Study Guide: Civics EOC Exam

1. John Locke: What ideas is he known for?
* The Social Contract
* Natural Laws / Rights: Government protects “life, liberty, and property.”
* Influenced the Declaration of Independence
1. What is the social contract? People gave away power to rule & some rights, but get back protection from the government
2. Montesquieu: How did he influence the “Founding Fathers?”
* Separation of Powers: three branches
* Checks and Balances
1. What are four concepts found in the Magna Carta that influenced the Founding Fathers?
* Limited government
* Trial by jury
* Advisors lead to Parliament
* Rule of Law
1. List three rights that are found in the English Bill of Rights that are found in the US Bill of Rights:
* Freedom of Speech
* No cruel and unusual punishment
* No taxes w/o consent
1. Name three concepts in the Mayflower Compact that influenced the Founding Fathers:
* Self-government
* The rule of law
* Social Contract
1. What did Thomas Paine's Common Sense influence the Founding Fathers to do? “Common Sense” to declare independence from Great Britain. Influenced Declaration of Independence
2. List three things that the British did that made the Colonists angry?
* Stamp Act
* Quartering Act, Tea Act
* No taxation w/o representation
1. Who was the "Grievances" of the Declaration of Independence addressed to? King George III
2. What rights did Thomas Jefferson say every American is entitled to in the Declaration of Independence? Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness
3. Which Enlightenment philosopher influenced Jefferson in the "Natural Rights" section of the Declaration of Independence? John Locke
4. List three weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation:
* One branch: no judicial or executive branch
* No power to tax, regulate trade or enforce laws
* Too rigid: 9 out 13 states to pass laws, 13 out of 13 to pass amendments
1. List the goals of the Preamble and describe what they mean:

“We the people” – popular sovereignty the people are the source of government power

“A more perfect union” – to make a better country and a stronger government than under the Articles of Confederation

“Establish justice” – fairness/equality, represented by our court system

“Ensure domestic tranquility” – keep the peace inside the country – usually the police

“Provide the common defense” – keep the country safe from other countries, the military

“Promote the general welfare” – help people

“Secure the blessings of liberty” – provide freedom

“To ourselves and our posterity” – rights and freedom for now and the future

1. Define Separation of Power: divide power into three branches
2. Define Checks and Balances: Each branch checks the power of the others
3. Provide an Example of Checks and Balances for each branch:
* President vetoes a law
* Congress can impeach the president or justices/judges
* Supreme Court / Federal judges can declare laws unconstitutional
1. Define the Rule of Law: Nobody is above the law, leaders must follow the law, protects citizens from tyranny & abuse of power
2. What President demonstrated the Rule of Law: Richard Nixon
3. List two “sources” of American Law:
* Code of Hammurabi
* English Common Law
1. List four “types” of law:
* Civil
* Criminal
* Constitutional
* Military
1. Which Amendment defined citizenship? 14th
2. List five “qualifications” for becoming a naturalized citizen:
* Must by 18 years old
* Be a lawful permanent resident
* Have lived in the US for five years
* Be of “good moral character.”
* Know basic English by passing a Civics/US History test
1. What are the two ways to become a natural born citizen? Law of Soil – born on US soil, Law of Blood – born to US citizens abroad
2. List the six steps to becoming a naturalized citizen:
* Live in the US for five years
* Fill out an application
* Fingerprint / background check
* Interview
* pass the Civics & English test
* Take the Oath of Allegiance
1. List four “obligations (duties)” of US citizens:
* Obey the Law
* Pay taxes
* Serve on Juries
* Defend the nation
1. List four “responsibilities” of citizenship:
* Vote
* Attend civic meetings
* Petition the government
* Run for office
1. List the 10 Amendments in the Bill of Rights:
2. Freedom of speech, religion, petition, assembly, and the press
3. The Right to Bear Arms
4. No quartering of soldiers
5. No unreasonable search or seizure
6. Rights to remain silent, due process
7. Right to a lawyer, jury, to confront one’s accuser, and a speedy and public trial,
8. Right to a jury in civil trials
9. No cruel and unusual punishment
10. Rights not listed in the Bill of Rights belong to the people
11. Powers not listed in the Constitution belong to the states
12. Define the following Amendments:

13th: No slavery

14th: Define citizenship, equal protection under the law, state laws must be constitutional

15th: Right to vote for African-American men

19th: Right to vote for women

24th: Abolished poll taxes

26th: Lowered the voting age from 21 to 18

1. List the outcomes of the following Landmark Supreme Court Cases:
* Marbury v. Madison Established judicial review
* Plessy v. Ferguson: the “separate but equal” case which legalized segregation
* Brown v. Board of Education: overturned Plessy vs. Ferguson and ended legal segregation
* Gideon v. Wainright: If a person can’t afford a lawyer, one must be provided by the state
* Miranda v. Arizona: 5th Amendment righto remain silent, 6th Amendment right to a lawyer, must be notified of rights
* In re’ Gault: juveniles have due process rights to a lawyer and to confront accusers
* Tinker v. Des Moines: students have free speech rights, and free speech is more than just words: freedom of expression
* Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier: Limited student’s free speech rights
* US v. Nixon: Rule of Law – even the president, is not above the law
* Bush v. Gore: Controversial case where Supreme Court ordered a stop to the recount of the 2000 presidential election
1. Describe the following Political Parties:
	* + Democrats: - Government welfare programs to help those in need, Higher taxes, Business regulations
		+ Republicans: - Less federal government programs, Lower taxes, Fewer business regulations
* Libertarians:- Maximum freedom and rights, minimum government
* Socialist: - Governments control some businesses, free education and welfare programs
* Communists: - Workers and the people would control businesses, most were dictatorships
1. List the Constitutional Qualifications for the following offices:

