Chapter 03: Federalism

Multiple Choice

1. The great issue that provoked the Civil War (1861–1865) was the future of_______.
   a. slavery
   b. education
   c. religion
   d. immigration
   e. the electoral college

2. Which of the following is an expressed power of the national government?
   a. Printing paper currency such as dollar bills
   b. Regulating commerce among the states
   c. Making treaties with other countries
   d. Regulating immigration
   e. Acquiring new territory

3. Identify a true statement about dual federalism.
   a. It assumes that state and national governments are more or less equals.
   b. It emphasizes overlap of functions between the state and national governments.
   c. It states that only the national government holds sovereign powers over all matters.
   d. It involves allocation of taxes collected by one level of government to another level.
   e. It assumes that all branches of the government are complementary to each other.

4. Which of the following is true of the Supreme Court case of Gibbons v. Ogden (1824)?
   a. It involved the issue of whether the national government had the exclusive power to regulate commerce involving more than one state.
   b. It was adjudged in favor of Aaron Ogden, whose right to operate a ferry from New York to New Jersey was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court.
   c. It involved the full faith and credit clause by which the U.S. government was required to honor the judicial proceedings of the state of New York.
   d. It involved the validity of the license of Aaron Ogden to operate steamboats in New York waters.
   e. It involved the issue of whether local governments could function independent of state or national governments.

5. Most of the powers prohibited to the national government are listed in _____ to the U.S. Constitution.
   a. Article I, Section 8 and in the last four amendments
   b. Article I, Section 9 and in the first eight amendments
   c. the Ninth Amendment
   d. the Preamble and the First Amendment
   e. the Tenth Amendment

6. Identify a true statement about special districts.
   a. They include general-purpose local governments such as counties, cities, and townships.
   b. They are generally concerned with broad national issues.
   c. They enjoy substantial administrative and financial independence.
Chapter 03: Federalism

d. They tend to have more restrictions than other local governments.
e. They are the least common type of governmental unit in the United States.

7. Competitive federalism involves__________.
   a. administering specific policies at all levels of government
   b. imposing higher income taxes on individuals
   c. restricting the influx of foreign investment
   d. offering tax advantages to businesses
   e. offering tax rebates to individuals

8. Which of the following countries follows a unitary system of government?
   a. India
   b. Brazil
   c. Canada
   d. Mexico
   e. Israel

9. Which of the following is a characteristic of picket-fence federalism?
   a. Federal and state governments maintain diverse and sovereign powers.
   b. Specific policies and programs are administered by all levels of government.
   c. Powerful states are given increased power to decide how they should spend government revenues.
   d. State and local governments compete for businesses and citizens.
   e. Levels of government act as the vertical picket on the fence.

10. Which of the following is a characteristic of concurrent powers?
    a. They are held exclusively by the national government.
    b. They apply only within the geographic area of the state to which they are granted.
    c. They include functions that the Constitution delegates exclusively to the national government.
    d. They allow states to levy taxes on goods being imported from other states and countries.
    e. They allow the U.S. national government to impose taxes on exported goods.

11. Government powers in a(n)_____ are divided between a central government and regional, or subdivisional, governments.
    a. anarchic system
    b. federal system
    c. totalitarian system
    d. unitary system
    e. lateral system

12. Identify an action that is prohibited to the national government by the U.S. Constitution.
    a. Admitting new states
    b. Establishing post offices
    c. Raising and supporting the military
    d. Regulating interstate commerce
**Chapter 03: Federalism**

e. Passing laws that restrain freedom of speech

13. In the 2013 Shelby County v. Holder case, the Supreme Court held that:
   a. the methods used to determine whether a state or local government should be subject to preclearance were obsolete.
   b. it was unconstitutional for any state to alter the voting procedures or district boundaries under any circumstance.
   c. the national government is not allowed to sue state and local governments after new procedures or district boundaries are put in place.
   d. when taxes are collected by one level of government, they must always be spent by another level.
   e. whenever Congress passes a law that preempts a certain area, the states are obligated to comply with the requirements of that law.

