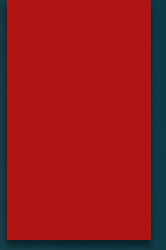


State of Ohio Government Test Review



Rationale for Option A: **Key** – An increase in interest rates would affect the cost of loans by making them more expensive for borrowers.

Sample Response: 1 point

What is the effect when the Federal Reserve increases interest rates?

- ☒ A The cost of taking out loans increases.
- ☐ B Consumers spend more in the economy.
- ☐ C The government receives a large increase in tax revenue.
- ☐ D Sudden inflation causes the prices of goods and services to go up.

How was the U.S. Constitution amended to expand participation in federal elections to the District of Columbia?

- ☐ Ⓐ by lowering the voting age in the District of Columbia to 21
- ☐ Ⓑ by allowing residents of the District of Columbia to elect a mayor
- ☐ Ⓒ by granting the District of Columbia representation in the U.S. Senate
- ☒ Ⓓ by giving the District of Columbia representation in the Electoral College

Rationale for Option D: **Key** – The 23rd Amendment provided the District of Columbia with electors in the Electoral College.

Rationale for Option A: **Key** – The 26th Amendment lowered the voting age in national elections from 21 to 18, extending voting rights to 18 - 20-year-olds.

How were voting qualifications for national elections changed by a constitutional amendment?

- ☒ by lowering the minimum age to vote
- ☐ by adding a poll tax requirement prior to voting
- ☐ by making citizens over a specific age pass a test to vote
- ☐ by limiting general election voting to those who voted in the primary elections

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A

The United States is negotiating a new trade agreement with its major trading partners.

Which entity of government is responsible for negotiating international trade agreements?

- ☐ Ⓐ federal judicial
- ☐ Ⓑ state executive
- ☐ Ⓒ state legislative
- ☒ Ⓓ federal executive

Part B

Which sentence is an example of collaboration in helping to create the policy in Part A?

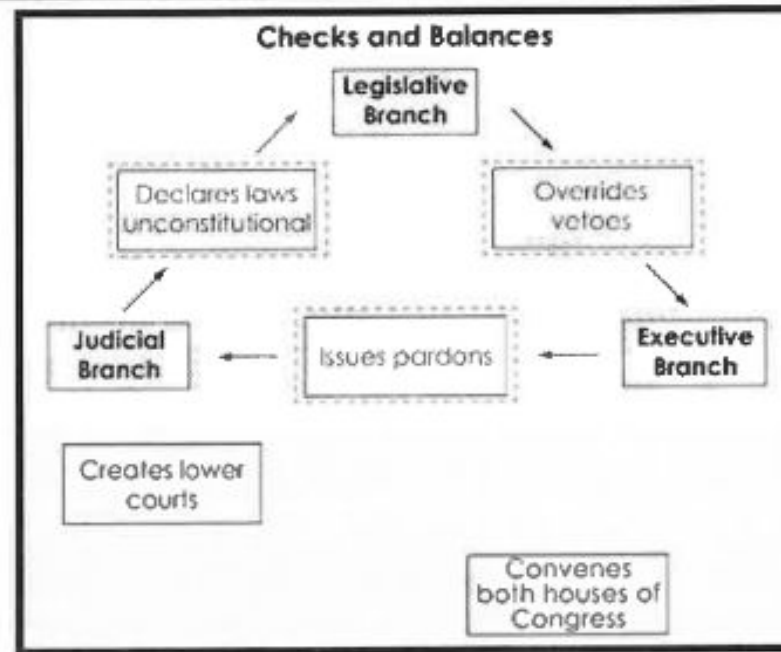
- ☐ Ⓐ State legislators could pass laws that would overturn the terms of the trade agreement.
- ☐ Ⓑ Governors could establish separate economic agreements with leaders of other countries.
- ☐ Ⓒ The Supreme Court could review the proposed agreement and rule on its constitutionality.
- ☒ Ⓓ State Department officials could advise the president on the impact of an agreement on foreign policy.

Checks and balances are a key element of government in the United States.

Identify how the branches shown in the chart check each other.

Move the checks into each blank box of the diagram.

- You do not need to use all of the checks.



Notes on Scoring

This response earns full credit (2 points) because it correctly identifies how the branches shown in the chart check each other.

The Constitution grants the president the power to "grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United States," which is one way the executive can check the power of the judicial branch.

The Supreme Court has the power of judicial review, which allows it to declare laws unconstitutional. This is a check on the legislative branch, which is responsible for making laws.

The Constitution grants the legislative branch the power to override a presidential veto if it is "repassed by two-thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives."

Legislators meet with other members of their party prior to the official floor vote to ensure that the group is in agreement about whether or not to support a particular bill.

Which process is represented by this situation?

- ☐ Ⓐ negotiation
- ☐ Ⓑ compromise
- ☒ Ⓒ consensus building
- ☐ Ⓓ persuasive argument

Select the boxes to identify whether each phrase describes the U.S. Constitution, the Ohio Constitution, or both.

	U.S. Constitution	Ohio Constitution	Both
Has a bill of rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Allows the use of referendum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Requires judges to be appointed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Uses a system of checks and balances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Notes on Scoring

This response earns full credit (2 points) because it correctly identifies whether each phrase describes the U.S. Constitution, the Ohio Constitution, or both.

Both the U.S. Constitution and the Ohio Constitution have a bill of rights. The Ohio Constitution allows the use of referendum to submit a law to voters to approve or reject. In contrast, the U.S. Constitution establishes a system where legislators vote on laws on behalf of citizens instead of citizens voting on laws directly. Under the U.S. Constitution, federal judges are nominated by the president and confirmed by the U.S. Senate, while state judges in Ohio are elected by voters. Both the U.S. Constitution and the Ohio Constitution use a system of checks and balances between the different branches of government.

