

Pre/Post Quiz: Grade 3 Civics Integration

1. How do community laws help citizens?
 - a. To travel the right routes
 - b. To find the resources they need
 - c. To stay safe and peaceful
 - d. To celebrate a custom or tradition

2. What happens to a person who breaks the law?
 - a. They face the consequences
 - b. They fall down and get hurt
 - c. They are given a prize for being a good citizen
 - d. They should not be allowed to live in that community

3. What is the responsibility of a judge?
 - a. To be fair
 - b. To be helpful
 - c. To be peaceful
 - d. To be good public speakers

4. What does it mean when you say that “communities are people”?
 - a. There are a lot of tall buildings in a community
 - b. People are what make up a community
 - c. People have fun in a community
 - d. People shop in their community

5. Why are there consequences for breaking the law?
- a. So that the citizens may be safe
 - b. Because if they know they are being punished, it may keep people from breaking the law
 - c. To be able to solve problems and be leaders
 - d. So that the citizens can understand and obey the laws
6. Which activity below represents being a responsible citizen?
- a. They read the newspaper
 - b. They follow a healthy diet
 - c. They plant a garden near their home
 - d. They obey the laws
7. Which of the following statements BEST summarizes life, liberty and property?
- a. Citizens are ruled by the government.
 - b. Citizens agree to give up some of the freedom.
 - c. Citizens have the right to live without fear, to be free, and to own things.
 - d. Citizens can take things from other citizens
8. How do citizens show their consent to be governed?
- a. They obey the laws and the government who created them.
 - b. They work hard to live a peaceful and happy life.
 - c. They worry about what might happen if they didn't.
 - d. They agree to allow the government to have unlimited power.

Read the Preamble from the Constitution to answer the following question.

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

9. What does the phrase “insure domestic tranquility” mean?

- a. To form a military
- b. To make sure people are united
- c. To guarantee a good life for one’s children
- d. To guarantee peace

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10. Why would the writers of the constitution include a preamble?

- a. To make sure that people’s rights are guaranteed
- b. To outline the purpose of our government
- c. To provide for the welfare of citizens
- d. To ensure that people are free

11. Which of the following accurately describes the Constitution of the United States?

- a. A completely written Constitution
- b. A partly written, partly said Constitution
- c. An unwritten Constitution
- d. A completely spoken Constitution

12. How can studying the United States Constitution help you?

- a. To know about the ethnic make-up of people who live here
 - b. To know about the geography of the United States
 - c. To know which branch of government has certain powers
 - d. To know the name of the governor of each state in the United States
13. How is the constitution designed to keep one person or state from having all the power?
- a. By taking away the rights of the people
 - b. By claiming that each state only had one vote
 - c. By limiting the powers of the government and the president
 - d. By giving more powers to the vice-president
14. Why was the US Constitution written to balance the powers of government?
- a. To protect the rights of citizens
 - b. To be able to make treaties with other nations
 - c. So that the country has a stronger federal government
 - d. To allow states to collect taxes from other states
15. Why are the states not allowed to print their own money?
- a. Because that would give the smaller states too much power
 - b. Because only the federal government has the power to coin the money which is used by all of its citizens
 - c. Because only the federal system can tax citizens
 - d. Because sharing powers is not allowed
16. How did people in the United States gain certain freedoms, rights, and powers?
- a. Citizens voted to give themselves power
 - b. The House of Representatives gave unlimited powers to citizens
 - c. The President grants freedom and rights to U.S. citizens

d. It was decided while the United States Constitution was being written.

17. Read Article II, Section 2 from the US Constitution.

The President shall have the power to fill up vacancies during the recess of the Senate, by granting Commission which shall expire at the end of their next session.

What powers does this section of the US Constitution say that the President has?

- a. That the President is the person in charge of appointing Senators
- b. That the President has the power to appoint an empty Senate seat only while the Senate is on a break
- c. That the President is the one who vetoes the laws made by Senate
- d. That the President has the power to elect the Commander of the Navy

18. “*E pluribus unum*” is found on the seal of the United States. This means, from many we are one. How did this motto apply as they were writing the Constitution?

