
Practice Test of

Goal 1 – Values and Principles of American Democracy

Note to teachers: These unofficial sample questions were created to help students review Goal 1 content, as well as practice for the Civics and Economics EOC. The questions are based on the various lesson plans in the Civic Education Consortium’s Database of Civic Resources, as well as the NC Standard Course of Study. However, these practice questions are not meant to influence teachers in the content they choose to focus on in class, nor do they reflect any knowledge of questions that will actually appear on the state’s EOC.

1. Which colonies would most likely have had cash crops and large plantations?

- A. New Jersey and North Carolina
- B. Maryland and Georgia
- C. Rhode Island and Massachusetts
- D. New York and Virginia

2. Which one of the following is NOT one of the four cash crops?

- A. Tobacco
- B. Cotton
- C. Wheat
- D. Indigo

3. Which group of colonies were known as the “breadbasket”?

- A. New England
- B. Middle
- C. Southern
- D. Northern

4. Which term best describes the practice of creating and maintaining wealth by carefully controlling trade?

- A. Economic Growth
- B. Smuggling
- C. Triangular Trade
- D. Mercantilism

5. Which group of colonies had the best soil and best climate for growing crops?

- A. Northern
- B. New England
- C. Middle
- D. Southern

6. Which group of people left England because they wanted to purify the English church?

- A. Puritans
- B. Quakers
- C. Pilgrims
- D. Indentured Servants

7. Which document introduced the idea of limited government?

- A. Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
- B. Magna Carta
- C. English Bill of Rights
- D. Mayflower Compact

8. Thomas Paine encouraged the American Colonies to declare their independence from Great Britain by writing which one of the following?

- A. Common Sense
- B. Olive Branch Petition
- C. Federalist Papers
- D. Bill of Rights

9. Which of the following is the most important reason why Pilgrims came to America?

- A. To find gold
- B. To trade with the Indians
- C. Freedom of the press
- D. To secure religious liberties

10. Which of the following describes a significant feature of the Mayflower Compact?

- A. Established the principle of self government in Plymouth Colony
- B. Defined the essential spirit of the Declaration of Independence
- C. Was the first attempt by the colonists to resist English law.
- D. Did not apply to governments outside of Virginia

11. Which colony was the first to have a written constitution?

- A. Connecticut
- B. New York
- C. Massachusetts
- D. North Carolina

12. According to John Locke, why do people choose to live under governmental rule?

- A. The government will protect citizens from foreign enemies.
- B. The government will provide justice for all citizens.
- C. The government will protect the life, liberty, and property of all citizens.
- D. The government will join all states together into one unified union.

13. Which of the following was the first representative government in colonial America?

- A. Virginia House of Burgesses
- B. New England Town Meetings
- C. Congress
- D. Parliament

14. Which philosopher thought that there should be a separation between religion and government?

- A. Thomas Paine
- B. Voltaire
- C. Montesquieu
- D. John Locke

15. The issue or event that most directly led to the American Revolution was:

- A. A freedom of speech and press
- B. Taxation by Britain without representation
- C. African Slave Trade
- D. French and Indian War

16. Which of the following was not a long term cause of the American Revolutionary War?

- A. Quartering Act
- B. Stamp Act
- C. Navigation Act
- D. Toleration Act

17. American Colonists protested the taxes on colonial goods and British Imports by:

- A. Calling for war with England
- B. Invading French Canada
- C. Organized boycotts of British goods
- D. Passing the Coercive Acts

18. What was the Boston Tea Party?

- A. A colonial social custom
- B. A major battle of the American Revolution
- C. A party given by the Governor of Massachusetts
- D. A protest against English trade regulations

19. The French and Indian War created which of the following problems for Great Britain?

- A. A French Controlled North America
- B. The loss of colonies in North America
- C. A large war debt
- D. Loss of Indian allies

20. Which act said that all shipments had to travel through British Ports?

- A. Intolerable Act
- B. Stamp Act
- C. Navigation Act
- D. Tea Act

21. What is known as the official beginning of the American Revolution?

- A. Boston Massacre
- B. Boston Tea Party
- C. Quartering Act
- D. Lexington and Concord

22. A justification for the American Revolution can be found in which of the following historical documents?

- A. Mayflower Compact
- B. Fundamental Orders of Connecticut
- C. Constitution
- D. Declaration of Independence

23. Though the Colonists did not object to paying the British taxes, they objected to taxes based upon which of the following?

