

1. The most essential feature of democratic government is
 - A. a bicameral legislature
 - B. a free and open election process
 - C. a written constitution
 - D. separate branches of government

2. The major objection that British colonists in North America had to English rule was that they were
- A. denied the right to arm themselves for defense
 - B. denied the rights of citizens who lived in England
 - C. forced to settle wilderness areas
 - D. forced to farm crops ordered by England

3. Speakers A, B, C, and D are discussing relations between Great Britain and the American colonies in early 1776. Base your answer(s) to the question(s) on the speakers' statements and on your knowledge of social studies.

Speaker A: Let me say quite simply that making laws is not a basic right of the colonies. We are part of the British Empire and should obey the laws made by Parliament.

Speaker B: Let us first try to have our wrongs set right by just and peaceful means—by boycotting British goods, for example—before we take a step so extreme as to fight our mother country.

Speaker C: A government of our own is our natural right, and it is better to form one now, when we have the power, than to wait until we may have such a chance again.

Speaker D: Let us behave like obedient children, who have received unjust blows from a beloved parent. Let us complain to our parent, but with words, not guns.

Which two speakers would have been most opposed to the Declaration of Independence when it was issued?

- A. A and B B. A and C C. B and D D. B and C

4. Which political belief is expressed by the quotation “we . . . will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice, or Representation”?
- A. necessity for separation of powers
 - B. government by consent of the governed
 - C. freedom of press and assembly
 - D. right to a writ of habeas corpus

5. Which aspect of the American political system was most influenced by the ideas of John Locke and Baron de Montesquieu?
- A. executive control of foreign policy
 - B. limitations on the power of government
 - C. government regulation of the economy
 - D. creation of the electoral college

6. During the Revolutionary War period, Thomas Paine's *Common Sense* was important because it
- A. described a military plan for the defeat of England
 - B. convinced many Americans who had been undecided to support independence
 - C. contained a detailed outline for a new form of government
 - D. argued for the addition of a bill of rights to the Constitution

7. A republican form of government is described as one in which
- A. there is a two-party system
 - B. representatives are elected by the people
 - C. elected officials have limited terms
 - D. government power is limited by checks and balances

8. The Preamble of the United States Constitution states the purposes of government and is based on the belief that
- A. the states have ultimate authority
 - B. members of Congress should be appointed
 - C. Supreme Court Justices should be elected
 - D. the people are sovereign

9. American colonists showed their opposition to the British taxation and trade restrictions of the 1760s primarily by
- A. supporting the French against the British
 - B. boycotting products from Great Britain
 - C. overthrowing the royal governors in most of the colonies
 - D. purchasing additional products from Native American Indian tribes

10. Which concept from the European Enlightenment was included in the United States Constitution?

A. absolutism

B. despotism

C. limited monarchy

D. consent of the governed

11. Antifederalist objections to the ratification of the Constitution led to the
 - A. addition of a Bill of Rights
 - B. seven-year delay in the ratification of the Constitution
 - C. rewriting of major parts of the Constitution
 - D. elimination of states' rights

12. Which heading best completes the partial outline below?

I. _____

A. Magna Carta

B. House of Burgesses

C. Town meetings

D. John Locke

A. Ideas of Social Darwinism

B. Basis of British Mercantilism

C. Contributions to American Literature

D. Influences on United States Constitutional Government

13. Which constitutional provision indicates that the authors of the original Constitution did not completely trust the common voter to make decisions?
- A. the electoral college
 - B. the veto power of the President
 - C. direct election of Senators
 - D. election to the House of Representatives

14. The Constitutional Convention of 1787 was called primarily because
- A. the issue of settlement of western land needed solution
 - B. no procedure existed for admitting new states
 - C. the central government needed additional power
 - D. mounting urban problems required Federal help

15. During the debates over the ratification of the United States Constitution, Federalists and Anti-Federalists disagree most strongly over the
- A. division of powers between the national and state governments
 - B. provision for admitting new states to the Union
 - C. distribution of power between the Senate and the House of Representatives
 - D. method of amending the Constitution

16. The writers of the United States Constitution included the requirement for a census every ten years primarily to
- A. regulate numbers of immigrants
 - B. determine representation in Congress
 - C. decide when new states were needed
 - D. set goals for population growth

17. The adoption of the Bill of Rights (1791) addressed Antifederalist criticism of the new Constitution by
- A. providing for an indirect method of electing the president
 - B. protecting citizens from abuses of power by the national government
 - C. allowing the national government to coin money
 - D. establishing a process for impeaching federal officials

18. The term *supreme law of the land* refers to which document?
- A. Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
 - B. Constitution of the United States
 - C. Articles of Confederation
 - D. Declaration of Independence

1.
Answer: B
2.
Answer: B
3.
Answer: B
4.
Answer: B
5.
Answer: B
6.
Answer: B
7.
Answer: B
8.
Answer: D
9.
Answer: B
10.
Answer: D
11.
Answer: A
12.
Answer: D
13.
Answer: A
14.
Answer: C
15.
Answer: A
16.
Answer: B
17.
Answer: B
18.
Answer: B