

NEWPORT HIGH SCHOOL
Civics Test Multiple Choice/Format A

1. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?
 - A. Chinese
 - B. Russians
 - C. Pacific Islanders
 - D. American Indians

2. Who was the first President of the United States?
 - A. John Hancock
 - B. James Madison
 - C. Benjamin Franklin
 - D. George Washington

3. What was one important thing that Abraham Lincoln did?
 - A. led the U.S. during the Civil War
 - B. led the U.S. during the War of 1812
 - C. led the U.S. during the American Revolution
 - D. led the U.S. during the Mexican-American War

4. When is Independence Day celebrated?
 - A. April 19
 - B. July 4
 - C. September 17
 - D. November 11

5. Who is the "Father of Our Country"?
 - A. Abraham Lincoln
 - B. Thomas Jefferson
 - C. Benjamin Franklin
 - D. George Washington

6. What Ocean is on the East Coast of the United States?
 - A. Arctic Ocean
 - B. Indian Ocean
 - C. Pacific Ocean
 - D. Atlantic Ocean

7. What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?
 - A. fought for civil rights
 - B. became the first black U.S. Senator
 - C. established the Harvard Law School

D. ran for President of the United States

8. Which of the following is one of the two longest rivers in the United States?

- A. Ohio River
- B. Potomac River
- C. Colorado River
- D. Mississippi River

9. What do Americans show loyalty to when saying the Pledge of Allegiance?

- A. the state where you live
- B. the United States of America
- C. the Declaration of Independence
- D. the President of the United States of America

10. Why did the colonists fight the British?

- A. because of high taxes
- B. because the British invaded France
- C. because the colonists wanted a new king
- D. because the colonists wanted religious freedom

11. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?

- A. James Madison
- B. Abraham Lincoln
- C. Thomas Jefferson
- D. George Washington

12. Which of the following is an American Indian tribe?

- A. Huli
- B. Kikuyu
- C. Maori
- D. Navajo

13. Why does the American flag have 13 stripes?

- A. They represent the 13 original colonies.
- B. They represent the 13 signatures on the U.S. Constitution.
- C. They represent the 13 military heroes of the Revolutionary War.
- D. They represent the 13 members of the Second Continental Congress.

14. Why does the American flag have 50 stars?

- A. One star for each state.
- B. One star for each president.
- C. One star for each original colony.
- D. One star for each constitutional amendment.

15. What is the name of the national anthem?

- A. God Bless the U.S.A.
- B. America the Beautiful
- C. My Country Tis of Thee
- D. The Star-Spangled Banner

16. Which of the following are national U.S. holidays?

- A. Columbus Day and Flag Day
- B. Labor Day and Veterans Day
- C. Memorial Day and Mother's Day
- D. Valentine's Day and Thanksgiving Day

17. What is one reason colonists came to America?

- A. education
- B. better health
- C. elect a new king
- D. religious freedom

18. What was the name of the U.S. war between the North and the South?

- A. Civil War
- B. World War II
- C. War of 1812
- D. Revolutionary War

19. Which of the following reasons led to the Civil War?

- A. taxes
- B. slavery
- C. oil rights
- D. religious freedom

20. What did Susan B. Anthony do?

- A. founded the Red Cross
- B. fought for women's rights
- C. made the first American flag
- D. established a college for women

21. Where is the Statue of Liberty located?

- A. Boston, MA
- B. New York, NY
- C. Washington, DC
- D. San Francisco, CA

22. What is the deadline for filing federal income tax forms?

- A. April 15
- B. June 30
- C. September 15
- D. December 31

23. Who did the United States fight in World War II?

- A. Japan, Germany, and Italy
- B. Japan, Germany, and France
- C. Russia, China, and Japan
- D. Russia, France, and Great Britain

24. Which of the following wars was fought by the United States in the 1800s?

- A. Korean War
- B. World War I
- C. Spanish-American War
- D. French and Indian War

