

STUDY GUIDE for the Georgia Constitution Exam

1. Where in the Georgia Constitution would one find the state's Bill of Rights?
2. According to Article I, Section 1, "life, liberty, or property" may be taken from a citizen only by what process?
3. Which of the following is an effective defense against an accusation of libel, according to Article I, Section 1?
4. Who are considered citizens of Georgia, according to Article I, Section 1?
5. According to Article I, Section 1, which of the following kinds of laws is the General Assembly *not* allowed to enact?
6. According to Article I, Section 1, which of the following kinds of laws is the General Assembly permitted to enact?
7. According to Article I, Section 1, which of the following is the *ultimate* authority to determine the *facts* at issue in a trial?
8. According to Article I, Section 1, under what circumstance may a person *not* be placed on trial for the same offense for a *second* time?
9. According to Article I, Section 1, which of the following is required for an accused individual to be convicted of treason?
10. According to Article I, Section 1, which of the following may *not* be done to a person convicted of a crime?
11. Under what circumstance may a debtor be imprisoned on account of debt?
12. According to Article I, Section 2, which of the following kinds of legislative enactments is acceptable (i.e., *not void*)?
13. What is the meaning of the term "sovereign immunity"?
14. According to Article II, Section 1, which of the following is *not* an acceptable requirement that may be established for voting?
15. According to Article II, Section 2, who collects ballots and election returns?
16. Who is eligible to vote in a "run-off election"?
17. By definition, what is the possible result of a "recall" election?

18. If an elected official is indicted by a grand jury on felony charges, what kind of commission is appointed?
19. In the state of Georgia, legislative power is vested in which body?
20. According to Article III, Section II, what are the limitations placed on the number of members in the houses of Georgia's General Assembly?
21. Who determines the location of boundaries of legislative districts?
22. When are the boundaries of legislative districts redrawn?
23. What is the minimum-age requirement for members of the Georgia General Assembly?
24. What is the term of office of members of the Georgia General Assembly?
25. What is the term of office of members of the state Senate?
26. Which of the following statements is true about the lieutenant governor?
27. In the absence of the Speaker of the House, what is the title of the individual who temporarily presides?
28. What is the title of the individual who carries out the clerical and record-keeping work of the state Senate?
29. Under ordinary circumstances, what is the maximum length of an annual session of the General Assembly?
30. When may the governor call a special session of the state legislature?
31. Which of the following is a privilege of members of the General Assembly?
32. Which of the following statements about committees in the General Assembly is true?
33. What kind of bills may originate *only* in the state House of Representatives?
34. According to Article III, Section 5, how many "readings" will a bill (not including local legislation) receive in a legislative house if that bill is to be approved by that house?
35. If a legislative house rejects a bill, may the bill be brought up for a vote again?
36. A quorum to transact business consists of how many members of each house?
37. If both houses of the General Assembly approve the same bill or resolution, and the legislature transmits that bill or resolution to the Governor, how much time does the

governor have to consider whether to veto the act until it goes into effect without his signature?

38. How may a gubernatorial veto of an act of the General Assembly be overridden?

39. Which of the following statements about vetoes is true?

40. According to Article III, Section 6, which of the following statements about the powers of the General Assembly is true?

41. Who has the authority to impeach an official of the state government?

42. If a state official is impeached, where is the trial held to determine whether the official will be removed?

43. If an impeachment is tried in the state Senate, who presides over the trial?

44. Public money may only be drawn from the treasury with what kind of bill?

45. The General Assembly may earmark some agency funds for projects in members' districts. These earmarks are often referred to by critics as what?

46. What is the purpose of the Public Service Commission?

47. Execution of the death sentence is suspended if how many members of the State Board of Pardons and Parole want(s) a delay until the board can meet?

48. Who establishes policies for the State Merit System?

49. According to Article IV, Section 3, which applicants shall be given preference in any civil service program?

50. Which of the following boards and commissions is *not* established by the state Constitution?

51. According to Article IV, Section 4, who selects the commissioner of transportation?

52. Which of the following is a qualification to serve on the Veterans Service Board?

53. Which of the following helps to determine the number of members of the boards of Education, Natural Resources, Regents, and Transportation?

