**Civics 1st Semester Exam**

* Use your Progress Monitoring Worksheets, reading pages, vocab flash cards and the following chapters in the textbook to complete this study guide. Refer to past tests and progress checks for additional review.
* To access the online textbook, select the textbook from the teacher webpage and enter your student id \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and password \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ make sure you select Clay County Schools.

**You will need a deep understanding of each of these benchmarks.**

**Benchmarks** - the following benchmarks will be tested on the semester exam.  
  
SS.7.C.1.1 Recognize how Enlightenment ideas including Montesquieu's view of separation of power and John Locke's theories related to natural law and how Locke's social contract influenced the Founding Fathers.  
  
SS.7.C.1.2 Trace the impact that the Magna Carta, English Bill of Rights, Mayflower Compact, and Thomas Paine's "Common Sense" had on colonists' views of government.  
  
SS.7.C.3.1 Compare different forms of government (direct democracy, representative democracy, socialism, communism, monarchy, oligarchy, autocracy).  
  
SS.7.C.3.2 Compare parliamentary, federal, confederal, and unitary systems of government.  
  
SS.7.C.1.3 Describe how English policies and responses to colonial concerns led to the writing of the Declaration of Independence.  
  
SS.7.C.1.4 Analyze the ideas (natural rights, role of the government) and complaints set forth in the Declaration of Independence.  
  
SS.7.C.1.5 Identify how the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation led to the writing of the Constitution.  
  
SS.7.C.1.6 Interpret the intentions of the Preamble of the Constitution.  
  
SS.7.C.1.7 Describe how the Constitution limits the powers of government through separation of powers and checks and balances.  
  
SS.7.C.1.8 Explain the viewpoints of the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists regarding the ratification of the Constitution and inclusion of a bill of rights.  
  
SS.7.C.2.4  Evaluate rights contained in the Bill of Rights and other amendments to the Constitution  
  
SS.7.C.2.5  Distinguish how the Constitution safeguards and limits individual rights.  
  
  
SS.7.C.3.3 Illustrate the structure and function (three branches of government established in Articles I, II, and III with corresponding powers) of government in the United States as established in the Constitution.  
  
SS.7.C.3.5 Explain the Constitutional amendment process.  
  
SS.7.C.3.6 Evaluate Constitutional rights and their impact on individuals and society.  
  
SS.7.C.3.7 Analyze the impact of the 13th, 14th, 15th, 19th, 24th, and 26th amendments on participation of minority groups in the American political process.  
  
SS.7.C.3.8 Analyze the structure, functions, and processes of the **legislative, executive**, and judicial branches. (not the judicial branch)  
  
SS.7.C.3.9 Illustrate the law making process at the local, state, and **federal** levels. (just the federal level)  
  
SS.7.C.3.12 Tinker v. Des Moines, Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier, US v. Nixon,

**Know the following terms:**

**Anarchy** - the absence of any form of government

**Anti-Federalist Papers** - A series of essays written to counter and defeat the proposed U.S. Constitution

**Anti-Federalist** - A group of people in the early US who opposed ratification of the U.S. Constitution because they feared a strong national government and a lack of protection for individual rights

**Articles of Confederation** - the first Constitution of the United States. Did not work because it was so weak.

**Bill of Rights** – first ten amendments of the constitution

**Checks and Balances** - a system in which each branch of government is able to check, or restrain, the power of the others

**Citizen** - A legal member of a country who is loyal to that country and in turn receives protection from that country

**Concurrent power** - powers shared by the state and federal governments

**Confederation** - a group of individual or state governments

**Consent of the governed** - An agreement made by the people to establish a government and abide by its laws

**Constitutional Monarchy** - A system of government in which the king or queen shares authority with an elected legislature and agrees to be bound by a constitution or a set of laws

**Democracy** - A system of government in which political power resides with the people

**Due Process** - Following established legal procedures

**Eminent domain** - the right of government to take private property for public use

**Enumerated power** - powers granted directly to the national government by the Constitution; another name for expressed powers

**Executive order** – command by the president that has the same force as a law

**Executive privilege** – Principle that members of the executive branch cannot legally be forced to reveal their confidential communications if the disclosure would have a negative effect on the security of the public

**Expressed Powers** - power that the U.S. Congress has that is specifically listed in the Constitution

**Federalist Papers** - A series of essays written to explain and defend the proposed U.S. Constitution

**Federalists** - A group of people in the early United States who favored the establishment of a strong national government and who worked for ratification of the U.S. Constitution

**Implied power** – not specifically listed in the constitution

**Natural rights** - The belief that individuals are born with basic rights that cannot be taken away by governments

**Pardon** - a declaration of forgiveness and freedom from punishment

**Ratify** - to formally approve

**Representative democracy (Republic)** - A system of government in which the people elect representatives to make policies and laws for them.