- a. The Constitution was written by many people with knowledge of Latin phrases
- b. The approval of the Constitution brought together all fifty states into one country
- c. The approval of the Constitution was the result of 13 states forming a union and accepting a federal government.
- d. The writers of the Constitution had many ideas, but each writer was only permitted to submit one of his ideas.

19. Read the following sentence to answer the following question:

In a constitutional government, the constitution sets limits on what the people who run the government are allowed to do.

Which of the following is an example of placing limits on what a person who runs the government is not allowed to do?

- a. Not pay a speeding ticket
- b. Ignore someone’s free speech rights
- c. Spend tax money freely
- d. Pass laws without the approval of others

20. Read the following excerpt to answer the following question:

It is important to limit a government's power so that the government does not become a dictatorship. In a dictatorship, the people who run the government can do whatever they want to do.

Which of the following is an example of a government that is a dictatorship?

- a. Different parts of the government checking the work and powers of other parts
 - b. Allowing the people to vote for laws and elect their own representatives
 - c. Forcing people to work a certain job even though it may not be what they want to do
 - d. Obeying laws that all people must follow
21. What does it mean to be a citizen of the United States?
- a. that a person has been paying taxes for many years
 - b. that a person is recognized as a legal member of the nation
 - c. that a person always obeys the law
 - d. that a person has lived in the United States for many years
22. Along with the many rights and privileges of a U.S. citizen also come certain responsibilities. Which of the following is a responsibility of an American citizen?
- a. to work in a government job
 - b. to attend church regularly
 - c. to always look their best in public
 - d. to serve on a jury
23. What do we call it when someone works to help others by giving their time and talents without receiving pay?
- a. performing a public requirement
 - b. voting
 - c. volunteering
 - d. acting on behalf of the constitution

24. Which of the following demonstrates a character trait that contributes to the health of American democracy?
- a. obeying the laws you agree with
 - b. treating all people with respect
 - c. treating the people you like with respect
 - d. remembering a friend's birthday
25. Which of the following activities represents working for the common good?
- a. collecting food and clothes for the homeless shelter
 - b. swimming at the community pool
 - c. getting good grades to please your parents
 - d. eating a balanced diet to grow strong and healthy
26. How do citizens contribute to the improvement of a community?
- a. by volunteerism and civic responsibility
 - b. by virtue and law
 - c. by following volunteerism laws
 - d. by spending time at the public library
27. Which of the following demonstrates patriotism?
- a. cutting out pictures of patriotic symbols from a magazine
 - b. reading the newspaper every day
 - c. saying the "Pledge of Allegiance" every morning
 - d. helping the music teacher hand out copies of "America the Beautiful"

28. Read the quote below from John F. Kennedy's presidential inauguration speech in 1961:

"And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country."

What does this statement mean?

- a. The country is not responsible for its citizens.
 - b. A good citizen will start programs which can change people's lives.
 - c. The country does not owe its citizens; instead its citizens owe the country.
 - d. Good citizens will work for the common good of the nation instead of questioning what the nation has given them as individuals
29. Read the following excerpt from the First Amendment to the United States Constitution to answer the following question.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech..."

Even though this amendment guarantees freedom of speech, there are times when this freedom is limited. Which example below demonstrates something you are not free to say?

- a. Something that will incite panic, such as yelling "Fire" in a crowded place
- b. Something that is critical of your community, such as saying you don't like the mayor.
- c. Something that criticizes the government such as saying certain laws are not fair
- d. Saying things to annoy people or make fun of them

30. Why do you think that the founders of the United States decided on this design for the Great Seal of the United State?



