Plymouth Joint School District

Citizenship Graduation Test 1st Edition

Please submit your responses on the answer sheet provided.

***AMERICAN GOVERNMENT***

1. What is the supreme law of the land?

A. the Constitution

B. the Declaration of Independence

C. the Government

2. What does the Constitution do?

 A. Declared our independence

 B. Sets up the government

 C. Gives tax breaks to the wealthy

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

A. We think free

B. We are angry

C. We the people

4. What is an amendment?

A. A change to the Constitution

B. An extra person in Congress

C. Internships at the Capital

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

A. The Bill of Rights

B. The Emancipation Proclamation

C. The Declaration of Independence

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

A. The Right to Bear Arms

B. The Right to a Speedy Trial

C. The Right to Free Speech

7. How many amendments does the Constitution have?

A. 4

B. 18

C. 27

8. What did the Declaration of Independence do?

A. Declared our allegiance to Canada

B. Declared our independence from Great Britain

C. Declared that our borders are open

9. What are two rights in the Declaration of Independence?

A. Life and Liberty

B. Goodwill and Kindness

C. Freedom of the Press and the Right to Assemble

10. What is freedom of religion?

A. You must practice the United States National Religion

B. You can go to a state-sponsored church

C. You can practice any religion, or not practice a religion.

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

A. Capitalist economy

B. Command economy

C. Traditional Economy

12. What is the “rule of law”?

A. Government leaders are above the law

B. Celebrities make their own laws

C. The idea that laws apply to everyone

13. Which of the following is one branch or part of the government?

A. Congress

B. Laws

C. White House

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

A. Legislative Branch

B. Checks and balances

C. The Declaration of Independence

15. Who is in charge of the executive branch?

A. The President

B. The First Lady

C. Speaker of the House

16. Who makes federal laws?

A. The Supreme Court

B. Congress

C. The Governor

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

A. Supreme Court and the President

B. The President and Cabinet

C. The Senate and House of Representatives

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

A. 50

B. 100

C. 200

19. We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years?

A. 4

B. 6

C. 10

20. Who is one of your state’s U.S. Senators now?

A. Scott Walker

B. Tammy Baldwin

C. Joe Biden

21. The House of Representatives has how many voting members?

A. 435

B. 535

C. 100

22. We elect a U.S. Representative for how many years?

A. 4

B. 2

C. 10

23. Who is your U.S. representative?

A. Scott Walker

B. Glenn Grothman

C. Tammy Baldwin

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

A. Just the citizens of the capital city

B. All people of the state

C. Only people who live in the northern part of the state

25. Why do some states have more Representatives than other states?

A. Because of the state’s population

B. Because of the state’s land area

C. Because of the state’s economy

26. We elect a President for how many years?

A. 10

B. 4

C. 8

27. In what month do we vote for President?

A. November

B. January

C. June

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

A. Joe Biden

B. Barack Obama

C. John Kennedy

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

A. Joe Biden

B. Barack Obama

C. Bill Clinton

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

A. The Secretary of State

B. The First Lady

C. The Vice President

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

A. The Chief of Staff

B. The Speaker of the House

C. The First Lady

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

A. The General

B. The President

C. The Secretary of Military Affairs

33. Who signs bills to become laws?

A. The Vice President

B. The President

C. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

34. Who vetoes bills?

A. The President

B. The Congress

C. The Supreme Court

35. What does the President’s Cabinet do?

A. Oversees Congress

B. Declares War

C. Advises the President

36. What are two Cabinet-level positions?

A. Press Secretary and Media Coordinator

B. Congress and the Supreme Court

C. Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Education

37. What does the judicial branch do?

A. Vetoes laws

B. Reviews laws

C. Writes the laws

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

A. The Supreme Court

B. The Appellate Court

C. The High Criminal Court

39. How many justices are on the Supreme Court?

A. 12

B. 10

C. 9

40. Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now?

A. Anthony Kennedy

B. Samuel Alito

C. John Roberts

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

A. Hire teachers

B. Declare War

C. Elect the Presidential Cabinet

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

A. Issue Driver’s licenses

B. Provide federal disaster relief

C. Manage National Parks

43. Who is the current Governor of Wisconsin?

A. Ron Johnson

B. Scott Walker

C. Tammy Baldwin

44. What is the capital of Wisconsin?

A. Madison

B. Milwaukee

C. Green Bay

45. What are the two major political parties in the United States?

A. Green Party and Progressives

B. Democratic and Republican

C. Tea Party and the Republican

46. What is the political party of the President now?

A. Democratic

B. Republican

C. Tea Party

47. What is the name of the Speaker of the House of Representatives now?

A. John Boehner

B. Paul Ryan

C. Scott Walker

48. There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. What is the main focus of one of those amendments?

A. Citizens need to be married to vote

B. Citizens eighteen and older can vote

C. Citizens need to be able to drive in order to vote

49. What is one responsibility that is only for United States citizens?

A. Serving on a jury

B. Studying at a university

C. Serving a school board

50. What is one right only for United States citizens?

A. Go to college

B. Run for federal office

C. Visit the capital building

51. What are two rights of everyone living in the United States?

A. The right to practice state-sponsored religion and the right to run for president

B. The right to drive a car and the right to attend college for free

C. The right to free press and freedom of speech

52. What do we show loyalty to when we say the Pledge of Allegiance?

A. The United States Flag

B. The Military

C. The President

53. What is one promise you make when you become a United States citizen?

A. Never leave the United States

B. Defend the Constitution and laws of the United States

C. Always maintain full-time employment

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

A. 18

B. 21

C. 16

55. What are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?

A. Work and maintain a home

B. Vote and run for elected office

C. Get a driver’s license and volunteer

56. When is the last day you can send in federal income tax forms?

A. April 15

B. November 6

C. January 1

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

A. Age 18

B. Age 16

C. Age 21

***AMERICAN HISTORY***

58. What is one reason colonists came to America?

A. Freedom

B. Better Housing

C. America was a penal colony

59. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?