**Reserved power** - powers that the Constitution does not give to the national government that are kept by the states

**Rule of law** - A concept that those who govern are bound by the laws; no one is above the law

**Slander** - spoken untruths that are harmful to someone's reputation

**Social contract** - An implied agreement among the people of an organized society that defines the rights, duties, and limitations of the governed and the government

**Supremacy clause** - the clause in Article VI of the Constitution that makes federal laws prevail over state laws when there is a conflict

**Symbolic speech** – expressing ideas, thoughts or words by actions or objects

**Unalienable (inalienable) rights** - Basic rights of the people that may not be taken away

**Unitary** - A system of government in which power resides with the central government

**Types of Government (Chapter 3 Lesson 4 in Textbook)**

1. Which form of government do we have in the U.S.? representative democracy
2. Who holds the power in our form of government? “We the People”
3. Which principle is this? “consent of the governed"
4. What does it mean to be authoritarian? One person or a small group hold all the power Totalitarian? Government controls people’s lives
5. What does it mean to be democratic? A government in which the people govern themselves, fair elections
6. Which form of government has an inherited ruler? absolute monarchy and constitutional monarcy
7. Define confederal system. Define unitary system. Confederal – consists of member states that have joined together voluntarily. Unitary – central government is supreme

**Foundations of American Government (Chapter 4 in textbook)**

1. What ideas came from the Magna Carta? Limited government
2. What ideas came from the English Bill of Rights? gave certain rights to citizens
3. What ideas from John Locke are evident in the Declaration of Independence? In the Declaration of Natural Rights section: natural rights, God given rights, men are created equal, life, liberty and happiness
4. What ideas from Montesquieu are evident in the U.S. Constitution? Three branches of government, checks and balances
5. What ideas came from the Mayflower Compact? Self-government
6. What events led American colonists to declare independence from Great Britain? Taxation without representation, Quartering Act, Intolerable Acts (Coercive Acts), Boston Tea Party
7. What ideas came from Thomas Paine’s Common Sense? Resist abuse of power
8. What was the document in which colonists declared they were free from British control? Declaration of independence

**U.S. Government (then and now) and the U.S. Constitution Chapter 5**

1. What was America’s first Constitution called? Articles of Confederation
2. Why did our first Constitution not work? No taxes, no military, no central government, no regulation of trade, no judicial branch, no executive branch, decisions had to be unanimous with all 13 colonies
3. Who were the Federalists? Wanted a strong central government – stronger than the states Anti-Federalists? Didn’t want central government to be stronger than the states What was the difference in thinking between the two groups? Anti-Federalists didn’t want the Constitution because the states had to give up some powers and there was no Bill of Rights. Both sides wrote essays called the “Federalist Papers”
4. What are the purposes of government? Know the Preamble School House Rock song! Form more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, secure the blessing of liberty
5. The first 3 articles of the Constitution describe the three branches of government and their powers. What are the three branches of government? What does each do? Who is in each? Lazy Elephants Jump! Executive branch – President – enforces laws. Legislative branch – Congress – makes laws. Judicial branch – Supreme Court – interprets the law.
6. Can the Constitution be changed? If so, is the process easy? What are the steps? 2 step process: propose and ratify. 2 ways to change the Constitution:

By Congress:

Proposed by a 2/3 vote of both houses

¾ of a special constitutional conventions called by the 50 states

OR

By states:

A constitutional convention is called Congress because 2/3 of the states petitioned to address a new admendment.

¾ of the state legislatures vote for it.

