

A New Nation**Unit Test****Form A**

MULTIPLE CHOICE For each of the following, write the letter of the best choice in the space provided.

- _____ **1.** The original purpose of the Constitutional Convention held in May 1787 in Philadelphia's Independence Hall was to
- a.** grant citizenship to free African Americans.
 - b.** draft a Constitution of the United States.
 - c.** distribute power equally among the states.
 - d.** improve the Articles of Confederation.
- _____ **2.** According to George Washington's Farewell Address, what was the key to national success?
- a.** political unity
 - b.** neutrality in foreign policy
 - c.** economic security
 - d.** checks and balances
- _____ **3.** After Shays's Rebellion, Americans admitted that the Articles of Confederation failed to
- a.** create limited governments.
 - b.** uphold the ideals set forth in the Declaration of Independence.
 - c.** expand suffrage to include women.
 - d.** preserve the rights laid out in the Magna Carta.
- _____ **4.** Which statement best characterizes American farmers in 1790?
- a.** They didn't want government interfering in their daily lives.
 - b.** They took every opportunity to organize and participate in community events.
 - c.** They wanted to have their tax money distributed to those less fortunate.
 - d.** They refused to accept any law designed to protect them from foreign rivals.
- _____ **5.** An amendment to the Constitution is
- a.** a suggested addition.
 - b.** an official change.
 - c.** a legal clarification.
 - d.** a judicial opinion.
- _____ **6.** How was a vice president chosen in 1796?
- a.** He ran alongside the presidential candidate.
 - b.** He was elected by popular vote.
 - c.** He was the presidential candidate who came in second.
 - d.** He was appointed by the president-elect.

- _____ **7.** What is federalism?
- a.** a government system in which the central government holds supreme power
 - b.** a system that keeps each branch of government from obtaining too much power
 - c.** the sharing of power between a central government and the states of a country
 - d.** the part of government responsible for making the laws of a country or nation
- _____ **8.** How does a search warrant protect a person's individual rights?
- a.** It allows law enforcement agents to preserve evidence in emergency situations.
 - b.** It permits the victim of a theft or burglary to make a citizen's arrest of the criminal at any time.
 - c.** It requires authorities to repay citizens whose property is taken for public use.
 - d.** It guards someone suspected of a crime from having officials go through their property for no reason.
- _____ **9.** Which of these contributed to the Whiskey Rebellion?
- a.** The federal government was overprotective of the settlers.
 - b.** Spain was blocking trade along the Mississippi River.
 - c.** Farmers could not afford the tax on whiskey.
 - d.** Farmers found whiskey difficult to transport.
- _____ **10.** The Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom was one of the earliest expressions of which basic principle of American government?
- a.** equality of opportunity
 - b.** freedom of speech
 - c.** separation of church and state
 - d.** due process of law
- _____ **11.** Concurrent powers, or those shared by the states and the federal government, include the powers to
- a.** coin money and regulate trade.
 - b.** tax, borrow money, and enforce laws.
 - c.** create local governments and hold elections.
 - d.** draft an army and conduct foreign policy.

- _____ **12.** Citizens accept responsibility for protecting others' Sixth Amendment rights to a public trial by
- a.** serving on juries.
 - b.** watching court cases on television.
 - c.** reading newspapers.
 - d.** discussing court cases with friends.
- _____ **13.** People who buy items at low prices and hope to sell them for a profit are called
- a.** delegates.
 - b.** representatives.
 - c.** bondholders.
 - d.** speculators.
- _____ **14.** Which of these duties of a citizen is encouraged, but not required?
- a.** serving on a jury
 - b.** paying taxes
 - c.** signing up for the draft
 - d.** voting in elections
- _____ **15.** Interstate commerce is the act of
- a.** states following their own trade interests.
 - b.** states having different trade laws.
 - c.** trade between two or more states.
 - d.** setting tariffs on trade between states.
- _____ **16.** To which person or group did the framers of the Constitution grant legislative power?
- a.** Congress
 - b.** the President
 - c.** the Supreme Court
 - d.** state governments
- _____ **17.** What is an executive order?
- a.** a presidential command that has the power of law
 - b.** a judicial ruling that frees those convicted of federal offenses
 - c.** a congressional override of a president's veto
 - d.** a declaration of war by any elected official in the president's cabinet
- _____ **18.** What is the electoral college?
- a.** a body of delegates from each state that represents the people's vote in choosing the president
 - b.** a school for the advanced study of voting practices and political campaigning
 - c.** a group of voters hand-picked for cabinet positions by the president-elect
 - d.** a name given to all voters who cast ballots in presidential elections

PRACTICING SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS Study the quotation below and answer the question that follows.

