

STUDY GUIDE for the U.S. Constitution Exam (May 2022)

1. What are the first words in the Constitution's preamble?
2. Each of the first three articles of the U.S. Constitution establishes which of the branches of the national government, respectively?
3. Which branch of the national government is established in Article I?
4. What is the minimum age requirement for members of the U.S. Congress?
5. How is the number of members who represent a state in the U.S. House of Representatives determined?
6. The Constitution requires that the national government conduct a census at what intervals?
7. There are 100 members of the U.S. Senate. During a biennial congressional election, approximately how many Senate seats are involved?
8. What is the term of office of a U.S. representative?
9. What is the term of office of a U.S. senator?
10. What do we call the geographical area from which a U.S. senator is elected?
11. Assuming that she meets the minimum-age and citizenship requirements, who may run for U.S. representative from a certain congressional district?
12. According to Article I, Section 5, what may one fifth of the members of either house of Congress order?
13. According to Article I, Section 5, how many members of a house of Congress constitute a quorum to do business?
14. Who decides whether the president of the United States should be impeached?
15. What event immediately follows a vote of impeachment against the president in the U.S. House of Representatives?
16. Who decides *ultimately* whether the president of the United States should be removed from office?
17. If the president has been impeached, who presides over the trial in the Senate?
18. According to the U.S. Constitution, who is the presiding officer of the Senate?

19. According to the U.S. Constitution, what is the title of the presiding officer of the House of Representatives?
20. According to Article I, Section 3, what is the title of the individual who presides over the U.S. Senate if the vice presidency is vacant?
21. Under what circumstance may the vice president vote in the U.S. Senate?
22. Who may remove a member of the U.S. House of Representatives?
23. Who may remove a member of the U.S. Senate?
24. If a member of the U.S. House of Representatives resigns, how is her seat filled for the remainder of her unexpired term?
25. Which is *not* a privilege belonging to members of Congress?
26. Which of the following is *not* a privilege of members of Congress?
27. Which of the following statements is *false*?
28. What does a “writ of habeas corpus” require?
29. May Congress suspend the “writ of habeas corpus”?
30. What is an “ex post facto” law?
31. Pretend that on February 1, 2014, the Georgia General Assembly enacts a law raising the drinking age to 25 retroactive to September 1, 2013, with \$100 fines for 24-year-olds who bought liquor after September 1, 2013. This would be an example of what kind of law?
32. Pretend that the Georgia General Assembly passes a law now declaring that anyone who has not been recycling paper, glass, and aluminum since 2011 can be prosecuted and subjected to a fine and imprisonment. This is the first law that requires individuals to recycle ever passed by the legislature. A week after Governor Deal signs the law, your county’s sheriff arrests you for throwing paper away throughout 2012. What defense will your lawyer most likely assert?
33. What is a “bill of attainder”?
34. Pretend that Congress enacted a law for the specific purpose of punishing Carol Baker of Cleveland, Ga., for cutting down an oak tree on federal property. What is the most appropriate term for this kind of law?

35. According to Article I, Section 7, what kind of bill *must* originate in the U.S. House of Representatives?
36. Article I, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution presents the “delegated and enumerated powers.” Who may exercise these powers?
37. The last clause of Article I, Section 8, allows Congress to enact laws that will facilitate accomplishment of the “delegated and enumerated powers.” What is this clause called?
38. Which of the following is one of the delegated and enumerated powers (in Article I, Section 8)?
39. Which of the following is *not* identified in Article I, Section 8, as a power of Congress?
40. What authority has the power to establish bankruptcy laws?
41. Who may establish post offices?
42. According to Article I, Section 9, what kind of law is necessary before the executive branch may spend money (“draw [money] from the Treasury”) for any purpose?
43. According to Article I, Section 10, what may state governments *not* do?
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45. What ordinarily happens when the president of the United States vetoes an Act of Congress?
46. If a new act of Congress is presented to the president for his signature, Congress adjourns three days later, and the president refrains from signing the act into law, what happens to this act of Congress?
47. What is the term used when the president takes no action on an act of Congress enacted within 10 days before Congress adjourns?
48. If a new act of Congress is presented to the president for his signature, the president does nothing about it, and Congress does not adjourn, what happens to this act of Congress?
49. What must Congress do to override a presidential veto?
50. Which of the following, as of 2013, is *not* a qualification for a person to be elected president?
51. Which of the following powers is *not* a power of the president?
52. Which of the following is a power that is *not* possessed by the president?

