and then

- a. signed by the President
- b. approved by the Cabinet
- c. declared constitutional by the Supreme Court
- d. voted on by everyone at the next general election

38. Alcoholic drinks such as beer and wine were illegal in the U.S. after the passage of the 18th amendment in 1919. Today alcoholic drinks are legal in the United States because

- a. The Supreme Court ruled that the 18th amendment was unconstitutional
- b. in 1933, the 21st amendment repealed the 18th amendment
- c. President Franklin D. Roosevelt vetoed the 18th amendment
- d. Congress made a law allowing the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages

39. The governor appoints the directors and the administrators for many Illinois agencies. After the governor nominates these people, they must be approved by

- a. the secretary of state
- b. the Illinois Senate
- c. the lieutenant governor
- d. the U.S. president

40. The Electoral College votes of each state

- a. are divided by the House of Representatives between the candidates
- b. are unimportant in electing the president
- c. all go to the candidate who received the most popular votes
- d. are divided between the two candidates who received the most popular votes

41. The power to recognize and establish relationships with other countries and their governments is one power of

- a. the governor of each state
- b. the U.S. Senate
- c. the U.S. Congress
- d. the President

42. If the governor vetoes a bill passed by the Illinois General Assembly, the general assembly can override the governor's veto. To do this, the vote in both the Senate and House of Representatives must be

- a. at least more than half of all members
- b. three-fifths of all members
- c. three-fourths of all members
- d. unanimous

43. If no one running for president receives a majority of Electoral College votes,

- a. the House of Representatives selects the president from the 3 candidates who received the most Electoral College votes
- b. the election must be held over again
- c. the President is chosen by the Supreme Court
- d. the Speaker of the House becomes the President

44. Federal judges are

- a. chosen by other federal judges
- b. chosen by Congress
- c. elected every four years
- d. appointed by the president and approved by the Senate

45. One power that the Illinois governor has which the U.S. president does not have is

- a. ability to recommend laws
- b. ability to veto individual items of appropriation bills
- c. power to appoint judges
- d. power to declare war

46. Federal judges serve as judges

- a. for six years and then must be reappointed
- b. for life and can never be removed from office
- c. for life unless they are impeached
- d. for four years and then must run for reelection

47. The 1954 Supreme Court case which ruled that segregation in public schools was unconstitutional was

- a. Roe versus Wade
- b. Brown versus Topeka Board of Education
- c. the Dred Scott decision
- d. Marbury versus Madison

48. How are federal court systems and the Illinois court systems similar?

- a. Both have one Supreme Court
- b. Both have courts which hear appeals from lower courts
- c. Both have trial courts
- d. All of the above

49. The person who presides over the U.S. House of Representatives is

- a. the Speaker of the Senate
- b. the president pro tempore
- c. the Speaker of the House
- d. the Vice President

50. The part of the Constitution which makes all people born in the U.S. citizens is

- a. the Bill of Rights
- b. the fourteenth amendment
- c. the Preamble
- d. the Declaration of Independence

Note: This test may be completed online at http://www.southwestern.cc.il.us/adultbasiced/constitution/"