14. The term _____ refers to the national, or central, government of the United States.
   a. supranational government
   b. caretaker government
   c. federal government
   d. subnational government
   e. apex government

15. Which of the following is a characteristic of a confederal system?
   a. It is a system in which a subnational government is a "creature of the national government."
   b. It is joined together by a central government that has unlimited powers over it.
   c. It is a system in which the Constitution vests all powers in the national government.
   d. It has a system of shared sovereignty where the powers are divided between a central and regional government.
   e. It has a national government that exists and operates only at the direction of subnational governments.

16. The individual American states are _____.
   a. bicameral systems
   b. confederal systems
   c. unitary systems
   d. monarchies
   e. dictatorships

17. One of the major goals of the new federalism was to:
   a. administer specific policies and programs at all levels of government—national, state, and local.
   b. increase cooperation between the federal and the state governments to solve various national issues.
   c. return to the states certain powers that had been exercised by the national government since the 1930s.
   d. enable businesses to move to jurisdictions that offered a competitive advantage.
   e. grant state governments the power to counter national policies that did not serve their best interests.

18. Which of the following is implied when it is said that city and county governmental units are "creatures of state government"?
   a. It means that the local governments are given all-pervading powers by the U.S. Constitution.
Chapter 03: Federalism

b. It means that the state governments can both give powers to and take powers from local governments.
c. It means that the state governments are part of a confederal system.
d. It means that the local governments are created by a special statute of the national government.
e. It means that the local governments are part of a confederal system.

19. Which of the following is an advantage of federalism in the United States?
   a. State governments can print their own money.
b. State governments can overturn federal laws with which they disagree.
c. State governments can act as "laboratories" for public-policy experimentation.
d. State governments can deny federally guaranteed civil rights and liberties.
e. State governments can choose to resist military intervention even during times of emergency.

20. Which of the following is true of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal legislation?
   a. It grew out of the desire to solve the issues created by apartheid in the United States.
b. It involved many government spending and public-assistance programs.
c. It ushered in an era of competitive federalism where the states competed for businesses and citizens.
d. It gave states more discretion and let them function as separate units from the national units.
e. It marked the beginning of an era of state supremacy in which the states decided the powers of the federal government.

21. Which of the following is true of picket-fence federalism?
   a. Picket-fence federalism involves only the state government in decision making and implementation of policies.
b. In picket-fence federalism, the judicial system is the horizontal support board.
c. In picket-fence federalism, the policy area is the vertical picket on the fence.
d. Picket-fence federalism involves only the national government policy implementation.
e. Picket-fence federalism involves the allocation of taxes collected by one level of government to another level.

22. In 2004, ______ became the first American state to authorize gay marriages.
   a. Michigan
   b. Missouri
   c. Massachusetts
   d. Maryland
   e. Mississippi

23. Which of the following is true of a federal system of government?
   a. It ensures that national powers are not expanded at the expense of the states.
b. It makes it easy to coordinate government policies at the national, state, and local levels.
c. It inhibits the representation of political and regional subcultures in laws.
d. It vests unlimited power in the central government to oversee activities of all state governments.
e. It hinders business transactions because of red tape created by regulations at all levels of governmental.

24. Which of the following is an example of the new federalism?
   a. The welfare reform legislation of 1996
Chapter 03: Federalism

b. The Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990
c. The Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act of 1993
d. The Affordable Care Act of 2010
e. Johnson's Great Society Legislation of 1963

25. Which of the following is true of the Defense of Marriage Act?
   a. It allowed state governments to ignore same-sex marriages performed in other states.
   b. It stated that America's federal government should allow same-sex couples to get married.
   c. It allowed state governments to provide medical and social benefits to couples in same-sex marriages.
   d. It stated that the national government is required to accept state-authorized same-sex marriages.
   e. It stated that every state is required to treat a relationship between persons of the same sex as a marriage.

26. The Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) provided a challenge to the Constitution's ______.
   a. elastic clause
   b. supremacy clause
   c. necessary and proper clause
   d. full faith and credit clause
   e. commerce clause

27. Which of the following statements is true of a special district?
   a. It includes general-purpose local governments such as counties, cities, and townships.
   b. It is generally concerned with a specific issue such as solid waste disposal, mass transportation, or fire protection.
   c. It usually receives administrative and financial support from the federal government.
   d. It tends to have more restrictions than other local governments as to how much debt it can incur.
   e. It is the least common type of governmental unit in the United States.