- A. The Colonies had no representation in the British Government
- B. The British government required all taxes to be paid in gold.
- C. The Royal Colonial Governors required their taxes be paid in gold
- D. The Colonists had very little gold coinage with which to pay the taxes.

24. Who was the primary author of the Declaration of Independence?

- A. George Washington
- B. John Jay
- C. John Hancock
- D. Thomas Jefferson

25. Which statement best describes the principle underlying the Declaration of Independence?

- A. Government power comes from the consent of the governed
- B. Government power should be exercised by a monarch
- C. Government power belongs to a select group of people
- D. Government power should be controlled by the Parliament

26. Which compromise at the Constitution Convention led to legislature that apportioned seats based on population size?

- A. Great Compromise
- B. New Jersey Plan
- C. Virginia Plan
- D. Compromise of 1850

27. Which of the following was an important contribution by the New Jersey Plan to the creation of the Constitution?

- A. The creation of a bicameral Congress
- B. Equal representation for all states in the Senate
- C. The cessation of the slave trade
- D. The Three Fifths Compromise

28. Which set of terms best describes the weaknesses of the new government under the Articles of Confederation?

- A. Thirteen tax and trade systems
- B. Thirteen social and religious systems
- C. One national government
- D. Two documents defining conflicts

29. How was the continuing debate between the Federalist and Anti-Federalists conducted?

- A. By news from the town crier
- B. By fliers in the towns
- C. With essays in the newspapers
- D. By letters sent to the enemies

30. The Anti-Federalists agreed to ratify the Constitution when which one of the following was added?

- A. A tax on income
- B. The right to vote for all citizens
- C. The Bill of Rights
- D. The 15th through 25th Amendments

31. Which one of the following was a reason why the Anti-Federalists were opposed to the Constitution?

- A. There was no established church
- B. Too much emphasis was placed on individual rights
- C. The president was not given enough executive powers
- D. The central government was given too much power

32. Which statement best expresses why many Americans were wary of a strong central government?

- A. People remembered how the King of England ruled the colonies
- B. The colonies had never had a strong government
- C. Colonial legislatures were weak and ineffective
- D. The colonies were eager to form a confederation of states

33. What is the name given to the first ten amendments to the Constitution?

- A. People's Rights and Freedoms
- B. The Declaration of Rights
- C. The Bill of Rights
- D. The Fundamental Rights of Man

34. Which amendment protects against unreasonable searches and seizures?

- A. First Amendment
- B. Fourth Amendment
- C. Fifth Amendment
- D. Tenth Amendment

35. Which amendment allows for the forming of militias and the right to bear arms?

- A. First Amendment
- B. Second Amendment
- C. Seventh Amendment
- D. Ninth Amendment

36. Which is the correct order of when the following documents were created (first to last)?

- A. Bill of Rights, Articles of Confederation, U.S. Constitution, Declaration of Independence
- B. Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, U.S. Constitution, Articles of Confederation
- C. Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights
- D. Articles of Confederation, Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, U.S. Constitution

37. Which is a characteristic of the American system of government?

- A. Direct Democracy
- B. Representative Democracy
- C. Constitutional Monarchy
- D. Dictatorship

38. A Democracy is a form of government in which the supreme power is retained by:

- A. The President
- B. The Supreme Court
- C. The Military
- D. The People

39. Which form of government is ruled by religious leaders?

- A. Oligarchy
- B. Theocracy
- C. Totalitarianism
- D. Monarchy

40. A person who rules with absolute power is called a _____

- A. President
- B. Monarch
- C. Dictator
- D. Aristocrat

Answer Key:

1. B
2. C
3. B
4. D
5. D
6. A
7. B
8. A
9. D
10. A
11. C
12. C
13. A
14. D
15. B
16. D
17. C
18. D
19. C
20. C
21. A
22. D
23. A
24. D
25. A
26. B
27. A
28. A
29. C
30. C
31. D
32. A
33. C
34. B
35. B
36. C
37. B
38. D
39. B
40. C

**For additional sample EOC questions for each Civics and Economics objective, go to the Consortium's Database of Civic Resources, located at:
<http://www.sog.unc.edu/programs/civiced/resources/intro.php>

All sample questions provided are unofficial and do not represent any knowledge of content to appear on the state's actual End of Course tests.

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