25. Who is in charge of the executive branch?

- A. the President
- B. the Chief Justice
- C. the Majority Leader
- D. the Speaker of the House

26. What does the judicial branch do?

- A. amends the Constitution and overturns laws
- B. decides if a law goes against the Constitution
- C. stipulates the number of Supreme Court Justices
- D. provides legal advice to the President and his staff

27. Which of the following includes two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?

- A. vote and run for office
- B. read a newspaper and volunteer at the local food bank
- C. get a driver's license and purchase real estate property
- D. go to college and start a career

28. What group of people was taken to America and sold as slaves?

- A. Africans
- B. Canadians
- C. Spaniards
- D. Italians

29. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?

- A. July 4, 1770
- B. July 4, 1776
- C. July 4, 1870
- D. July 4, 1876

30. Which of the following includes three of the 13 original states?

- A. Georgia, Indiana, New York
- B. Maine, Ohio, and West Virginia
- C. Vermont, Florida, and Pennsylvania
- D. Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina

31. What happened at the Constitutional Convention?

- A. The Constitution was written.
- B. The Constitution was ratified.
- C. The Magna Carta was signed.
- D. The Declaration of Independence was written.

32. When was the U.S. Constitution written?

- A. 1776
- B. 1787
- C. 1812
- D. 1865

33. What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for?

- A. decorated war general
- B. inventor of the telegraph
- C. fourth president of the United States
- D. oldest member of the Constitutional Convention

34. What territory did the United States buy from France in 1803?

- A. Alaska
- B. Florida
- C. Hawaii
- D. Louisiana

35. What is one promise made when becoming a citizen of the United States of America?

- A. to register to vote
- B. to get an education
- C. to join a political party
- D. to defend the U.S. Constitution

36. When must all men register for the Selective Service?

- A. at birth

- B. at age 16
- C. at age 18
- D. men no longer have to register

37. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?

- A. called for an end to the Civil War
- B. called for the creation of state borders
- C. called for an end to Southern Secession
- D. called for the freeing of slaves in the Confederate States

38. Who was the President during World War I?

- A. Warren Harding
- B. Woodrow Wilson
- C. Franklin Roosevelt
- D. Theodore Roosevelt

39. What stops one branch of government from becoming too powerful?

- A. the military
- B. the Bill of Rights
- C. checks and balances
- D. the Federal Reserve

40. What is one responsibility that only applies to United States citizens?

- A. pay taxes
- B. obey the laws
- C. serve on a jury
- D. attend private school

41. Which of the following includes two rights of everyone living in the United States?

- A. freedom to work and freedom of speech
- B. freedom to work and freedom to make laws
- C. freedom of speech and freedom of assembly
- D. freedom to make laws and freedom of assembly

42. Which war was fought by the United States in the 1900s?

- A. Civil War
- B. World War I
- C. Revolutionary War
- D. Mexican-American War

43. What is the supreme law of the land?

- A. the U.S. Constitution
- B. the Articles of Confederation
- C. the Emancipation Proclamation

D. the Declaration of Independence

44. What does the Constitution do?

- A. sets up and defines the government
- B. draws boundaries of congressional districts
- C. sets codes of conduct for obeying local and federal laws
- D. determines whether citizens are prosecuted to the full extent of the law

45. The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words?

- A. We the United
- B. We the People
- C. We the Citizens
- D. We the Americans

46. What is an amendment?

- A. a change to the Constitution
- B. a preamble to the Constitution
- C. an explanation of the Bill of Rights
- D. an introduction to the Bill of Rights

47. What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution?

- A. the Preamble
- B. the Bill of Rights
- C. the Articles of the Confederation
- D. the Declaration of Independence

48. What did the Declaration of Independence do?

- A. declared freedom for the slaves
- B. declared equal rights for women
- C. declared freedom from Great Britain
- D. declared an end to the war with Great Britain

49. Which of the following includes two rights stated in the Declaration of Independence?

- A. life and liberty
- B. free speech and justice
- C. bear arms and pay taxes
- D. vote and pursuit of happiness

50. How many amendments does the Constitution have?

- A. 10
- B. 27
- C. 36

D. 50

51. Who vetoes bills?

- A. the President
- B. the Majority Leader
- C. the President Pro Tempore
- D. the Speaker of the House of Representatives

52. What is the "rule of law"?

- A. Everyone must follow the law.
- B. Laws remain the same in every state.
- C. Government leaders are above the laws.
- D. Laws only apply to United States citizens.