28. In a__________, the subnational bodies exercise only those powers that are delegated to them by a strong central government.
   a. plutocratic system
   b. unitary system
   c. confederal system
   d. federal system
   e. representative system

29. Which of the following is true of the Civil War (1861–1865)?
   a. It has contributed to the decrease in power of the national government.
   b. It did not grant black men the right to vote and own and operate businesses.
   c. It occurred because of the states' increased desire for regulating interstate commerce.
   d. It was a dispute over states’ rights versus national supremacy.
   e. It was largely provoked by the issue of nuclear deals.

30. Identify a true statement about federalism.
   a. The framers of the Constitution chose to create a federal system because a federal government is free from
Chapter 03: Federalism

conflicts associated with division of power.
b. The presence of uniform state laws in a federal system enables smooth business transactions across state borders.
c. The actual workings of the federal form of government have depended, to a great extent, on the historical application of the broad principles outlined in the Constitution.
d. The expressly designated powers of governmental authorities can be altered without changing the fundamental nature of federalism.
e. In a federal system, the national government has unlimited powers, whereas the subnational governments’ powers are vaguely defined.

31. Requirements that apply to all federal grants are known as _____.
   a. preemptive requirements
   b. anticyclical requirements
   c. procyclical requirements
   d. cross-cutting requirements
   e. picket-fence requirements

32. Which of the following is a concurrent power?
   a. The power to regulate interstate commerce
   b. The power to conduct foreign relations
   c. The power to charter banks and corporations
   d. The power to establish post offices
   e. The power to coin money

33. Which of the following is true of the Articles of Confederation?
   a. They enumerated the powers to be exercised by Congress.
   b. They did not allow the United States to own the Northwest Territory.
   c. They created a federal system, an alternative to a confederal system.
   d. They did not allow for a sufficiently strong central government.
   e. They specified the constitutional basis for the implied powers of the national government.

34. Which of the following is true of the model of dual federalism?
   a. It involves allocation of taxes collected by one level of government to another level.
   b. It assumes that the national government is superior to the state government.
   c. It assumes that each level of government has separate and distinct functions and responsibilities.
   d. It emphasizes overlapping functions of the state and national governments.
   e. It involves a sovereign national government and dependent state governments.

35. The constitutional basis for the implied powers of the national government is found in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution and is often called the _____.
   a. enclave clause
   b. supremacy clause
   c. necessary and proper clause
   d. commerce clause
Chapter 03: Federalism

e. full faith and credit clause

36. Which of the following is true of the supremacy clause that appears in Article VI, Clause 2, of the U.S. Constitution?
   a. It establishes Congress as the supreme branch of the national government.
   b. It ensures that the states retain ultimate governmental power.
   c. It gives sovereign powers to local governments who function at their own discretion.
   d. It outlines the powers of the Supreme Court as the ultimate arbitrator of the Constitution.
   e. It makes the Constitution and federal laws superior to all conflicting state and local laws.

37. Under which of the following circumstances is the Tenth Amendment resurrected?
   a. In the event of the failure of the Ninth Amendment to decide the extent of the states' rights
   b. In the event of widespread support for increased regulation by the national government
   c. In the event of increased support for states' rights
   d. In the event of failure of the Supreme Court in granting greater rights to the national government
   e. In the event of the failure of the Second Amendment

38. Identify a true statement about a unitary system of government.
   a. The state governments are financially independent of the national government.
   b. Sovereign states are joined together by a central government that has only limited powers over them.
   c. There is a system of shared sovereignty between two levels of government.
   d. State governments work as separate units under the national government.
   e. Any subnational government is a "creature of the national government."

39. Which of the following powers is denied by the Constitution to the states?
   a. The power to regulate intrastate commerce
   b. The power to conduct elections
   c. The power to establish local governments
   d. The power to enter into treaties with other countries
   e. The power to ratify amendments made to the Constitution

40. An example of the inherent power of the U.S. government is the acquisition of the _____, which was necessary to secure support for ratification of the Constitution in several states, including Maryland.
   a. colonies on the Atlantic seaboard
   b. Northwest Territory
   c. Pacific Islands
   d. Caribbean islands
   e. southern states

41. Which of the following became an implication of the commerce clause that was upheld by the Supreme Court headed by John Marshall in Gibbons v. Ogden (1824)?
   a. The national government has repeatedly justified its regulation of almost all areas of economic activity.
   b. Both the national and state governments have equal powers that cannot be curtailed by the other.
   c. The trade between a state and its immediate neighbors has been left to the former's discretion.
   d. Both the national and state governments work as separate units.
e. The state governments determines the power of the national government.

