Test Bank for Practicing Texas Politics 2017 2018 17th Brown

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SHORT RESPONSE

1 : What is the national supremacy clause? What other limitations does the U.S. Constitution place on states? Explain why you either agree or disagree with one of these limitations.

Correct Answer : Students' answers may vary?.

2 : What is the difference between the full faith and credit clause and the privileges and immunities clause?

Correct Answer : Students' answers may vary.?

3 : Explain the main ways in which the Texas Constitution of 1876 restricts the powers of the three branches of state government.

Correct Answer : Students' answers may vary.?

4 : How may the state constitution be revised? If you were a member of a constitutional convention, what change would you propose regarding the structure and function of one of the three branches of government? If you would prefer to prevent change, choose one branch and explain why you think it is the best possible system for Texas.

Correct Answer : Students' answers may vary.?

5 : In what ways does the U.S. Bill of Rights differ from the Texas Bill of Rights? Is there anything in the Texas Bill of Rights that you think should be added to the U.S. Bill of Rights? If not, explain why.

Correct Answer : Students' answers may vary.?

MULTIPLE CHOICE

6 : The two sources for the powers of the Texas government to govern are the
A : U.S. Bill of Rights and the United Nations Charter.
B : Texas Constitution and Texass membership in the federal Union.
C : Texas Constitution and the United Nations Charter.
D : North American Free Trade Agreement and the U.S. Constitution.

Correct Answer : B

7 : Which of the following is a false statement about the Texas Constitution?
A : It limits actions of the national government.
B : It outlines the structure of Texass state government.
C : It authorizes the creation of cities and counties.
D : It establishes basic rules for state governance.

Correct Answer : A

8 : A system of government in which power is divided between a national government and associated regional governments is a(n)
A : unitary system.

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B : confederate system.
C : federal system.
D : autocratic system.

Correct Answer : C

9 : The Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
A : denies all powers to the states except for those specifically granted to them.
B : makes no mention of the state governments.
C : grants all undesignated powers to the federal government.
D : reserves to the states those powers not delegated to the federal government.

Correct Answer : D

10 : The national supremacy clause is found in which article of the U.S. Constitution?
A : Article I
B : Article V
C : Article VI
D : Article X

Correct Answer : C

11 : According to the U.S. Constitutions national supremacy clause,
A : state laws take precedence over federal laws.
B : federal laws enacted under the U.S. Constitution take precedence over state laws.
C : state constitutions are supreme over the national constitution.
D : laws passed by Congress take precedence over the U.S. constitution.

Correct Answer : B

12 : Which most accurately describes the relationship between state constitutions and the U.S. Constitution?
A : State constitutions prevail over the U.S. Constitution.
B : The U.S. constitution can be modified by changes in state constitutions and vice versa.
C : The U.S. constitution prevails over state constitutions.
D : None of these choices are true.

Correct Answer : C

13 : The powers of the national government that are specifically stated in the U.S. Constitution are referred to as
A : delegated powers.
B : implied powers.
C : inherent powers.
D : reserved powers.

Correct Answer : A

14 : The regulation of interstate and foreign commerce by the U.S. Congress is an example of a(n)
A : delegated power.
B : implied power.
C : inherent power.

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D : reserved power.

Correct Answer : A

15 : The necessary and proper clause, found in Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution, is an example of which of the following?
A : delegated power
B : implied power
C : inherent power
D : reserved power

Correct Answer : B

16 : Texas retains the power to divide itself into as many as five states under the terms of
A : the Texas Constitution.
B : its annexation to the United States.
C : Article V of the U.S. Constitution.
D : the Tenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Correct Answer : B

17 : Which of the following is NOT protected by the U.S. Constitution?
A : republican forms of government in each state
B : territorial integritya state cannot be combined with another state without its consent
C : each state is provided two members in the U.S. Senate and at least one member in the U.S. House of Representatives
D : equal votes for each state in the Electoral College

Correct Answer : D

18 : In Texas v. White (1869), the U.S. Supreme Court found that
A : the U.S. Constitution does not provide for states to leave the Union.
B : states are required to give full faith and credit to court decisions from other states.
C : states must pay the national government debt.
D : English is the official language of the United States.