53. What is one branch of the federal government?

- A. governor
- B. judicial
- C. military
- D. treasury

54. Who makes federal laws?

- A. the Congress
- B. the Supreme Court
- C. the Attorney General
- D. the Justice Department

55. If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President?

- A. the Vice President
- B. the Secretary of State
- C. the President Pro Tempore
- D. the Speaker of the House of Representatives

56. Who signs bills to become laws?

- A. the President
- B. the Vice President
- C. the Secretary of State
- D. the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

57. What is the highest court in the United States?

- A. the District Court
- B. the Superior Court
- C. the Supreme Court
- D. the Municipal Court

58. If both the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, who becomes President?

- A. the Secretary of State
- B. the U.S. Attorney General
- C. the President Pro Tempore
- D. the Speaker of the House of Representatives

59. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the federal government. What is one power of the federal government?

- A. to make treaties
- B. to issue driver's licenses
- C. to provide public education
- D. to establish police departments

60. Who is the Commander in Chief of the military?

- A. the President
- B. the Secretary of Defense
- C. the U.S. Attorney General
- D. the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

61. What is the capital of Kentucky?

- A. Louisville
- B. Bowling Green
- C. Lexington
- D. Frankfort

62. What is one right that only applies to United States citizens?

- A. speak freely
- B. own a weapon
- C. practice a religion
- D. run for federal office

63. How old do citizens have to be to vote for President?

- A. starting at 16 years of age and older
- B. starting at 18 years of age and older
- C. starting at 21 years of age and older
- D. starting at 35 years of age and older

64. Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the states. What is one power of the states?

- A. print money
- B. create an army
- C. issue passports
- D. provide public education

65. Who is one of the authors of the Federalist Papers?

- A. John Adams
- B. James Madison
- C. Thomas Jefferson
- D. George Washington

66. Who was President during both the Great Depression and World War II?

- A. Harry Truman
- B. Calvin Coolidge
- C. Woodrow Wilson
- D. Franklin Roosevelt

67. Before he was President, Eisenhower was a general. What war was he in?

- A. Civil War
- B. Korean War
- C. World War II
- D. Spanish-American War

68. During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the United States?

- A. colonialism
- B. communism
- C. imperialism
- D. sectionalism

69. What movement tried to end racial discrimination?

- A. civil rights movement
- B. progressive movement
- C. temperance movement
- D. women's suffrage movement

70. What historical event happened on September 11, 2001 in the United States?

- A. The stock market crashed.
- B. Columbia space shuttle exploded.
- C. Terrorists attacked the United States.
- D. Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans.

71. What Ocean is on the West Coast of the United States?

- A. Arctic Ocean
- B. Indian Ocean
- C. Pacific Ocean
- D. Atlantic Ocean

72. Which of the following is a U.S. territory?

- A. Cuba
- B. Guam
- C. Hawaii
- D. Panama

73. Which U.S. state borders Canada?

- A. Alaska
- B. Connecticut
- C. Oregon
- D. Wisconsin

74. Which U.S. state borders Mexico?

- A. Texas
- B. Arkansas
- C. Louisiana
- D. Alabama

75. What is the capital of the United States?

- A. Boston, MA
- B. New York, NY
- C. Philadelphia, PA
- D. Washington, DC

76. What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment?

- A. to vote
- B. jury trial
- C. free speech
- D. to bear arms

77. What is freedom of religion?

- A. Religious leaders are exempt from the law.
- B. States may choose a religion for the people.
- C. Religious institutions do not have to pay taxes.
- D. People may or may not choose to practice a religion.