Section 3 of the 25th Amendment is shown.

Whenever the President transmits . . . his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office . . . such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

What does this amendment establish that had previously been undefined in the Constitution?

- ☐ Ⓐ the separate election of presidents and vice presidents
- ☒ Ⓑ a process for addressing a temporary disability of the president
- ☐ Ⓒ a limit on the number of terms the president may serve in office
- ☐ Ⓓ a shorter period between an election and the date a president takes office

A city is considering the construction of a subway system. The city's mayor appoints a panel to study several proposed subway plans. Six months later, the panel publishes a 30-page report documenting its findings.

Which factor will contribute to the credibility of the report as a source on the topic?

- ☐ Ⓐ length of the report
- ☐ Ⓑ cost of the report to the city
- ☐ Ⓒ number of tables and charts in the report
- ☒ Ⓓ qualifications of the writers of the report

An excerpt from the debate over ratification of the Constitution is shown.

If the new Constitution be examined with accuracy and candor [honesty], it will be found that the change which it proposes consists much less in the addition of NEW POWERS to the Union, than in the invigoration of its ORIGINAL POWERS. . . . The powers relating to war and peace, armies and fleets, treaties and finance, with the other more considerable powers, are all vested in the existing Congress by the articles of Confederation. The proposed change does not enlarge these powers; it only substitutes a more effectual mode of administering them.

What viewpoint does this excerpt demonstrate?

- ☐ Ⓐ the Federalist viewpoint that federal law should be supreme to state law when they conflict
- ☒ Ⓑ the Federalist viewpoint that the Constitution will address the weaknesses of the prior system of government
- ☐ Ⓒ the Anti-Federalist viewpoint that a powerful national government poses a threat to the civil liberties of individual citizens
- ☐ Ⓓ the Anti-Federalist viewpoint that the Constitution should grant state governments the power to overturn laws at the national level

Joining community watch groups, attending county board or committee meetings, and serving in a volunteer fire department are all ways citizens can become involved and support government at the local level.

The following question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A

The Constitution establishes the basic principles of government in the United States. An excerpt from Article I, Section 7 of the U.S. Constitution is shown.

Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections to that House in which it shall have originated ...

Which principle of government is reflected in this portion of the Constitution?

- ☐ Ⓐ federalism
- ☐ Ⓑ limited government
- ☐ Ⓒ popular sovereignty
- ☒ Ⓓ checks and balances

Part B

How does this portion of the Constitution reflect this principle?

- ☐ Ⓐ It reserves powers to the states.
- ☐ Ⓑ It keeps certain rights with the people.
- ☒ Ⓒ It allows one branch to constrain another.
- ☐ Ⓓ It allows citizens to have a say in their government.

How did the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments address the aftermath of the Civil War?

- ☐ Ⓐ by passing Jim Crow voting restrictions into law
- ☐ Ⓑ by providing Southern states with Reconstruction funds
- ☒ Ⓒ by extending freedoms and rights to African Americans
- ☐ Ⓓ by guaranteeing free land and education to former slaves

Rationale for Option C: Key – Collectively, the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments led to the emancipation of African Americans, guaranteed their citizenship and voting rights, and provided them with equal protection under the law.

Click on each blank box and select a phrase to complete the sentence about the extension of civil rights to minority groups.

The U.S. government has taken steps to ensure civil rights are extended to marginalized groups. The legislative branch proposed a constitutional amendment banning the use of poll taxes and passed civil rights and voting rights legislation.

Notes on Scoring

This response earns full credit (1 point) because it correctly completes the sentence about the extension of civil rights to minority groups.

In 1962, Congress passed the 24th Amendment which outlawed the use of poll taxes in federal elections. Poll taxes were a barrier to voting passed in several states during the Jim Crow era. In the 1960s, Congress also passed civil and voting rights legislation to extend protections and civil rights to African Americans and other marginalized groups.

In 1876, Congress passed a law that stated that post office employees "shall be appointed and may be removed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and shall hold their offices for four years unless sooner removed or suspended according to law." In the 1926 Supreme Court case *Myers v. United States*, the law was ruled unconstitutional. The Supreme Court found that the president has exclusive power to remove officials from the executive branch.

How did the Supreme Court's decision in *Myers v. United States* impact the constitutional principle of separation of powers?

- ☒ A It clarified the power of the presidency relative to the Senate.
- ☐ B It increased the power of the Senate relative to the presidency.
- ☐ C It decreased the power of the Supreme Court relative to the Senate.
- ☐ D It clarified the power of the Supreme Court relative to the presidency.

Select **three** provisions found in the U.S. Bill of Rights.

- ☒ a guarantee of a trial by jury
- ☒ the protection of free speech
- ☐ a ban on the use of poll taxes
- ☐ a requirement for military service
- ☐ the establishment of universal adult suffrage
- ☒ the prohibition of cruel and unusual punishment

In 1851, Ohio drafted a new constitution that was meant to address problems of the original state constitution. These problems included:

- An overburdened judicial branch
- A significant amount of state government debt
- An overly powerful legislative branch

Select all of the ways that the **Ohio Constitution of 1851** addressed these problems.

A. It created district courts

B. It instituted debt limitations

C. It forgave all outstanding state debt

D. It allowed the judicial branch to appoint legislative officials

E. It required major executive officials to be elected into office

F. It restricted the number of cases that could be brought to trial in the state each year.

