CIVICS SOL PREPARATION QUESTIONS

Unit 1: Citizenship and Elections

1. What are two ways of obtaining citizenship?
   a. ________________________________
   b. ________________________________

2. Citizenship Key Terms Matching
   a. _____ citizen  (1) Process of becoming a citizen
   b. _____ diversity  (2) Individual with rights & duties under government
   c. _____ naturalization  (3) Defines citizenship
   d. _____ 14th Amendment  (4) Immigration and naturalization result in this
   e. _____ immigration  (5) Coming from a different land

3. Circle the following information that one needs to know to become an American citizen. (3)
   American history  World history  English (speaking)  Algebra
   All U.S. presidents  English (writing)  American Geography

4. True/False: A citizen owes allegiance to his or her government.

5. Matching: Rights, Duties, and Responsibilities
   a. _____ Obey laws  (1) Right
   b. _____ Register and vote
   c. _____ Serve on a jury or as a witness in court
   d. _____ Respect others’ rights to an equal voice in government
   e. _____ Freedom of speech  (2) Duty
   f. _____ Communicate with government officials
   g. _____ Hold elective office  (3) Responsibility
   h. _____ Serve in the armed forces if called
   i. _____ Participate in political campaigns
   j. _____ Keep informed regarding current issues
   k. _____ Freedom of petition
   l. _____ Pay taxes
   m. _____ Due process
   n. _____ Serve in voluntary positions
   o. _____ Freedom of the press

6. Circle the following personal traits that reflect thoughtful and effective participation in civic life. (5)
   Trustworthiness  Voter Apathy  Ignorance  Self-reliance  Dishonesty
   Courtesy  Accountability  Patriotism  Laziness

7. Which of the following IS NOT a way for citizens to participate in community service?
   (a) Volunteering in nursing homes
   (b) Volunteering to support democratic institutions
   (c) Volunteering to get at the end of the line at the grocery store
   (d) Volunteering to help improve public health and the environment
8. Circle the functions of political parties from the list below. (4)

- Recruiting and nominating candidates
- Spreading rumors
- Helping candidates win elections
- Make treaties with foreign nations
- Educating the electorate about issues
- Stimulate the economy
- Monitor the actions of officeholders

Directions: Place an S for similarity, a D for difference, and a 3 for third party next to the following statements about political parties. #9-14.

9. _____ Introduce new ideas to the public
10. _____ Organized to win elections
11. _____ Philosophy can be found in a party’s platform and is reflected in campaigning. Ex Favor Gun Control
12. _____ Reflect both liberal and conservative views
13. _____ Define themselves in a way that wins the majority of the support
14. _____ Often times revolve around a political personality. Ex Teddy Roosevelt

15. Voters need to _____ information presented in political campaigns to make reasoned choices among candidates.
   a. Ignore  b. Evaluate  c. Spread  d. Collect

16. Circle the following strategies that represent good methods for selecting a candidate you wish to vote. (4)

   - Separate Fact from Opinion
   - Believe everything you hear
   - Detect Bias
   - Listen to only one candidate
   - Identify propaganda
   - Evaluate sources

17. (Circle one) The mass media plays as IMPORTANT/UNIMPORTANT role in the political process.

18. Using the following roles of media, cross out any that are NOT played by the media in the political process. (3)

   - Raise money for candidates
   - Broadcast different points of view
   - Identify Candidates
   - Suggest for whom to vote
   - Write op-eds, editorials and political cartoons
   - Emphasize political issues
   - Accept bribes from political parties

19. True or False: Running for political office is NOT expensive.

Directions: Write T for True or F for False. #20-30.

