**Unit 1 Study Guide**

American Government Exam covering chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4

Illustrate the concept of equality of opportunity and explain it

Explain and describe the social contract theory

 What are the purposes of government that are outlined in the Preamble to the Constitution?

 All political powers in a state are concentrated at the central level under what form of government?

 In a democracy, the will of the majority determines what?

 Explain the characteristics of sovereign states?

 Name and explain each of the characteristics of a state

 The Internet seems especially suited to satisfy which of these needs in a democracy?

 The individual 50 States lack which basic characteristic of a state?

 Explain the functions and structure of a parliamentary government

 Explain the functions and structure of a federal government

 The dominant political unit in the world today is the what?

 The theory underlying modern democracies was developed to challenge the idea of what?

 Locke, Harrington, Hobbes, and Rousseau argued against what politically?

 Among the broad purposes of the United States government spelled out in the Preamble to the Constitution is the obligation to do what?

Know the below key terms, acts, proposals, types of colonies and types of groups and governments

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | State representation proposals |
|  | features of charter colonies |
|  | trade regulation proposals |
|  | Anti-Federalist  |

 Articles of Confederation

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Intolerable Acts Stamp Act Congress |
|  |
|  |  |

 In the charter colonies, most governmental matters were handled by whom?

 Name the ideas included in the Declaration of Independence?

 Name all of the groups, people, writings, etc. that influenced the Framers in developing the Constitution

 Which of the 13 colonies was founded mainly as a place for personal and religious freedom?

 Which feature did the State constitutions and the Articles of Confederation have in common?

 Which of these State constitutions is the oldest and still in force today?

 After the Revolutionary War, the National Government did what?

 In Benjamin Franklin's and others like him opinions, the final Constitution created by the delegates can best be summarized as

 Name and describe the inauguration of George Washington as the first U.S. president

 A major objective of both the Annapolis Convention and the Philadelphia Convention was to

 The government set up by the Articles of Confederation had what features and structures

Name the achievements of the Second Continental Congress?

 Parliament first limited the power of the Crown under what act?

 The main object of the *The Federalist* was

 What directly influenced the Framers in the development of the Constitution?

 At the Philadelphia Convention, the delegates agreed to do what?

 By the mid-1700s, British rule in the colonies was marked by

 Delegates met at Mount Vernon and Annapolis to do what

 The first State constitutions, adopted after independence,

 The Second Continental Congress was similar to the First Continental Congress in which way(s)

 Much of the Declaration of Independence consists of which ideas, facts, etc.

 Benjamin Franklin's attitude toward the new constitution may be summarized as a combination of what two things?

 Which best describes the event leading to the inauguration of the first President of the United States of America?

 Much of the work of the Framers centered around the proposals that had been set out in what?

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 The success of which plan led to the Constitutional Convention of 1787?

 The idea that the people have the right to abolish an abusive and unresponsive government was FIRST formally expressed by Americans in the

Know the below key terms, acts, proposals, and the other important information

executive agreement

Bill of Rights

checks and balances

formal amendment

 Describe in detail the ability of the Constitution to endure for more than 200 years?

 According to Article V of the Constitution, no amendment may do what?

 The Bill of Rights guarantees individual rights, but which ones may they not for example

 Give examples of the checks and balances system

 Give examples of how separation of powers are used

 Be able to explain the Constitution

 Explain and describe the four methods of formal amendment

 Congress can informally amend the Constitution by doing what?

 With the words, "We the People," the Constitution establishes its authority on the basis of which

 constitutional principal?

 Understand and know how the Bill of Rights is applied to situations

 Know and understand the informal amendment process

 The President's Cabinet is an example of informal amendment by what?

 In most cases involving judicial review, the courts have what about governmental actions?

 Be able to describe the concept(s) of limited government

 Explain the method(s) of making formal amendment?

 Informal amendments are a result of what political party practices

 The basic constitutional rights of the people were FIRST set out in the what?

 Be able to explain what an executive agreement is and how it is applied

 The legislative branch can check the judicial branch by its power to what?

 Name the main subjects of constitutional amendments

 The Judiciary Act of 1789 was an example of how Congress does what?

 The President's power to veto an act of Congress is an example of what?

 One criticism of the formal amendment process is that it does what?

 Name and list the formal amendments to the Constitution

 Know the process of informal amendments

Describe the succession of Vice President to presidency

*Know the definitions for the following terms and what the mean.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | block grant |
|  | concurrent powers |
|  | exclusive powers |
|  | revenue sharing |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Enabling Act |
|  | delegated powers |
|  | division of powers |
|  | act of admission |
|  | extradition |
|  | grants-in-aid program |
|  | inherent powers |
|  | reserved powers |

 Describe what Federalism provides and what it doesn’t provide.

 Explain what Concurrent Powers are.

What does the enabling act require for territories to do?

 Explain how states interact with each other’s laws.

 Local Governments derive their power from what part of the constitution?

What are the Expressed Powers of the National Government?

 Explain the process for criminal extradition between states and what it falls under.

What does the constitution require in regards to the Federal Government responsibilities towards the States?

Explain who has the ability to print money and what kind of power is it.

 What powers can the Federal Government use legally?

Know what revenue sharing offers the states in comparisons to grants.

Explain how states can enter into agreements with congressional supervision and what it falls under.

 What is the basic characteristic of Federalism?

Know the relationship between local and state governments.

 Understand the effects of Marbury vs Madison.

Explain the Full Faith and Credit Clause in the Constitution.

 Know what funds that the states can be allocated by the Federal Government and any stipulations involved.

Know and explain the components of the Division of Power between the National and State Governments.