1. Who has the final authority for interpreting the Constitution? The Supreme Court
2. We have three branches of government. Which principle says that the government power should be separated? Separation of powers Who gave the Framers this idea? Montesquieu
3. Explain Federalism - power is shared by the national government and the states
4. Explain the three types of powers the constitution divided the powers of the government into within - a Federal system National powers – Enumerated or expressed powers, State powers – Reserved powers , Shared powers – Concurrent powers Where are these defined? All found in Article IV of Constitution
5. Does Congress have any additional powers not listed in the Constitution? Congress can make laws if they deem it “necessary and proper”. This is due to the elastic clause.
6. What is the Supremacy Clause? What does it say? Constitution is supreme law of the land. States can do nothing that goes against the Constitution of federal law.

**Bill of Rights and other Amendments Chapter 6**

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| The Bill of Rights - Key Points from the Amendment: |
| 1st Amendment (Hint: RAPPS) Religion, assemble, petition, press, speech |
| 2nd Amendment Right to bear arms |
| 3rd Amendment No quartering of soldiers |
| 4th Amendment Search and seizure – must have warrant |
| 5th Amendment Due process, trial by jury, double jeopardy, eminent domain |
| 6th Amendment Fair and speedy trial, right to a lawyer, right to bring witnesses |
| 7th Amendment Guaranteed jury trial |
| 8th Amendment No cruel or unusual punishment |
| 9th Amendment Your rights cannot be taken away just because it isn’t mentioned in the constitution |
| 10th Amendment Reserved powers to the states |

**Legislative Branch chapter 7**

1. Describe how representation is chosen in the House and Senate. Through elections. 2 senators from each state. House is based on population.
2. What article in the US Constitution gives Congress its powers? Article I (Lazy Elephants Jump)
3. List the checks (as in checks and balances) the legislative branch can make on the other two branches. Impeach officials, reject appointments of judges, can refuse to approve treaties
4. Describe the process of how a bill becomes a law.

The three main sources of ideas for laws are the President, special-interest groups or citizens.

1. It can be introduced in the House or Senate. (For our example, we are starting in the House.)
2. Only a member of Congress can introduce a law. Then it is sent to committee to decide if it should be sent to the House or Senate floor for debate.
3. Then it is voted on. They vote with yes, no or present.
4. If yes, then it gets sent to the Senate and goes through the same process.
5. If both chambers of Congress approve, the bill goes to the President.
6. If the President signs the bill, it becomes law. If the President ignores the bill for 10 days while Congress is in session, it becomes law.
7. If the President veto’s the bill (says no) then it does not become a law. If the President ignores the bill for 10 days while Congress is not in session, it dies.
8. What is the function of Congress in the lawmaking process? Make the laws
9. What is the function of the President in the lawmaking process? Enforce the laws
10. How does the Legislative Branch check the powers of the Executive Branch in the lawmaking process? Congress can override the President’s veto if 2/3 of Congress votes to do so.

**Executive Branch Chapter 8**

1. Which Article says that “Executive Power shall be invested in a President.” Article II
2. The president’s main job is to execute or carry out the laws passed by Congress.
3. The principle that no one is above the law and everyone must follow the law is Rule of Law
4. The 15 departments that form the group of presidential advisers is known as? cabinet
5. What are the qualifications to become president? The U.S. Constitution lists only three rules for being president. A president must be at least 35 years old. He or she must be a native-born American citizen. He or she must have lived in the United States for at least 14 years
6. Name each of the President’s 7 roles and his duties for each.
   1. Chief Executive - carry out the laws, appoint justices to the Supreme Court, grant pardons
   2. Chief Diplomat - Leads foreign policy and appoint ambassadors
   3. Head of State - symbol of the nation. Greeting leaders from other countries when they visit the United States. Awards medals at ceremony's.
   4. Commander in Chief - Leader of the armed forces. Back up foreign policy decisions with force if necessary and send troops into battle.

**Landmark Supreme Court Cases**

1. Tinker v Des Moines. Why was this case a landmark case? What right was extended? Expanded freedom of speech to include symbolic speech
2. Hazelwood v Kuhlmeier. Why was this case a landmark case? What right was limited?

Limited freedom of the press in schools

1. United States v Nixon. Why was this case a landmark case? What was highlighted in this case? Limited Executive Privilege and that No one is above the law, not even the president