Correct Answer : A

19 : The U.S. Constitution prohibits Texas from all of the following, EXCEPT denying the right to vote based on
A : gender.
B : race.
C : payment of a tax.
D : residency.

Correct Answer : D

20 : The Supreme Courts process of applying portions of the Bill of Rights to states through the Fourteenth Amendments due process clause is referred to as
A : incorporation.
B : segregation.
C : supremacy.
D : integration.

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Correct Answer : A

21 : As a result of Thelma Whites 1955 lawsuit against the state of Texas, the Court ruled that
A : the state laws requiring segregation in higher education were invalid.
B : Texas could not secede from the Union.
C : discriminatory sodomy laws were unconstitutional.
D : gender equality in higher education was not protected by the law.

Correct Answer : A

22 : What part of the U.S. Constitution provides that the citizen of one state is entitled to the same privileges and immunities of a citizen of another state?
A : Article V
B : Article IV
C : the Fifth Amendment
D : the Tenth Amendment

Correct Answer : B

23 : Which situation would be covered by the full faith and credit clause of the U.S. Constitution?
A : Texas recognizes a Louisiana marriage license.
B : Texas returns a fugitive from Oklahoma.
C : Texas charges out-of-state tuition for a citizen of Iowa attending college in Texas.
D : Texas grants a corporation domiciled in Ohio the privilege of doing business in Texas.

Correct Answer : A

24 : The 1996 Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which prohibited national government recognition of same-sex marriage and allowed states to deny same-sex marriages performed in other states, was challenged by critics as a violation of
A : the full faith and credit clause.
B : the supremacy clause.
C : the necessary and proper clause.
D : the commerce clause.

Correct Answer : A

25 : With regard to federalism, the U.S. Constitution
A : codifies the reserved powers of the states.
B : does not mention powers reserved to the states.
C : leaves the reserved powers of the states undefined.
D : specifies all reserved powers of the states.

Correct Answer : C

26 : Which of the following would NOT be considered a reserved power?
A : use of police power
B : adoption of international treaties
C : raising revenue to pay state employees
D : ownership of state parks

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Correct Answer : B

27 : The power of government to appropriate private property for public projects is referred to as
A : incorporation.
B : eminent domain.
C : appraisal.
D : receivership.

Correct Answer : B

28 : When states such as Colorado, Washington, Alaska, and Oregon legalized marijuana for recreational purposes, they were
A : ignoring a limited area of national law.
B : recognizing that only states have the legal right to regulate controlled substances.
C : following a Supreme Court decision that said the federal government may not make laws that contradict state laws.
D : taking the first step in withdrawing from the Union.

Correct Answer : A

29 : After considering Texass challenge to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the Supreme Court ruled that
A : the U.S. government may penalize those without insurance, but may not withdraw Medicaid funding from states that refuse to expand the program.
B : the entire Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is unconstitutional.
C : the U.S. government may withdraw Medicaid funding from states that refuse to expand the program, but may not penalize those without insurance.
D : the entire Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is constitutional.

Correct Answer : A

30 : The federal government extended its power to regulate aspects of the economy such as railroads, worker safety, minimum wages, and maximum hours principally through
A : repeal of the Tenth Amendment.
B : broad interpretation of the interstate commerce clause.
C : state government secession.
D : a more restricted use of Article I power.

Correct Answer : B

31 : In which of the following ways does the federal government influence state policymaking?
A : directly elect state officials
B : directly legislate for the state
C : place states in receivership
D : offer federal grants-in-aid

Correct Answer : D

32 : The trend in federal-state relations since the 1980s can best be described as the
A : federal government assuming more financial responsibility for state programs.
B : states assuming more responsibility for Social Security and Medicare.
C : federal government transferring more responsibility to the states but reducing funding.
D : states playing a larger role in the area of national defense and border security.

