

Practice Test of Goal 4 – Citizens in Government

Note to teachers: These unofficial sample questions were created to help students review Goal 4 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

1. A political party supports this during an election:

- A. Public Policy
- B. Platform
- C. Compromise
- D. Third Party

2. Third parties usually impact government by:

- A. Electing large numbers of politicians
- B. Providing support and logistics to the two major government parties
- C. Raising additional funding for a major party candidate and skirting public campaign finance laws
- D. Identifying issues of concern that may be ignored by the two major parties

3. What word best describes someone who is to the right on the political ideology spectrum?

- A. Conservative
- B. Liberal
- C. Moderate
- D. Radical

4. What term best describes a “Middle of the Road” political ideology?

- A. Conservative
- B. Liberal
- C. Moderate
- D. Radical

5. Which normally describes the political party system in the United States?

- A. Multi-party
- B. Republic of parties
- C. Two-party
- D. Coalition of parties

6. In 2003, California citizens passed a ballot initiative to remove Governor Gray Davis from office. This is an example of which type of election?

- A. General Election
- B. Primary Election
- C. Partisan Election
- D. Recall Election

7. Characterizing a candidate as a “person of questionable character who is in the pocket of special interests” would be an example of what kind of propaganda?

- A. Glittering generalities
- B. Card stacking
- C. Name-calling
- D. Transfer

8. What is a right of citizenship that states governments can deny a convicted criminal?

- A. The right to a court appeal
- B. The right to vote
- C. The right to citizenship
- D. The right to an attorney

9. During the summer of a presidential year, party delegates from across the United States take part in an event where they gather together. What is the name of this event?

- A. A National Campaign
- B. A National Convention
- C. National Rally
- D. National Conference

10. On Election Day, reporters and polltakers interview voters as they leave precincts. What are these polls called?

- A. Precinct Polls
- B. Exit Polls
- C. News Polls
- D. Projection Polls

11. How is the number of electoral voters allotted to each state?

- A. It is based on the total number of a state's United States Senators and Representatives
- B. It is based the total number of a state's population, according to the most recent census
- C. It is based on the total number of registered voters in a state
- D. There is a fixed number, as established in Article I of the United States Constitution

12. Which of the following has *never* been a factor in determining whether an American citizen has a right to vote?

- A. Age
- B. Sex
- C. Race
- D. Religion

13. Winning an election is a two step process. First, candidates must be _____, and then they must run a _____ to convince voters to select them.

- A. Registered; ballot
- B. Campaigned; election
- C. Nominated; campaign
- D. Assessed; test

14. An election between candidates from opposing parties for the purpose of choosing one of them to hold a public office is called what?

- A. Primary Election
- B. General Election
- C. Run-Off Election
- D. Recall Election

15. Which of the following statements BEST describes how the President of the United States is elected?

- A. Whichever candidate gets the most votes nationwide wins
- B. Whichever candidate wins a majority vote in the most states wins
- C. Whichever candidate earns a majority of electoral votes wins
- D. Whichever candidate wins the majority of debates wins

16. What would *most likely* happen if there were no laws against slander or libel?

- A. Politicians would attack each other verbally and more often
- B. Politicians would tell the truth about each other more often
- C. Politicians would behave more civilly
- D. Politicians would likely make more false and malicious charges against one another

17. Activism is the opposite of _____. Which *best completes* this sentence?

- A. Apathy
- B. Protesting
- C. Polling
- D. Public Opinion

18. What is the main purpose of lobbying?

- A. To prepare any flyers or posters for a nominee to public office
- B. To drive the congressional representatives back into session
- C. To persuade lawmakers to pass laws in the best interest of their group
- D. To send notices to the President regarding the laws that interest them

19. Why does the federal government set limits on direct campaign contributions?

- A. To limit the speech of candidates
- B. To remove corruption from electoral politics
- C. To create public funding for third parties
- D. To increase the contributions of soft money

20. What do critics of interest groups claim?

- A. Interest groups have too much influence
- B. Interest groups provide necessary services
- C. Interest groups enable Americans to organize
- D. Interest groups communicate the wishes of the populace

21. Which of the following is the *best* example of participating in civic life?

- A. Opening a store
- B. Working with the volunteer fire department
- C. Going on vacation
- D. Investing in the stock market

22. Which of the following is NOT a consequence of non-compliance with laws?

- A. Fines
- B. Jail
- C. Death
- D. Torture

23. A place where people feel a sense of belonging and share similar characteristics can be described as:

- A. Community
- B. Custom
- C. Interaction
- D. Value

24. Volunteering to mentor “at risk” youth, working at a polling place on Election Day, running for city council, and teaching English to immigrants are all examples of:

- A. Political activism
- B. Civic Involvement
- C. Conflict Resolution
- D. Participation in the Judicial Process

25. What does reading the paper to learn the views of candidate *best exemplify*?

- A. Being part of an informed electorate
- B. A cost of public service
- C. Patriotism
- D. Exercising rights of the free press

26. Of all the following ways to settle conflicts in the workplace, which term calls for a third party to help two individuals reach an agreement?