53. Which of the following is *not* a power possessed by the president?
54. Which of the following is a power of the president?
55. Who has the power to pardon an inmate in a federal penitentiary?
56. According to the U.S. Constitution, which government official “receive[s] Ambassadors and other public Ministers”?
57. How are members of the Electoral College selected?
58. How many members of the Electoral College is each state entitled to?
59. What happens if no candidate for president obtains a majority vote in the Electoral College?
60. What happens if no candidate for vice president obtains a majority vote in the Electoral College?
61. Of the following, which is the *only one* that a member of the Electoral College may do?
62. The U.S. Constitution established the Supreme Court. Who established the inferior courts (Courts of Appeals and District Courts)?
63. According to Article III, what may Congress *not* do?
64. Which of the following must agree on who will serve as a new justice on the U.S. Supreme Court?
65. If a person is accused of breaking a federal statute, where is his or her trial held?
66. What term describes the process under which the governor of a state requests that an accused suspect in a criminal case, having fled to another state, be returned to the governor’s state for prosecution?
67. The Constitution requires that certain cases should be brought directly to the U.S. Supreme Court (i.e., they do not work their way through the inferior courts first). In such cases, the Supreme Court is said to have what kind of authority?
68. The ambassador to the United States from Brazil is arrested in suburban Chevy Chase, Maryland, on a charge of driving while intoxicated. He demands a trial. The case is immediately heard in the U.S. Supreme Court. This incident illustrates that the Supreme Court has what kind of authority in this kind of case?

69. Which of the following acts falls under the definition of treason, according to Article III, Section 3?
70. What is the term of office of a U.S. Supreme Court justice?
71. How long is the term of office of the chief justice of the United States?
72. According to Article IV, Section 4, of the U.S. Constitution, every state *must* have what form of government?
73. Which of the following is *not* a protection guaranteed for states by Articles IV and V?
74. Which of the following ways is an acceptable way of *amending* the U.S. Constitution?
75. What of the following ways is an acceptable way of *proposing* an amendment to the U.S. Constitution?
76. What proportion of all state legislatures must agree to holding a constitutional convention if such a convention is to be authorized to propose constitutional amendments?
77. Which of the following is a satisfactory way of *proposing* an amendment to the U.S. Constitution?
78. Which of the following ways is an acceptable way of *ratifying* an amendment to the U.S. Constitution?
79. Which of the following is a satisfactory way of *ratifying* an amendment to the U.S. Constitution?
80. According to Article VI of the U.S. Constitution, what happens if a provision of the U.S. Constitution and a provision of a state constitution are in conflict?
81. Article to Article VI of the U.S. Constitution, which of the following are *not* considered to be included in the definition of “supreme Law of the Land”?
82. According to Article VI of the U.S. Constitution, which of the following is *not* an acceptable qualification for holding office?
83. How many times has the U.S. Constitution been amended (i.e., how many amendments are there)?
84. Where would one find the Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution?
85. Where do we find the Bill of Rights of the United States?

86. According to the Fourth Amendment, the warrant that law-enforcement authorities must obtain before they search a person's homes and personal effects must contain which of the following?
87. According to the Fifth Amendment, what must the national government do if it wishes to take property from a citizen for governmental use?
88. The Fifth Amendment provides which of the following protections for individuals accused of crimes?
89. The Sixth Amendment provides which of the following protections for individuals accused of crimes?
90. Which of the following is *not* a freedom offered by the Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution?
91. According to the Tenth Amendment, if the U.S. Constitution does not empower the national government to carry out a certain power, what is the status of that power?
92. The 13th through 15th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution are called the "Civil War Amendments." Which of the following was *not* provided by these three amendments?
93. The 21st Amendment, ratified in 1933, repealed the 18th Amendment, ratified in 1919. For 14 years, the 18th Amendment prohibited the sale of what commodity?
94. If the president and the vice president both die, resign, or are removed simultaneously, who determines how the presidency shall be filled?
95. The 22^d Amendment limits the length of a president's service. Which of the following is permissible?
96. The 23^d Amendment, ratified in 1961, allowed the citizens of which jurisdiction to vote for presidential electors to represent it in the Electoral College?
97. According to the 23^d Amendment, what involvement may the voters of Washington, D. C., have in the election of a president?
98. According to the 24th Amendment, ratified in 1964, which of the following is *illegal*?
99. Assume that the vice president and a majority of the members of the Cabinet declare the president to be unable to perform his duties on account of illness, but the president then notifies Congress that he has recovered and is capable of resuming his activity. Then, the vice president and a majority of Cabinet members repeat their declaration that the president is incapacitated. According to the 25th Amendment, how is this dispute resolved?

100. Various constitutional amendments have required that people in various categories are generally permitted to vote, unless they are disqualified for other reasons. Which of the following do *not* fall into one of the specifically protected categories?