78. What is the economic system in the United States?

- A. barter or trade economy
- B. socialist or mutual economy
- C. capitalist or market economy
- D. communist or collective economy

79. What are the two parts of the U.S. Congress?

- A. the President and the Cabinet

- B. the Supreme Court and the Superior Court
- C. the U.S. Treasury and the State Department
- D. the Senate and the House of Representatives

80. How many U.S. Senators are there?

- A. 25
- B. 50
- C. 100
- D. 435

81. How many years are there in one term of office for a U.S. Senator?

- A. 2
- B. 4
- C. 6
- D. 8

82. The U.S. House of Representatives has how many voting members?

- A. 265
- B. 380
- C. 435
- D. 519

83. How many years are there in one term of office for a U.S. Representative?

- A. 2
- B. 4
- C. 6
- D. 8

84. Who does a U.S. Senator represent?

- A. all people in the United States
- B. all people in the Senator's state
- C. only the people in the state who voted for the Senator
- D. only people who belong to the political party of the Senator

85. How is the number of U.S. Representatives chosen for each state?

- A. by state location
- B. by state population
- C. by state geographical size
- D. by state political affiliation

86. How many years are there in one term of office for a U.S. President?

- A. 2
- B. 4

- C. 6
- D. 8

87. In what month is the Election Day for President?

- A. January
- B. June
- C. August
- D. November

88. What is the main duty of the President's Cabinet?

- A. set policy
- B. make laws
- C. advise the President
- D. command the military

89. Which of the following includes two Cabinet-level positions?

- A. Secretary of Education and Secretary of History
- B. Secretary of Energy and Secretary of Motor Vehicles
- C. Secretary of Human Affairs and Secretary of the Navy
- D. Secretary of Homeland Security and Secretary of the Treasury

90. How many justices are on the U.S. Supreme Court?

- A. 5
- B. 7
- C. 9
- D. 11

91. Which of the following includes two major political parties in the United States?

- A. Libertarian Party and Democratic Party
- B. Progressive Party and Libertarian Party
- C. Democratic Party and Republican Party
- D. Progressive Party and Republican Party

92. There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. Which of the following is true?

- A. Only citizens 21 and older can vote.
- B. Only citizens with jobs can vote.
- C. Only citizens 18 and older can vote.
- D. Only citizens who pay taxes can vote.

93. Who is the current President of the United States?

- A. President G. W. Bush
- B. President Clinton

- C. President Trump
- D. President Obama

94. Who is the current Governor of Kentucky?

- A. Governor Patton
- B. Governor Bevin
- C. Governor Collins
- D. Governor Beshear

95. Who is the current Vice President of the United States?

- A. Vice President Pence
- B. Vice President Gore
- C. Vice President Biden
- D. Vice President Cheney

96. Name one of the two current U.S. Senators for the state of Kentucky.

- A. Senator Hatch
- B. Senator Sanders
- C. Senator McConnell
- D. Senator Warren

97. Who is the current Chief Justice of the United States?

- A. Chief Justice Earl Warren
- B. Chief Justice Warren Burger
- C. Chief Justice William Rehnquist
- D. Chief Justice John Roberts, Jr.

98. What is the political party of the current President?

- A. Democratic
- B. Libertarian
- C. Progressive
- D. Republican

99. Who is the current Speaker of the House of Representatives?

- A. John Boehner
- B. Nancy Pelosi
- C. Paul Ryan
- D. Dennis Hastert

100. Name two of the six current U.S. Representatives for the state of Kentucky.

- A. Bradley Byrne and Martha Roby
- B. Phil Roe and Jimmy Duncan
- C. Marcy Kaptur and Mike Turner
- D. Hal Rodgers and John Yarmuth