A. The French

B. Native Americans

C. The Spanish

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

A. Africans

B. Australians

C. Russians

61. Why did the colonists fight the British?

A. They didn’t like how the Native Americans were being treated

B. They wanted to be ruled by the French

C. They didn’t have self-government

62. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?

A. Abraham Lincoln

B. Thomas Jefferson

C. George Washington

63. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?

A. July 4, 1776

B. April 15, 1900

C. June 21, 1788

64. There were 13 original states. Identify 3 of the original 13 states.

A. Maryland, Virginia, Rhode Island

B. California, North Dakota, Wisconsin

C. Maryland, Virginia, Indiana

65. What happened at the Constitutional Convention?

A. The Constitution was written

B. The Constitution was repealed

C. The Articles of Confederation were written

66. When was the Constitution written?

A. 1787

B. 1776

C. 1915

67. The Federalist Papers supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution. Name one of the writers.

A. Franklin Delano Roosevelt

B. John Kennedy

C. James Madison

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

A. He was oldest member of the Constitutional Convention

B. He was the most successful businessman of the era

C. He was 1st governor of Wisconsin

69. Who is the “Father of Our Country”?

A. George Washington

B. Abraham Lincoln

C. Richard Nixon

70. Who was the first President?

A. James Madison

B. George Washington

C. Alexander Hamilton

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

A. The Louisiana Territory

B. The Mississippi Territory

C. The Northwest Territory

72. Name one war fought by the United States in the 1800s.

A. War of 1812

B. The Revolution War

C. The Vietnam War

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

A. The Revolutionary War

B. The Civil War

C. WWII

74. What is one problem that led to the Civil War?

A. Transportation

B. Taxes

C. Slavery

75. What was one important thing that Abraham Lincoln did?

A. Freed the slaves

B. Led the Civil Rights movement

C. Served 3 terms as president

76. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?

A. Started the Revolutionary War

B. Freed the slaves

C. Declared President’s Day as a national holiday

77. What did Susan B. Anthony do?

A. First female soldier

B. Fought for women’s rights

C. She created the American flag

78. Identify one war fought by the United States in the 1900s.

A. The Spanish American

B. War of 1812

C. Vietnam War

79. Who was President during World War I?

A. George H.W. Bush

B. Bill Clinton

C. Woodrow Wilson

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

A. Franklin Roosevelt

B. Richard Nixon

C. Abraham Lincoln

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

A. Canada, Mexico, Brazil

B. Japan, Germany, and Italy

C. Great Britain, France, Soviet Union

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

A. World War II

B. Vietnam War

C. War on Terror

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

A. Economic Recession

B. Communism

C. Freedom

84. What movement tried to end racial discrimination?

A. Women’s Rights Movement

B. Civil Rights movement

C. Patriot Act

85. What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do?

A. Fought for civil rights

B. Served as Vice President

C. Served as Supreme Court Justice

86. What major event happened on September 11, 2001, in the United States?

A. Terrorist attacks

B. State of the Union Address

C. The Emancipation Proclamation was delivered

87. Identify one American Indian tribe in the United States.

A. Masai

B. Zulu

C. Apache

***INTEGRATED CIVICS***

88. What is the longest river in the United States?

A. Missouri River

B. Colorado River

C. Ohio River

89. What ocean is on the West Coast of the United States?

A. Atlantic

B. Pacific

C. Indian

90. What ocean is on the East Coast of the United States?

A. Atlantic

B. Pacific

C. Indian

91. Identify one U.S. territory.

A. U.S. Virgin Islands

B. Alaska

C. Mexico

92. Identify one state that borders Canada.

A. Illinois

B. Oregon

C. North Dakota

93. Identify one state that borders Mexico.

A. California

B. Louisiana

C. Oklahoma

94. What is the capital of the United States?

A. New York, New York

B. Washington, D.C.

C. Los Angeles, California

95. Where is the Statue of Liberty?

A. New York Harbor

B. Arlington, Virginia

C. Washington, D.C.

96. Why does the flag have 13 stripes?

A. The stripes represent the original colonies

B. The stripes represent the number of founding fathers

C. The stripes represent the number of battles fought during the Revolutionary War

97. Why does the flag have 50 stars?

A. There is a star for each U.S. senator

B. There is one star for each state

C. There are only 50 stars because 100 stars wouldn’t fit on the flag

98. What is the name of the national anthem?

A. The Star-Spangled Banner

B. God Bless America

C. America the Beautiful

99. When do we celebrate Independence Day?

A. April 15

B. January 1

C. July 4

100. Identify two national U.S. holidays.

A. Veteran’s Day and Memorial Day

B. Boxing Day and Canada Day

C. Anzac Day and Canberra Day