- a. They wanted a design that would reflect the beliefs and values they wanted to be passed on from generation to generation.
- b. They wanted to ensure that everyone understood what the United States was all about
- c. They wanted to send a message to other countries that the United States were all together
- d. They wanted to tell the citizens that the eagle was as strong as the United States was at the time.
31. Which are our nation's three levels of government?
- a. Federal, Legislative, and Local
- b. Federal, State, and Local
- c. Federal, Judicial, and State
- d. Federal, Executive, and State
32. Instead of a president, what does each state elect?
- a. Mayor
- b. Commissioner
- c. Governor
- d. Judge

33. What are the three branches of the federal government?
- a. Judicial, Legislative, Executive
 - b. Local, Legislative, Judicial
 - c. Executive, Local, State
 - d. State, Local , Judicial
34. What does the statement below describe?
"The Supreme Law of the Land"
- a. Articles of Confederation
 - b. Federal Government
 - c. U.S. Constitution
 - d. Federalism
35. The power to settle differences of opinion and disagreements about the rules as well as interpret or say what rules mean is true of which branch of government?
- a. legislative power
 - b. judicial power
 - c. executive power
 - d. congressional power
36. Which of the following statements is true about the federal government and state governments?
- a. They share powers to declare war.
 - b. They can conduct foreign relations.
 - c. They can coin money.
 - d. They can impose taxes.
37. What would be a disadvantage of your grade level giving all of the power to a student president instead of sharing it with class representatives?
- a. The president would not be able to make decisions.
 - b. The students might not be able to contact the president.
 - c. The president would be too busy and not answer your questions.
 - d. The president would be the only one with power to make decisions.

38. "To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin."
This passage from the U. S. Constitution is an example of the power of the
- legislative branch
 - federalism
 - checks and balances
 - executive branch

39. "Pursuant to general or special law, a county government may be established by charter which shall be adopted, amended or repealed only upon vote of the electors of the county in a special election called for that purpose."

What did this passage from the Florida Constitution help create?

- the Federal government
 - the state government
 - municipal governments
 - republican governments
40. "The education of children is a fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida. It is, therefore, a paramount duty of the state to make adequate provision for the education of all children residing within its borders. Adequate provision shall be made by law for a uniform, efficient, safe, secure, and high quality system of free public schools that allows students to obtain a high quality education..."

Which statement best describes the meaning of the passage above?

- All children should go to college in the state of Florida.
- All children in Florida have the right to a free education.
- Some children in Florida can go to private schools if their parents choose.
- All children in Florida should have uniforms, books, and feel safe.

41. Which are the four parts of local government?
- a. Federal, State and Municipal, Executive
 - b. Judicial, Municipal, Executive, State
 - c. Executive, Legislative, Administrative, Judicial
 - d. Federal, Legislative, Administrative, State
42. Which group of people does a Municipal government serve?
- a. The people of a town or city
 - b. The people of a city or state
 - c. The people of a county or state
 - d. The people of a state or town
43. What is a duty of the Health Department?
- a. To clean schools and streets
 - b. To oversee hospitals and water supply
 - c. To control garbage disposal
 - d. To deal with recycling
44. If someone wants to have a football team at their school but, there is not enough money. Which group should the citizen contact?
- a. Parks Department
 - b. Public Works
 - c. Special Districts
 - d. School Board
45. A person wants to find out what the schedule is for garbage pickup. Which department should they contact?
- a. Tax Department
 - b. Sanitation Department
 - c. Public Works Department
 - d. Health Department

46. There is no crosswalk by your school. Which department should you call?
- a. Public Works
 - b. Health Department
 - c. Parks
 - d. Legislative
47. Why is it important for local government to follow a set of rules and laws?
- a. to ensure happiness
 - b. to provide guaranteed wealth
 - c. to provide prosperity
 - d. to promote equality and safety
48. "Parks, aquatic preserves, and lands acquired by the County for preservation shall be held in trust for the education, pleasure, and recreation of the public and they shall be used and maintained in a manner which will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations as a part of the public's irreplaceable heritage. They shall be protected from commercial development and exploitation and their natural landscape, flora and fauna, and scenic beauties shall be preserved."