54. Is a governor who is completing a second consecutive term eligible to run again?

55. To run for governor and serve in that office, a person must have been a U. S. citizen for what period of time?

56. What is the minimum age requirement for lieutenant governor?
57. What happens upon the death, resignation, or permanent disability of the Governor?
58. Which of the following is *not* a power of the governor?
59. What is the minimum age requirement for the state superintendent of schools?
60. Which of the following is a qualification to be attorney general?
61. According to Article V, Section 4, which of the following is *not* an “elected constitutional executive officer”?
62. A petition from whom is necessary for the state Supreme Court to determine whether an “elected constitutional executive officer” is physically or mentally incapacitated?
63. According to Article VI, Section 1, which of the following is *not* a court of limited jurisdiction?
64. According to Article VI, Section 1, which of the following courts may issue a writ of mandamus?
65. Which of the following is an area that has a superior court, a magistrate court, a probate court, a so-called “state court” (if needed), and a juvenile court?
66. Except in special circumstances, where is a superior-court trial in a civil case held?
67. In which court is a divorce case heard?
68. What kind of jurisdiction do both the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals have?
69. Which court hears any appeal of a court decision about the outcome of an election?
70. What does the Supreme Court issue if it wants to hear an appeal from the Court of Appeals?
71. In what kind of election do state judges run?
72. A Supreme Court justice serves for what term of office?
73. Which of the following may decide to remove judges during their term of office?
74. In a criminal trial in a Superior Court, the jury has how many members?
75. Which of the following is *not* true about district attorneys?

76. The City Court of Atlanta is what kind of court?
77. If a real-estate property is not exempted from the property tax by the state Constitution, and state authorities would like to exempt it anyway, who may authorize the exemption?
78. What is the purpose of a “homestead exemption”?
79. Which of the following categories of citizens receive an automatic reduction of at least \$32,500 in their property assessments when property taxes are calculated?
80. Which of the following is *not* an acceptable reason for the state to undertake debt?
81. When a temporary deficit in the state treasury in any fiscal year is created by a delay in collecting the taxes of that year, the state may borrow money in an amount that may not exceed what proportion of last year’s total revenue receipts?
82. When the state borrows money to acquire or improve land, waterways, property, highways, and buildings, or to provide educational facilities and libraries, the term of the debt instrument may not exceed how many years?
83. What is the name of the trust fund that is used to pay the annual debt-service requirement of the state’s debt?
84. According to Article VII, Section 4, may the state government assume the debt of a local government?
85. Article VIII of the Constitution guarantees a free education to whom?
86. Which of the following helps to determine the number of members of the state Board of Education?
87. How long does the state superintendent of schools serve?
88. Which of the following governs the University System of Georgia?
89. Who appoints the members of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia?
90. According to Article VIII, Section 5, who selects a local superintendent of schools?
91. The board of education of each school system may accept which of the following for the use of that school system?
92. The General Assembly may, by enacting a law, waive the payment of tuition at state colleges and universities for which of the following classes of individuals?
93. What is the maximum allowable number of counties in Georgia?

94. Which of the following is *not* an official of the *county*?
95. What term describes the ability of a local government to make laws (or “ordinances”) concerning its own operations and other local issues?
96. Which of the following is a supplementary power of local government?
97. What term describes the regulatory power of a local government to determine which areas of the community may be used for farmland, open space, residential, commercial, and industrial purposes?
98. What is the limit of debt that a local government may undertake?
99. How does a local government repay debt raised from “revenue bonds”?
100. What term describes a district that is created by a local government and that provides street and road construction and maintenance, parks and recreation, storm-water and sewage-collection systems, public transportation, and parking facilities?
101. Which of the following is one way in which an amendment to the state Constitution may be *proposed*?
102. Which of the following is one way in which an amendment to the state Constitution may be *proposed*?
103. How is a proposed amendment to the state Constitution *ratified*?
104. Which of the following statements regarding vetoing a constitutional amendment is true?
105. When did the current state Constitution go into effect?