20. _____ Rising campaign costs require candidates to conduct extensive fund raising activities
21. _____ Rising campaign costs open new opportunities to run for public office
22. _____ Rising campaign costs give an advantage to middle class Americans
23. _____ Rising campaign costs encourage the development of Political Action Committees; PAC’s
24. _____ Rising campaign costs make life difficult for issue oriented special interest groups
25. _____ Rising campaign costs have led lawmakers to step in and pass laws to reform campaign finance.
26. _____ Individuals may give unlimited amounts of money to political candidates.
27. _____ Voting is a basic right of citizenship
28. _____ A voter may vote even if they are not registered, but are informed on the issues
29. _____ Election years that contain issues that are not important to citizens usually results in low voter turnout and less voter registration
30. _____ In Virginia, the last day you can register to vote is 29 days before the election.
31. Place a QR next to the word if it is a qualification to register to vote in Virginia. (3)

- Citizen ( )
- Graduate from High school ( )
- Wealthy ( )
- Married ( )
- 18 by Election Day ( )
- Parents live in VA ( )
- Resident of Virginia/precinct ( )

32. Place and OK next to the possible ways to register to vote in Virginia. (2)

- Friend does it for you ( )
- In person at DMV ( )
- Mail-in application ( )

33. Circle the words that represent factors in predicting which citizens vote. (3)

- Marital Status
- Age
- Education
- Family Size
- Income

34. Place an F next to the word if it is a common reason why citizens FAIL to vote. (3)

- Lack of interest ( )
- Flat Tire ( )
- Ran out of Gas ( )
- Failure to register ( )
- Uninformed ( )
- Apathy ( )

35. Which of the following elections typically has the greatest voter turnout?
   a. National
   b. State
   c. Local

36. Which of the following political positions is elected by the Electoral College?
   a. President
   b. Governor
   c. Senator

**Directions:** Write T if the statement that is underlined about the Electoral College is true, and correct the underlined portion if it is false.

37. The winner-take-all system leads to the candidates targeting smaller states.
   **True/False**

38. The number of electors each state receives in the college is equal to the number of representatives in the House.
   **True/False**

39. The requirement of a majority vote (270) from the Electoral College favors a 3 party system.
   **True/False**

40. The Electoral College is used to elect the President and Vice President.
   **True/False**
Unit 2: Constitutional Principles

41. America’s constitutional government is defined and shaped by…
   a. mixed market economies
   b. historical governmental documents
   c. fundamental political principles
   d. political party philosophy

Directions: Match the following 5 political principles (a-e) with their meaning below (#42-46).
   a. Consent of the Governed
   b. Limited Government
   c. Rule of Law
   d. Democracy
   e. Representative Government

42. _____ The people rule.
43. _____ People elect public officeholders to make laws and conduct government on their behalf.
44. _____ People are the source of any and all government power.
45. _____ Those who govern are bound by the law.
46. _____ Government is not all powerful and may only do those things the people have allowed it to do.

Directions: Match the meanings below #47-57 with the following early documents (a-e). You may use an answer more than once.
   a. Charters of the Virginia Company of London
   b. Virginia Declaration of Rights
   c. Declaration of Independence
   d. Articles of Confederation
   e. Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom

47. _____ Established the first form of national government for the independent states.
48. _____ Stated the grievances against King George III of England
49. _____ Guaraanteed the rights of Englishmen to the colonists
50. _____ Maintained that major powers resided with the individual states
51. _____ Served as a model for the Bill of Rights, which were added to the US Constitution
52. _____ Declared to the world that the colonies were free of Great Britain
53. _____ Affirmed “certain unalienable rights” life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness
54. _____ Established a weak central government which had only one branch
55. _____ Established the freedom of religious beliefs and opinions
56. _____ Established the idea that all people are equal under the law
57. _____ Established a central government that collapsed and led to the writing of the US Constitution

58. Place the following parts of the US Constitution in the proper order on the lines below.
   a. Signatures
   b. 7 articles
   c. Bill of Rights
   d. Preamble

   1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____ Last _____

Directions: Match the following parts of the US Constitution with their meaning. #59-62.
   a. 7 Articles
   b. Bill of Rights
   c. Preamble
59. _____ Contains the purposes of the US government such as form a more perfect union and insure domestic tranquility.
60. _____ Creates the blueprint for the federal government.
61. _____ Contains protections for the people and the states from the federal government.
62. _____ Begins with “We the people…,” which establishes that the power of the government comes from the people.