This passage from the Miami-Dade Home Charter, Article 7, is an example of

- a. designation of land for commercial buildings.
- b. protection of land against future building.
- c. building schools wherever they are needed.
- d. construction of government buildings.

49. “This government has been created to protect the governed, not the governing. In order to provide the public with full and accurate information, to promote efficient administrative management, to make government more accountable, and to insure to all persons fair and equitable treatment...”

This passage from a local government’s Bill of Rights is an example of

- a. citizens’ protection under the law.
 - b. the power of local government.
 - c. the ability to live peacefully.
 - d. the opportunity to be free.
50. “The Board’s powers shall include but shall not be restricted to the powers to: license and regulate taxis, jitneys, and limousines for hire, rental cars, and other passenger vehicles for hire operating in the county.”

This passage from a local charter provides citizens protection from

- a. free rentals
 - b. boring rides
 - c. unsafe vehicles
 - d. walking
51. What are Florida’s three levels of government?
- a. Executive, Judicial, Administrative
 - b. Executive, State, and Judicial
 - c. Executive, Legislative, and Judicial
 - d. Executive, Federal, and Judicial
52. How was Florida’s state government established?
- a. by its directors
 - b. by its senators
 - c. by its cabinet
 - d. by its constitution

53. What is the name for the specific section of the state constitution which protects citizens?

- a. preamble
- b. bill of rights
- c. statutes
- d. ordinances

54. As Floridians, we live under the jurisdiction of three levels of government. What does jurisdiction mean?

- a. freedom
- b. appeal
- c. respect
- d. influence

55. Why is a bill defined as “a suggested law”?

- a. because it is a law
- b. because it may become a law
- c. because it may never be a law
- d. d. because it should be a law

56. What can a person do if he or she disagrees with a court decision?

- a. he or she can appeal the decision and ask for another trial
- b. he or she can move to another state
- c. he or she can hire another lawyer
- d. he or she can write a letter of complaint

57. Which of the following would not be present in Florida if the state constitution did not provide for a judicial branch?
- a. a branch of government which interprets state laws
 - b. a branch of government to create special state laws
 - c. a branch of government that discloses state laws or makes them known
 - d. a branch of rights that protects citizens
58. As a Floridian, if one has a concern about a bill, what can one do?
- a. Talk to other persons who feel the same way.
 - b. Contact their senator or representative.
 - c. Write a letter to their boss.
 - d. Tell their parents about the situation.
59. “The legislature shall make adequate provision to ensure that, by the beginning of the 2010 school year, there are a sufficient number of classrooms so that: (1. The maximum number of students who are assigned to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms for prekindergarten through grade 3 does not exceed 18 students...”

What is the implication of this passage for third grade students?

- a. Students will attend newer schools.
- b. Students will learn about creating new laws.
- c. Students will do more schoolwork.
- d. Students will have more time with their teacher.

60. “Freedom of speech and press.—every person may speak, write and publish sentiments on all subjects but shall be responsible for the abuse of that right. No law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press.”

What right does this passage from the Florida Constitution guarantee to individuals?

- a. the right to write editorials about state issues.
- b. the right to buy any newspaper you choose.
- c. the right to ask for an appointment to meet the governor.
- d. the right to receive a public education.

61. What is federalism?

- a. having a national government rule the country
- b. having the national and state governments rule together
- c. having an executive branch rule the nation
- d. having a government rule in Washington, D.C.

62. What was the purpose of the United States Constitution?

- a. to create a state government
- b. to plan an executive branch
- c. to bring in new justices and judges
- d. to create a national government

63. Which branch of government interprets the laws?

- a. legislative
- b. senate
- c. judicial
- d. executive

64. If one state's population is larger than another, how does that affect the number of senators they have?
- Both states have the same number
 - Both states have a different number
 - It depends on the state's location
 - Some states do not qualify to have senators
65. Which of the following refers to the rule that state governments cannot make laws that conflict with those of the U.S. Constitution?
- checks and balances
 - federalism
 - bill of rights
 - supremacy clause
66. Which of the following examples is not included in the Bill of Rights?
- freedom of speech
 - employment
 - voting
 - freedom of religion
67. If the president vetoes a bill, what can senators and representatives do?
- Write letters to the commander in chief asking that he reconsider the matter and change his mind.
 - Explain the matter to the justices on the Supreme Court and ask that they declare it unconstitutional.
 - Speak with the president's cabinet and ask for guidance according to the supremacy clause.
 - Congress has the right to pass the bill if two-thirds of each house approves it.