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Correct Answer : C

33 : The decline in national control over state governments, and shifting of federal responsibilities to the states, is referred to as
A : nationalization.
B : devolution.
C : incorporation.
D : segregation.

Correct Answer : B

34 : Which of the following is NOT true about block grants?
A : The sum is determined by an automatic formula determined by Congress.
B : States that receive block grants have greater flexibility in spending.
C : They are not used as a way to influence state decision making.
D : Congress provides funding with block grants as a way to give more responsibility to the state.

Correct Answer : C

35 : In its capacity as the states fundamental law, the Texas Constitution
A : spells out the size and salary of the legislature.
B : establishes the states government, defines governing powers, and imposes limitations.
C : determines the property tax rate.
D : provides for revision once in each generation.

Correct Answer : B

36 : The Texas Constitution has needed hundreds of amendments due to
A : its specificity and detail.
B : time limits on various provisions.
C : broad powers granted to the legislature.
D : the constant indecision of the state government.

Correct Answer : A

37 : To date, Texas has had _____ constitutions.
A : six
B : seven
C : five
D : seventeen

Correct Answer : B

38 : Between 1876 and the close of 2016, how many amendments to the Texas Constitution have been adopted?
A : around 27
B : exactly 53
C : no fewer than 491
D : more than 517

Correct Answer : C

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39 : Three years after Mexico gained its independence from Spain in 1821, the area that is now Texas (then known as Coahuila y Tejas)
A : crowned its first king and did away with constitutionalism.
B : became its own nation and wrote its own national constitution.
C : became part of a dictatorship for the first time and lost all sovereignty.
D : marked Texass first experience with a state constitution promulgated in 1827.

Correct Answer : D

40 : All of the following were factors that led Texans to declare independence from Mexico, EXCEPT
A : annexation to the United States.
B : Anglo attitudes of racial superiority.
C : anger over Mexicos abolition of slavery.
D : a desire for unrestricted trade with the United States.

Correct Answer : A

41 : The constitution of 1836 was
A : modeled on that of Mexico.
B : Texass first state constitution.
C : modeled after the U.S. Constitution.
D : never adopted.

Correct Answer : C

42 : Which individual was elected the first president of the Republic of Texas under the Texas Constitution of 1836?
A : General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna
B : Edmund Jackson Davis
C : Jefferson Davis
D : Sam Houston

Correct Answer : D

43 : Annexation of Texas into the United States was authorized by Congress in
A : 1836.
B : 1845.
C : 1861.
D : 1870.

Correct Answer : B

44 : The 1866 Texas Constitution extended to African Americans the right to
A : vote.
B : hold public office.
C : sue.
D : testify against whites.

Correct Answer : C

45 : White Texans reacted negatively during Governor Edmund (E. J.) Daviss administration

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because of
A : the freedom of former black slaves.
B : the defeat of Texicans at the Alamo.
C : severe decreases in public spending and property taxes.
D : Davis support of slavery and the Confederacy.

Correct Answer : A

46 : The Texas Constitution of 1869 provided for all of the following, EXCEPT
A : annual legislative sessions.
B : gubernatorial appointment of judges.
C : more centralized state government.
D : six-year term for all executive offices.

Correct Answer : D

47 : Which of the following does NOT describe the Texans elected to a state constitutional convention in the summer of 1875?
A : mostly non-native Texans
B : members of the Texas Grange
C : Texans dedicated to reducing government spending
D : residents interested in strengthening state government power

Correct Answer : D

48 : The Texas Grange was important in shaping Texas government because it
A : dominated the Convention of 1868, which wrote the 1869 constitution.
B : advocated large public subsidies to railways.
C : supported African American political, economic, and social equality.
D : advocated retrenchment and reforma weak and cheap government.