63. Article _____ of the U.S. Constitution outlines how the document may be changed. (fill in the blank)

64. The Constitution states that there is a Complex OR Easy 2 step process to changing the document, which has been done 25 OR 26 OR 27 times. (Circle answers)

65. The 1st step to amending the constitution is action by congress or convention and the 2nd step is: (circle one)
   Ratification by the states OR Ratification vote by the citizens

66. Matching: First Amendment freedoms
   a. _____ religion (1) Individuals may peacefully gather.
   b. _____ speech (2) Government may not establish official religion.
   c. _____ press (3) Individuals may make views known to public officials.
   d. _____ assembly (4) Individuals may express beliefs and opinions.
   e. _____ petition (5) Media can gather and print info & government criticisms.

Directions: Match the following amendments with their proper meaning. #67-71.
   a. 1st  b. 5th  c. 10th  d. 14th  e. 16th

67. _____ Guarantees all citizens 5 basic freedoms.
68. _____ Defines citizenship as all persons born or naturalized in the US and prohibits the state and local government from acting in an unfair manner.
69. _____ Guarantees due process from the federal government.
70. _____ Allows Congress to tax individual and business income.
71. _____ Powers not given to the federal government are reserved for the states.
Unit 3: Separation of Powers

Directions: Write T if the statement is accurate or F if the statement is false. #72-74.

72. ____ The U.S. Constitution establishes a federal form of government in which the federal government is supreme.
73. ____ The powers of the national government are either enumerated/expressed or implied in U.S. Constitution.
74. ____ The U.S. Constitution outlines powers that are denied both to the national and state government.

Directions: Place an N for national, S for state, or L for local if the statement pertains to that level of government.

75. ____ Derives its power from the state government.
76. ____ Conducts foreign policy and regulates commerce
77. ____ Coordinates education
78. ____ Promotes public health, safety, and welfare.

79. Using the following word bank, place all NUMBERS for the terms in the appropriate box ONCE.

5. Try cases that involve federal/constitutional law 6. Circuit court hears civil/criminal cases 7. Prepares biennial budget
8. Elected or appointed by the board of supervisors or city council 9.Executes laws of VA. 10. Approves a 2 year budget
11. Administers the state bureaucracy 12. City or county managers are hired by local legislatures 13. Make national laws

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<th>VIRGINIA GOVERNMENT</th>
<th>NATIONAL GOVERNMENT</th>
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80. Circle the word/words that limit the powers of the national government (4)

Checks & Balances  Bill of Rights  Expresses  Separation of power  Reserved  Federalism

Directions: Use ALL the following lettered choices ONCE to complete the statements #81-86 below.

81. Legislative checks over the executive = (2) ____________________
82. Legislative checks over the judicial = (2)_____________________
83. Executive checks over the legislative = (2)____________________
84. Executive check over the judicial = (1)_______________________
85. Judicial check over the legislative = (1)_______________________
86. Judicial check over the executive = (1)_______________________

87. Place the following steps to lawmaking in order to show how a bill becomes a national law in Congress or state law in the General Assembly on the following line. ______________________________________

a. Introduced on the floor  b. Debate on the floor  c. Signed by president/governor
d. Work in committees  e. Vote on bill by both houses

Directions: Write a T if the statement is true or F if false for # 88-95.

88. ____Elected officials write laws in response to problems or issues that exists in society.
89. ____Individuals and interest groups DO NOT have any influence into what laws are made by the legislatures.
90. ____The executive branch plays a key role in the policy making process.
91. ____By appealing to the American public the president may influence policy making.
92. ____The president can influence policy making by suggesting legislation in his annual state of the union address to congress.
93. ____If the president hints he’ll sign a bill or threaten to veto a bill, the president can NOT influence policy making.
94. ____The president’s cabinet and regulatory groups hinder him from interpreting and carrying out the laws.
95. ____The media has very little influence on public policy.

Directions: Place an IG for interest groups, M for media, or P for individuals to identify which group is influencing public policy for #96-103.