68. Why did the Founding Fathers balance the powers of our government?

- a. so that the executive branch would always be the most powerful
- b. so the power would be distributed equally among the branches
- c. so the laws would never be unconstitutional
- d. so the legislative branch would always be in control

69. “No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of the President; neither shall any person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.”

This passage from the U.S. Constitution, Article II, The Executive Branch deals with qualifications for President of the United States. Based on these qualifications, which of the following people could not be a presidential candidate?

- a. Your 37 year old sister who was born in Miami, Florida and who dreams of one day being the first female president.
- b. Your uncle who is a college professor, 43 years of age and born in Philadelphia.
- c. Your teacher who was born in Alaska 36 years ago and now lives in Pembroke Pines.
- d. Your 50 year old neighbor, who was born in the U.S., lived in Cuba since the age of two and returned to the U.S. when she was 48.

70. "Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it becomes a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; if he approves he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections..."

Based on this passage from Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution, which of the following best describes its purpose.

- a. powers delegated to Congress
 - b. power of impeachment
 - c. president's veto power
 - d. jurisdiction of federal courts
71. In our federal system, how do the national and state governments get their powers?
- a. from the electoral college
 - b. from the people
 - c. from the state constitutions
 - d. from the city government
72. Which of the following is a power that United States citizens give to the national government?
- a. the power to appoint state governors
 - b. the power to make traffic laws
 - c. the power to declare and conduct war
 - d. the power to control churches
73. Which of the following is a power that United States citizens give to the state governments?
- a. the power to create public schools
 - b. the power to sign peace treaties with other countries
 - c. the power to declare war
 - d. the power to create post offices

74. In our federal system of government, the people keep certain powers for themselves. Which of the following statements demonstrates an action of someone exercising one of the powers reserved for individual citizens?
- a. speaking at a city council meeting to protest the widening of the street in front of his home
 - b. going to court to pay a traffic fine
 - c. delivering the speech you were assigned to give by your boss at a company meeting
 - d. paying your income taxes each year
75. Which of the following actions demonstrates a power we have given to our federal government?
- a. the federal government building a new school in Miami-Dade county
 - b. the federal government building a new post office in Miami-Dade county
 - c. the federal government increasing the state sales tax
 - d. the federal government increasing the price of an automobile tag
76. Which of the following is an example of your state government at work?
- a. when workers are selling U.S. savings bonds
 - b. when you see postal workers delivering mail within the state
 - c. when people receive their U.S. income tax refunds
 - d. when the state legislature provides tax money to fund public schools

77. Which of the following best demonstrates a power shared by the national and state government?

- a. people must pay both state and federal taxes
- b. people must put both their trash and recycling bins by the curb
- c. people may have to attend both court and traffic school for a traffic violation
- d. people must pay for both state and federal mail service

78. Why do you think the founders decided that the powers to govern would be divided between the national and state governments?

- a. because the states were printing too much money
- b. because the national government needed more power to protect the president
- c. because they wanted to avoid one part of the government having all the power
- d. because they thought the state governments would eventually take over the national government

Read the quotation below from the Declaration of Independence to answer the following question:

Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed..."

79. In the statement above, what does **consent of the governed** mean?

- a. that people always agree with the government
- b. that the national government has all of the power in our country
- c. that people delegate, or entrust, certain powers to the government
- d. that people think state governments should have more power than the national government

80. Read the following power mentioned in the reading:

“Join with others to ask our government to do or not do certain things”

To whom does this power belong?

- a. the federal government
- b. both the state and federal government
- c. the state
- d. the people