Correct Answer : D

49 : As part of their effort to dismantle the Reconstruction efforts of Governor E. J. Davis, the authors of the 1876 Texas Constitution
A : ended segregation in Texas.
B : disallowed taxpayers the right to vote on judgeships.
C : reinstated racial segregation in public education.
D : allowed blacks to attend all white schools.

Correct Answer : C

50 : The 1876 Texas Constitution, which is still Texass fundamental law today, is best described as
A : lengthy and confusing.
B : brief and tightly organized.
C : easily understood by the average citizen.
D : so badly written that Texas courts regularly ignore it.

Correct Answer : A

51 : Because of the general consensus amongst framers of the Texas Constitution of 1876, the Texas government may exercise

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A : any power it chooses.
B : any power not prohibited by the Texas Constitution.
C : only those powers specified in the Texas Constitution.
D : only those powers defined by the Texas Supreme Court.

Correct Answer : C

52 : Texas constitutional amendments and alterations are
A : struck down by the voters who disapprove of the constant changes.
B : surrounded by controversy and national attention.
C : frequently necessary because of the many details in creating a state government with restricted powers.
D : not needed in order for the legislature to deal with the specific issues.

Correct Answer : C

53 : In 2009, an amendment to the Texas Constitution authorized a program to
A : provide low-interest loans to college students, irrespective of financial need.
B : ban the hunting of feral hogs.
C : require those who carry weapons to display them openly.
D : forgive all student loans to stimulate consumer spending.

Correct Answer : A

54 : Amendments to the Texas Constitution are proposed by the
A : Texas legislature.
B : Texas governor.
C : Texas secretary of state.
D : Texas election commission.

Correct Answer : A

55 : Which of the following is NOT part of the formal amendment process for state constitutional amendments?
A : two-thirds vote of a joint resolution in each chamber
B : explanatory statements prepared and published in state newspapers
C : signature of the governor
D : simple majority of the voters who vote in the election

Correct Answer : C

56 : Proposed amendments to the state constitution are ratified by
A : the legislature.
B : the governor.
C : Texas voters.
D : county commissioners.

Correct Answer : C

57 : Voter turnout for constitutional amendment elections
A : may reach 50 percent if there is enough controversy.
B : is always around 40 to 50 percent.
C : is low unless it is for an education issue.

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D : is typically low in odd-numbered years.

Correct Answer : D

58 : In 1972, a majority of Texas voters exercised their right to demand a change in government by approving
A : a recall election to remove the governor who was then in office.
B : a proposed amendment to authorize the appointment of a study commission.
C : an initiative to limit legislators to a single term.
D : a referendum to repeal the law that established segregation in higher education.

Correct Answer : B

59 : In 1974, the draft constitution prepared by the constitutional revision commission
A : was passed by the state legislature at the constitutional revision convention.
B : fell three votes short of passage at the constitutional convention.
C : dissolved state government until a new constitution was written.
D : proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Correct Answer : B

60 : Which of the following was NOT a reason for the failure of the 1974 Constitutional Convention?
A : a lack of positive political leadership
B : controversy over right to work provisions
C : legislators distracted by their need to campaign for reelection
D : lack of sufficient funds

Correct Answer : D

61 : The constitution submitted by the legislature in April 1975 to the voters was recognized as being
A : twice as long as the 1876 Constitution.
B : concise, orderly, and well-drafted.
C : essentially the same as the 1876 Constitution, though it was better organized.
D : a clearly confusing and unworkable document.

Correct Answer : B

62 : The special election of 1975 on the proposed Texas Constitution resulted in
A : overwhelming voter approval for the document.
B : a 62 percent turnout of registered voters defeating the proposed constitution.
C : defeat of all eight submissions with a low voter-turnout.
D : approval of four of the eight submissions and defeat of the other four.