96. ____Voting in elections
97. ____Focus public attention on selected issues
98. ____Hold governmental officials accountable to the public
99. ____Express opinions by writing letters or sending emails.
100. ____Join interest groups
101. ____Lobby government officials
102. ____Make political contributions ($)
103. ____Identify issues

Directions: Using the following choices related to the Courts in the U.S. answer the following questions. A question may require more than one answer, and an answer may be used more than once. #104-121.

e. U.S. District court  f. State Supreme Ct  g. State Ct. of Appeals  h. Circuit Court
i. General District court  j. Juvenile Domestic  k. Magistrate  l. Judicial review

104. ____The dual court system consists of …. (2)
105. ____The courts that have justices. (2)
106. ____The courts that is the court of final appeal. (2)
107. ____The court/s that has/have original and appellate jurisdiction (3)
108. ____The court/s that has/have original jurisdiction only. (3)
109. ____The court/s that has/have appellate jurisdiction only. (2)
110. ____The courts that are trials courts. (4)
111. ____The courts that are trials courts with juries. (2)
112. ____The state court that has original jurisdiction over felonies and civil cases more than $1000. (1)
113. The state court that has original jurisdiction over misdemeanors and civil cases less than $1000. (1)
114. These courts have a judge and no jury. (2)
115. This judge assigns search warrants, subpoenas, arrest warrants, and summons, and sets bail. (1)
116. This court would hear truant cases or child abuse cases. (1)
117. This describes the authority for national courts to review laws and declare the laws unconstitutional. (1)
118. The court/s that has/have judges and no jury to review cases already heard from a lower court. (2)
119. Marbury V. Madison established this power for national courts to review laws. (1)

120. (circle one) **Criminal/Civil** case is a case that involves an accused person being charged with a crime.
121. (circle one) **Criminal/Civil** case is a case that involves a disagreement between two or more people.

122. **List the criminal court procedures** from below (A-E) in order: ____________________________________________
a. Appeal guilty verdict
   b. Arraignment hearing to review probable cause, plea entered, & defendant may request an attorney
   c. A person accused of a crime may be arrested if the police have probable cause.
   d. Court date is set and trial is held
   e. The accused may be released on bail or held in jail.

123. **List the civil court procedures** (A-C) from below in order: ________________________________
a. Case can be appealed
   b. Plaintiff files a complaint to recover damages or receive compensation.
   c. Case is heard by a judge or jury.

124. **True or False:** Juveniles who commit serious crimes may be certified and tried as adults.
125. **True or False:** Judges who hear juveniles case do not have much latitude in handling the cases.
## Unit 4: Economics

### 126. Matching: Economic Terms

| a. _____ | Offers used to change economic behavior | (1) Private property |
| b. _____ | Combining resources to make goods and services | (2) Incentives |
| c. _____ | Using goods and services | (3) Consumer sovereignty |
| d. _____ | Inability to satisfy all wants at the same time | (4) Consumption |
| e. _____ | Factors of production used to produce goods | (5) Production |
| f. _____ | What is given up when a choice is made | (6) Competition |
| g. _____ | Amount of money exchanged for a good or service | (7) Opportunity Cost |
| h. _____ | Earnings after all expenses have been paid | (8) Supply |
| i. _____ | Consumers decide what goods are produced | (9) Scarcity |
| j. _____ | Rivalry between different producers | (10) Price |
| k. _____ | Selecting an item from a set of alternatives | (11) Demand |
| l. _____ | Amt. of goods consumers are willing to buy at a price | (12) Choice |
| m. _____ | Amt. of goods producers are willing to sell at a price | (13) Resources |
| n. _____ | Individuals own property without govt. influence | (14) Profit |