What political power could ever carry on the vast multitude [large number] of lesser undertakings which the American citizens perform every day, with the assistance of the principle of association [joining a group]? Nothing, in my opinion, is more deserving of our attention than the intellectual and moral associations of America.

—Alexis de Tocqueville

- _____ **19.** In the opinion of the French diplomat Alexis de Tocqueville, why should American citizens motivated to take political action become members of interest groups?
- a.** Interest groups have greater access to political candidates than any single individual.
 - b.** Political associations do important work that even the largest government could not accomplish on its own.
 - c.** The best answer to propaganda is intelligent material that expresses the values of unified citizens.
 - d.** Money is essential to the functioning of democracy and groups can raise more cash than any individual.

FILL IN THE BLANK Read each sentence and fill in the blank with the word in the word pair that best completes the sentence.

- 20.** Signed in 1215, the _____ made the king subject to law.
(**Magna Carta/Articles of Confederation**)
- 21.** Great Britain forced American merchants to pay high _____ on imports and exports and closed many of its ports to American ships in the late 1700s. (**tariffs/insurance**)
- 22.** The _____ led a forced shutdown of the Supreme Court in Springfield, Massachusetts to protest the way the state had decided to pay its debts. (**Daniel Shays/James Wilson**)
- 23.** A series of anonymously written essays called the _____ tried to reassure Americans that a strong central government would not overpower the states. (**Federalist Papers/Articles of Confederation**)

- 24.** The Three-Fifths Compromise helped settle the debate over _____ at the Constitutional Convention.
(**representation/taxation**)
- 25.** The Second Continental Congress passed the Articles of Confederation, the new national constitution on November 15, 1777. Then it sent the Articles to each state legislature for _____, or official approval.
(**amendment/ratification**)
- 26.** In the United States in the late 1700s, inflation and the loss of trade with Great Britain led to a period of low economic activity and high unemployment called a _____. (**depression/national debt**)
- 27.** To stop larger states from gaining too much power in the federal government, William Paterson proposed the _____ Plan at the Constitutional Convention. (**Virginia/New Jersey**)
- 28.** _____ opposed the Constitution because they thought it gave too much power to the central government. (**Federalists/Antifederalists**)
- 29.** Under the Articles of Confederation, Congress passed the _____, which created a system for bringing new states into the Union. (**Land Ordinance of 1785/Northwest Ordinance of 1787**)

TRUE/FALSE Indicate whether each statement below is true or false by writing T or F in the space provided.

- _____ **30.** According to Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, the most serious flaw in Alexander Hamilton's plan for a national bank was that it would not help the economy grow.
- _____ **31.** Supreme Court decisions can be vetoed by the president and overridden by Congress.
- _____ **32.** Supporters of gun-control laws have generally argued that the Second Amendment was designed to protect the individual's right to self-defense.
- _____ **33.** Once someone has become a naturalized U.S. citizen, it is impossible for his or her citizenship to be taken away.
- _____ **34.** The framers of the Constitution set up a federal system to make the government more elastic, or flexible.
- _____ **35.** James Madison's promise to add a bill of rights to the Constitution made it possible for the document to pass.
- _____ **36.** Two-thirds of both houses of Congress must vote in favor of a bill in order to override a president's veto.
- _____ **37.** Private citizens can only influence government if they act as members of interest groups.
- _____ **38.** According to the Constitution, the vice president plays the role of president of the Senate.
- _____ **39.** A person accused of a serious crime cannot be tried in a court of law unless he or she has been indicted by a grand jury.
- _____ **40.** The right to a prompt and fair trial is protected by the Bill of Rights.

MATCHING In the space provided, write the letter of the term or person that matches each description. Some answers will not be used.

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| _____ 41. signed in November 1794 to settle disputes between the United States and Britain that arose in the early 1790s | a. Judiciary Act of 1789 |
| _____ 42. signed in October 1795 to settle border and trade disputes between the United States and Spain | b. Pinckney's Treaty |
| _____ 43. supported the idea that states could challenge the federal government | c. Alien and Sedition Acts |
| _____ 44. gave the United States claim to most Native American lands in the Northwest Territory | d. Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions |
| _____ 45. rebellion of French people against their king in 1789 | e. Jay's Treaty |
| _____ 46. set of laws passed by the Federalist-controlled Congress in 1798 to crush opposition to war | f. French Revolution |
| _____ 47. Congress enacted its charter in February 1791 to make the economy more stable | g. Battle of Fallen Timbers |
| _____ 48. bribery scandal that caused Federalists in Congress to call for war with France | h. Treaty of Greenville |
| _____ 49. set up the federal court system and the court's location | i. Bank of the United States |
| _____ 50. fight between General Wayne's troops and Native Americans that ended the frontier war | j. XYZ Affair |
| | k. the U.S. Mint |
| | l. Martha Washington |