Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**US Government – Three Branches of Government Test**

**Matching – Write the letter of the correct number for each description on the line. (2 points each – 12 total)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Senators | a. 538 |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Total Electoral College votes | b. 15 |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Age required to be President | c. 100 |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Cabinet-level executive departments | d. 35 |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Supreme Court Justices | e. 435 |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Representatives in the House | f. 9 |

**True False – Write “true” or “false” on the line next to each answer choice. (2 points each – 12 total)**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 7. The head of the Supreme Court is called the Chief Justice.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 8. Every state has only one Senator.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 9. The popular vote determines the President.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 10. Members of the Mississippi Court of Appeals are elected.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 11. The Legislative Branch can declare acts of government unconstitutional.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 12. The President giving the State of the Union address is an example of message power

**Fill in the Blank – Answer each question by choosing the word from the word bank that would fit into the appropriate sentence taken from the Constitution. Write the letter on the line. (3 points each – 15 total)**

a. legislative b. executive c. judicial d. House of Representatives

e. Senate f. Electoral College g. Chief of State h. Commander in Chief

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 13. **Article I. Section 1.** All \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 14. **Article I. Section 3.** The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the United States shall be composed of two…from each State…

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 15. **Article II. Section 1.** The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 16. **Article II. Section 2.** The President shall be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several states…

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 17. **Article III. Section 1.** The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish.

**Multiple Choice – Answer each question by circling the best answer choice. (3 points each – 36 total)**

18. The legislative branch can check the judicial branch by its power to

1. name federal judges.
2. remove judges through impeachment.
3. declare executive actions unconstitutional.
4. override a presidential veto.

19. Which of the following is NOT a benefit of being President?

1. $400,000 yearly salary
2. Protection of the Secret Service
3. Excellent healthcare coverage
4. International drivers license

20. Which of the following is NOT something a judge should consider when deciding a case?

1. Precedents
2. Facts
3. Law
4. Political pressure

21. The Electoral College allows each state to have how many electors?

1. One
2. The same number as seats the state has in the House and the Senate
3. The square root of the state’s population
4. The number of their representatives in the House

22. When there is a separation of powers,

1. power is divided between the National Government and the States.
2. power is distributed among three independent branches of government.
3. the people grant the States the authority to govern.
4. the basic powers of government are held by a single agency.

23. Place the following steps of the lawmaking process in the correct order.

1. President may veto the bill
2. The bill is introduced in the Senate or House.
3. The bill is passed in each house.
4. If the President vetoes the bill, the houses vote to override the veto.
5. III, II, I, IV
6. I, III, IV, II
7. II, III, I, IV
8. IV, I, II, III

24. Which of the following describes the way the Supreme Court can shape the Constitution?

1. By proposing a constitutional amendment
2. By influencing political parties
3. By interpreting the words of the Constitution
4. By voting in federal elections

25. Federal judges hold office

1. for two years.
2. for four years.
3. for eight years.
4. for life.

26. Which of the following is NOT an example of the checks and balances system?

1. The President makes an executive agreement.
2. The Supreme Court declares a law passed by Congress to be unconstitutional.
3. The President vetoes a bill.
4. The Senate approves the President’s nominee for Supreme Court justice.

27. How is representative in the House of Representatives determined?

1. By the physical size of the state
2. By the location of the state
3. By the size of the state’s population
4. Every state has the same number of representatives.

28. Which of the following is not a power of Congress?

1. To regulate trade with other nations
2. To raise and support a navy
3. To coin money
4. To appoint judges

29. Which of the following is NOT a disciplinary action that can be taken against federal judges?

1. Being publicly reprimanded
2. Being barred from hearing cases
3. Being removed from office by the Supreme Court
4. Being asked to resign

**Short Answer – Write your answers to the following questions on this sheet. Be specific. Use examples.**

30. Why did the Framers of the Constitution create a government that included “separation of powers” and “checks and balances”? Your answer should be at least 2-3 sentences long. (10 points)

31. Compare and contrast federal judges with state judges. Questions to consider: How are they selected? How long are their terms? How can they be disciplined? Which set of judges is more independent? Which is held more accountable? Your answer should be a paragraph of at least five sentences. (15 points)