### 127. Matching: Economic Systems

| a. _____ | Central ownership of property/resources | (1) Free market |
| b. _____ | Has profit and competition | (2) Command |
| c. _____ | No consumer choice | (3) Mixed |
| d. _____ | Most common system today | (4) Command |
| e. _____ | Individuals and govt. make economic decisions | (5) Mixed |
| f. _____ | Consumers have sovereignty/choice | (6) Free market |
| g. _____ | Centrally planned economy | (7) Command |
| h. _____ | Private ownership of property/resources | (8) Mixed |

### 128. Matching: Types of Business Ownership

| a. _____ | Authorized by law to act as a legal person | (1) Proprietorship |
| b. _____ | One owner takes all of the risks and profits | (2) Partnership |
| c. _____ | Owner liability is limited to investment | (3) Corporation |
| d. _____ | Two or more owners share risk/profit | (4) Partnership |

### 129. What do we call a person that takes risks to start a business and produces goods and services to make a profit?

- (a) Fool
- (b) Entrepreneur
- (c) President
- (d) Peanut

### 130. Matching: Economic Flow

| a. _____ | Buys resources and makes products | (1) Individuals |
| b. _____ | Provides public goods and services | (2) Businesses |
| c. _____ | Owns the resources | (3) Government |
| d. _____ | Wants to earn profit | (4) Individuals |
| e. _____ | Collects tax revenue | (5) Businesses |
| f. _____ | Uses income to purchase products | (6) Government |

### 131. Circle the following words that are examples of private financial institutions. (3)

- Banks
- Federal Reserve
- Savings and Loans
- Grocery Stores
- Credit Unions
- Securities Brokerages
- Universities
- Post offices

### 132. Financial Institutions do all of the following EXCEPT:

- (a) Receive deposits
- (b) Collect taxes
- (c) Make loans
- (d) Pay interest on deposits
133. **Global Economy: True or False**
   a. _______ Nations trade to obtain goods that they cannot produce themselves
   b. _______ Nations trade to buy goods and services at a higher price
   c. _______ Nations trade to help their governments keep their power
   d. _______ Nations trade to sell goods and services to other countries
   e. _______ Nations trade to create jobs
   f. _______ Nations trade to increase their wealth
   g. _______ Nations trade to lower the amount of taxes that we have to pay

134. **What impact does technology have on the cost of production?**
   (a) Increases the cost of production  
   (b) Decreases the cost of production  
   (c) No effect

135. **Government Agencies: What does each one stand for?**
   a. FCC: ____________________________________________________
   b. EPA: ____________________________________________________
   c. FTC: ____________________________________________________

136. **Interstate highways, postal service, and national defense are examples of: __________________________.**

137. **True/False (Follow up from #136):**
   a. _______ The government pays for goods/services provided through tax revenue and borrowed funds.
   b. _______ These goods/services provide benefits to many people simultaneously.
   c. _______ To use these goods/services, we must pay for them directly.
   d. _______ These goods/services would not be available if individuals had to provide them.

138. **Government Influencing Economic Activity: Choose the best answer.**
   a. To increase demand for public goods and services, the government can:
      - Increase government spending  
      - Decrease government spending
   b. To increase the funds available for private and business spending, the govt. can:
      - Increase taxes collected  
      - Decrease taxes collected
   c. To decrease taxes, the government can:
      - Increase government spending  
      - Decrease government spending
   d. To increase employment and production, the government can:
      - Increase government spending  
      - Decrease government spending

139. **Federal Reserve System: True or False**
   a. _______ Bank of America is the central bank of the United States.
   b. _______ The Federal Reserve is the banker’s banks.
   c. _______ One job of the Fed is to issue currency.
   d. _______ The Fed is in charge of collecting the taxes of citizens.
   e. _______ The Fed can regulate the amount of money in circulation.
   f. _______ The president uses the Fed for his personal bank account.

140. **What is the role of the U.S. government in protecting consumer rights?**

141. **Career Opportunities: True or False**
   a. _______ Employers seek employees who demonstrate a weak work ethic.
   b. _______ Higher skills and education lead to higher incomes.
   c. _______ Employers seek individuals who keep pace with technological change.
   d. _______ Technological advancements create new jobs in the workplace.
   e. _______ Supply and demand influence job income.

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