President:

* 35 years old, resident for 14 years
* “natural born” citizen

House of Representatives:

* 25 years old
* a resident of the state and a citizen for seven years

Senate:

* 30 years old
* a resident of the state and a citizen for nine years
1. Define Party Platform: Statement outlining the main goals & ideas of the party
2. Define Political Action Committee: Organization to raise money for candidates or issues to get around fundraising limits
3. Define Bias: opinionated, one-sided information
4. Define Media Watching Role: Media watches the government to ensure they don’t break the law
5. Define Propaganda: Biased information meant to persuade public opinion
6. Define Public Policy: government plan to resolve issues or problems
7. List 3 things each level of government is responsible for:
* FEDERAL - Military, interstate & foreign trade, environmental issues, interstate health care
* STATE - Education, intrastate trade, intrastate environmental and safety
* LOCAL - Local schools, local roads, local sanitation & services, local safety
1. What is a “domestic policy”? Plan to deal with problems inside the country
2. What is a “foreign policy”? Treaties, foreign trade, the military
3. List the ways the President deals with foreign policy:
	* Signs treaties
	* Appoints ambassadors
	* Appoints Secretary of State
	* Serves as Commander-in-Cheif
	* Chief diplomat
4. List the ways Congress deals with foreign policy:
	* Confirms treaties (Senate)
	* Declares war
	* Provides funding for wars or foreign policy
	* Confirms ambassadors and secretary of state (Senate)

Define the following international organizations:

1. United Nations: Organization for nations to gather to discuss issues and work towards world peace
2. NATO: Defensive treaty between the US, Canada, and Europe
3. NAFTA: North American Trade Oranization, Canada, the U.S. & Mexico free trade agreement
4. UNICEF: U.N.’s organization for helping children
5. International Court of Justice (World Court): Court for settling international disputes and hold war crimes trials
6. WTO International organization devoted to free trade
7. Red Cross: Neutral organization that provides emergency aid during wars or emergencies
8. NGOs: Non-governmental organizations that provide aid
9. What two wars fought in Europe and Asia where the last “declared wars”? World War I & II
10. Name two “undeclared” wars? Vietnam, Korea, Afghanistan, Iraq
11. What was the decades long conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union referred to? The Cold War
12. What were the two conflicts with Cuba in the 1960s? The Bay of Pigs and Cuban Missile Crisis
13. What country were the two “Gulf Wars” fought against? Iraq
14. Define the following “forms” of government:
* Direct Democracy: All citizens vote on laws
* Representative Democracy: The people vote for representatives who make laws and make decisions for them
* Absolute Monarchy: King or queen has absolute power
* Constitutional Monarchy: King or queen mostly ceremonial
* Communism: All private property and companies are owned/controlled by the government
* Socialism: Public ownership of certain businesses, large welfare programs
* Autocracy: Rule by one
* Oligarchy: Rule by a few
1. What “system” of government is power shared between the national and regional governments? Federal or Federalism
2. What system of government do the regional governments tell the central government what to do? Confederation or confederal
3. What system of government does the central government have all of the power? Unitary
4. Who is the executive chosen by in a Parliamentary System? Parliament or legislative body
5. What are powers held by the national government called? Expressed, enumerated or delegated
6. List ten constitutional powers of the national government: Tax, regulate commerce, coin money, approve presidential appointments, impeachment, raise and support the army & navy, declare war, create rules for naturalization and immigration, confirm treaties, make all laws necessary and proper
7. List the three levels of Federal Courts: District, Court of Appeals, U.S. Supreme Court
8. List the three levels of the Florida Court System: County/Circuit Courts, District Court of Appeals, Florida Supreme Court
9. What are powers shared by the national and state governments called? Concurrent
10. List three powers shared by the national & state governments: Tax, create courts, borrow money
11. What are powers held by state governments called: reserved powers
12. List three powers held only by state governments: Establish local governments, intrastate trade, elections, marriage, licences
13. What do you call the system in which powers are shared by national and state governments? Federalism
14. How are federal amendments made? 2/3rds of the Congress, 3/4ths of the states
15. List the Steps through Congress for passing a law:



Sent to the executive

Conference committee

Floor debate & vote

Sent to committee for debate & vote

Sent to the other house

Floor debate & vote

Committee debate and vote

Introduce bill

1. Complete the Chart Comparing the US & Florida Constitutions:

United States Florida

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Articles: 7 | Articles: 12  |
| Size: 1 page | Size: 80 pages |
| Rights Contained in: Bill of Rights | Rights Contained in: Declarations of Rights |
| Shorter, begins with “We the People”, living document to be interpreted over time, 27 Amendments | Specifics: longer, begins with “We the People”, many amendments, more specifics, deals with day-to-day aspects of life, |

1. List three ways to amend the Florida Constitution
* Proposed and voted by state legislature, needs 3/5ths vote
* Constitutional Commission that meets every 20 years
* Petition signed by 8% of electorate, put on ballot, ratified by 60% vote of electorate
1. List Services Provided by each level of government:
* National: Disaster relief, environment, food & drug safety, welfare programs, postal service, interstate highways
* State: Education, environment, licenses, state highways, state police, public safety
* Local: local police, fire department, libraries, schools, local roads, trash collection