Correct Answer : C

63 : Which of the following has NOT been as issue dominating the legislative agenda in the 21st century?
A : poll tax
B : a series of budget crises
C : redistricting issues
D : school funding

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Correct Answer : A

64 : Which statement about the Texas Constitution is most accurate?
A : It still has problems.
B : It may no longer be altered.
C : It has no current problems and probably will not change within the next 10 years.
D : It is now the simplest and most understandable out of all other U.S. states.

Correct Answer : A

65 : Something more protected by the Texas Bill of Rights than protected by the U.S. Bill of Rights is
A : the rights of crime victims.
B : the right to keep and bear arms.
C : the right to engage in libel and slander.
D : the right to religious freedom.

Correct Answer : A

66 : The Texas Bill of Rights
A : is shorter than that in the federal Constitution.
B : contains a lower level of protection than does the federal Constitution.
C : has been deleted from the Texas Constitution because most rights are now federally protected.
D : contains a provision guaranteeing equal rights to womensomething not found in the federal Constitution.

Correct Answer : D

67 : The Texas Supreme Court has interpreted Article VII, Section 1 of the state constitution to require
A : prohibitions against imprisonment for debt, outlawry, and transportation crimes.
B : additional protection from the governments taking private property for the primary purpose of economic development.
C : constitutional protection by prohibiting the establishment of a state income tax without voter protection.
D : the state legislature to provide support and maintenance for an efficient system of free public schools..

Correct Answer : D

68 : Separation of powers
A : is not found in the Texas Constitution.
B : gives the majority of power to the executive branch.
C : places the lawmaking, law-enforcing, and law-adjudicating powers in separate branches of government.
D : has been rejected by American constitutional theory.

Correct Answer : C

69 : The Legislative Department of Texas government is provided for in
A : Article I of the state constitution.

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B : Article III of the state constitution.
C : Article IX of the state constitution.
D : Article XX of the state constitution.

Correct Answer : B

70 : Article VI of the Texas Constitution, titled Suffrage, deals with
A : racial injustice and hate crimes.
B : the right to vote.
C : the right to purchase property.
D : bilingual education.

Correct Answer : B

ESSAY

71 : Provide an understanding of the relationship between the national and state governments. Explain which powers are held by the national government, which powers are reserved to the states, and those powers shared by both the national and state governments. Be sure to include an understanding of the national supremacy clause contained in Article VI of the U.S. Constitution.

Correct Answer : Students' answers may vary.

72 : Explain the concept of incorporation of the national Bill of Rights. Include an understanding of the role of the Fourteenth Amendments due process clause. Describe how incorporation of the Bill of Rights has changed the relationship between the national and state governments.

Correct Answer : Students' answers may vary.

73 : Trace the history of constitutional development in Texas between 1827 and 1845. Describe the historical and political events that led to the creation of the Republic of Texas, and then to the admission of Texas as a state within the United States.

Correct Answer : Students' answers may vary.

74 : Discuss the role of slavery, emancipation, and rights for freed slaves in the history of constitutional development in Texas between 1861 and 1876. Be certain to include in your discussion each of the constitutions and the people and historic events that had a hand in shaping them.

Correct Answer : Students' answers may vary.

75 : Explain the influences that shaped the Texas Constitution of 1876. Describe the individuals and groups that played a role in drafting the document, and the sentiments held by those individuals and groups that resulted in the specific governmental design set forth in the constitution.

Correct Answer : Students' answers may vary.

76 : Discuss what you see as the strengths and weaknesses of the current Texas Constitution.

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In what ways can it be revised? Why is revision so difficult?

Correct Answer : Students’ answers may vary.

77 : Describe the formal amendment process for the Texas Constitution. Providing a comparison to the national constitution and those of other states, explain why the Texas Constitution has been amended so many times. Provide a few examples of issues for which the state constitution has been amended.

Correct Answer : Students’ answers may vary.

78 : Trace the constitutional revision effort from 19711975, paying particular attention to why the process failed. In your judgment, does Texas need a new constitution? Why or why not?

Correct Answer : Students’ answers may vary.

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