42. In June 2015, in _____, the Supreme Court found laws against same-sex marriage to be unconstitutional throughout the entire United States.
   a. United States v. Windsor
   b. Obergefell v. Hodges
   c. Marbury v. Madison
   d. Gibbons v. Ogden
   e. McCulloch v. Maryland

43. The principle of_______, an important part of the checks and balances in the American system of government, was clearly enunciated by Chief Justice John Marshall in Marbury v. Madison.
   a. picket-fence federalism
   b. division of powers
   c. police powers of the states
   d. judicial review
   e. states' rights

44. Which of the following is true of the Supreme Court case of McCulloch v. Maryland(1819)?
   a. It involved the full faith and credit clause on the issue of the legitimacy of gay marriage in the state of Maryland.
   b. It involved the question of taxes imposed by the federal government on the bank of Maryland.
   c. It involved both the necessary and proper clause and the supremacy clause.
   d. It dealt with the issue of whether the national government had the exclusive power to regulate commerce involving more than one state.
   e. It dealt with the issue of how the commerce clause should be defined.

45. Which of the following is an inherent power exercised by the national government?
   a. The power to regulate immigration
   b. The power to impose taxes on exports
   c. The power to print paper currency
   d. The power to regulate interstate commerce
   e. The power to coin money

46. Which of the following countries follows a federal system of government?
   a. India
   b. Germany
   c. Pakistan
   d. Nigeria
   e. All of the above

47. Which of the following is a reason that a federalist system is well suited to the United States?
   a. The lack of uniformities of state laws
   b. The United States’ large geographic area
   c. Complex foreign relations
Chapter 03: Federalism

d. Relatively uniform cultural practices
   e. Entrenched racism in certain states

48. The European Union most closely resembles a(n) _____ system.
   a. Federalist
   b. Unitary
   c. Monarchical
   d. Confederical
   e. Theocratic

49. _____ is a basic principle of federalism established by the U.S. Constitution, by which powers are divided between the national and state governments.
   a. Implied powers
   b. Expressed powers
   c. Division of powers
   d. Necessary and proper
   e. Acquiring new territory

50. The power to coin money and the power to regulate interstate commerce are examples of _____ powers of the United States government.
   a. Implied
   b. Expressed
   c. Inherent
   d. Necessary and proper
   e. Police

51. _____ powers are powers of a government body that enable it to create laws for the protection of the health, safety, welfare, and morals of the people.
   a. Implied
   b. Expressed
   c. Law and order
   d. Necessary and proper
   e. Police

52. Which of the following federal powers precedes the drafting of the U.S. Constitution?
   a. Implied powers
   b. The power to tax states
   c. Inherent powers
   d. The power to own land
   e. Police power

53. If Ohio tried to tax goods transported into the state from Michigan, this action would be considered:
   a. Illegal based on the second amendment
   b. Illegal based on Article I, Section 10
Chapter 03: Federalism

  c. Legal due to concurrency
  d. Legal due to inherent powers of states
  e. Legal due to Obergefell v. Hodges

54. Which of the following is true of judicial review?
   a. Under judicial review the courts can determine that laws or executive actions are unconstitutional.
   b. Was established by the case Gibbons v. Ogden.
   c. It involves the validity of the license of Aaron Ogden to operate steamboats in New York waters.
   d. It gives states the power to tax.
   e. It dealt with the issue of how the commerce clause should be defined.

55. ______ is a doctrine rooted in the supremacy clause of the Constitution that provides that national laws or regulations governing a certain area take precedence over conflicting state laws or regulations governing that same area.
   a. New federalism
   b. Cooperative federalism
   c. Preemption
   d. The New Deal
   e. Picket-fence federalism

Essay

56. Explain the concept of competitive federalism and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of competition among the states.

57. Explain cooperative federalism and the New Deal legislation.

58. Discuss the Marbury v. Madison case.

59. Discuss how the issue of same-sex marriage has made the constitutional mandate of the full faith and credit clause difficult to follow. What actions has the federal government taken in this regard?

60. Briefly discuss the history of federal grants in the United States.