- A. Boycott
- B. Mediation
- C. Arbitration
- D. Strike

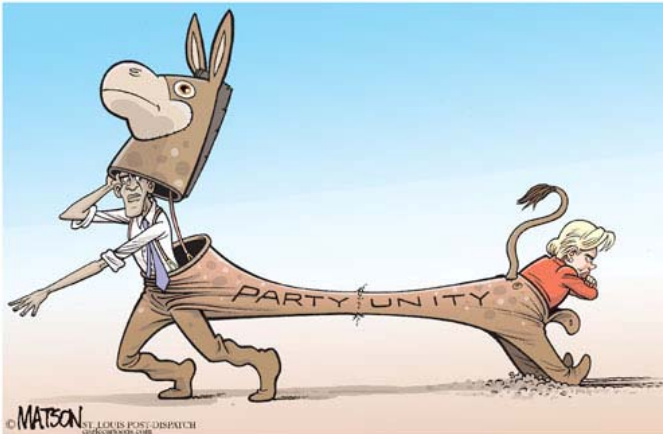
27. Reaching a compromise involves:

- A. Sticking to all of your demands throughout the discussion
- B. Using the media to put down others’ points of view
- C. Giving in on some demands and keeping others
- D. Refusing to enter discussions

28. Which trait is indicative of a good negotiator?

- A. A person who clarifies problems and helps resolve conflicts
- B. A person who controls the behavior of others in the group
- C. A person who rarely listens to minority viewpoints
- D. A person who uses computers to process information

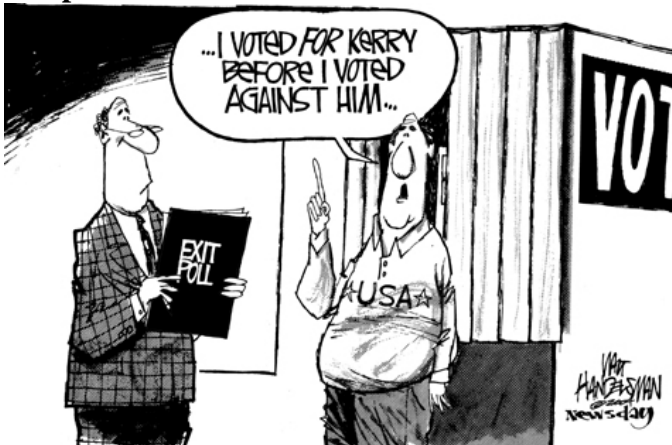
29. What statement best describes the main idea that the cartoon is trying to convey?



STUBBORN AS A...

- A. The two candidates are stubborn
- B. The two candidates cannot reach a compromise
- C. The two candidates are working against one another, which hurts party unity
- D. Compromise is necessary between political parties

30. What does the cartoon below suggest about exit polls in the 2004 election?



- A. Exit polls may be unreliable
- B. Voters do not know who they voted for
- C. The methodology of exit polls is flawed
- D. Exit polls are always unreliable

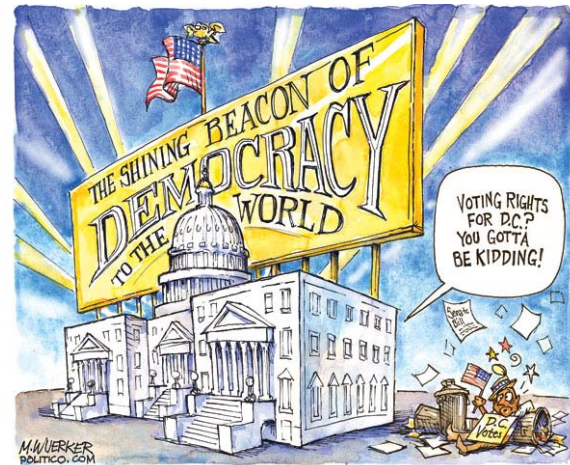
31. Complete the analogy. Conservatism: Republican as _____.

- A. Liberalism : Libertarianism
- B. Liberalism : Green
- C. Republican : Democrat
- D. Liberalism : Democrat

32. In North Carolina, _____ occur before _____.

- A. Party Primaries; Appointments
- B. Appointments ; Party Primaries
- C. General Elections; Appointments
- D. Party Primaries; General Elections

33. What is the main idea of the cartoon below?



- A. It is hypocritical of the Congress to deny Washington D.C. residents voting rights
- B. It is hypocritical of the Congress to allow Washington D.C. residents voting rights
- C. It damages American Democracy if Washington D.C. residents are able to vote
- D. America is a beacon to the world

Answer Key

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