

CONSTITUTIONAL QUIZ

- 1) The Congress of the United States consists Of.
 - a: the House of Representatives
 - b: the Senate
 - c: the House and Senate
- 2) All bills for raising revenue shall originate in:
 - a: legislative committees
 - b: the Senate
 - c: the House
 - d: the IRS
- 3) Which of the following powers is NOT granted to Congress?
 - a: to coin money
 - b: to declare war
 - c: to fix the standards of weights and measures
 - d: to regulate schools
 - e: all of the above
- 4) The Bill of Rights consist of how many amendments to the Constitution?
 - a: three
 - b: twenty
 - c: five
 - d: ten
- 5) In regards to our rights, the Constitution:
 - a: gives them to us
 - b: defines, affirms and protects them
 - c: changes them with each election
 - d: plays God over our behavior
- 6) Where is the phrase, "separation of church and state" found?
 - a: the Declaration of Independence
 - b: the Articles of Confederation
 - c: a personal letter
 - d: the Constitution
- 7) According to the Constitution, and except for Washington DC, how much land can the federal government own, or control?
 - a: wilderness and forestland
 - b: national parks and monuments
 - c: forts, magazines, arsenals, dock yards & other needful buildings
 - d: range and wildlife habitat
 - e: all of the above
- 8) Which amendment and date authorized the Federal Reserve System?
 - a: Amendment in 1913
 - b: Amendment 20 in 1953
 - c: Amendment 16 in 1923
 - d: there is no such amendment
- 9) How many states were represented at the Constitutional Convention?
 - a: 13
 - b: 12
 - c: 10
 - d: all of the states
 - e: a & d
- 10) Which article and section enumerates the specific powers of Congress? AND how many jurisdictions are listed?
- 11) Does the enumeration of powers to Congress imply a limited or an unlimited scope of authority? AND how do we know?
- 12) Who has the authority over the powers not listed? AND where is this answer found?

The answers are on the back page. You may want to try some of these questions on elected officials and candidates running for any of the three branches. Yes, judges may answer these questions. Whether they can, or not, is another problem.

Quiz Answers

- 1) The Congress shall consist of the House and Senate (Art 1 §1).
- 2) All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives (Art 1 §7).
- 3) The Constitution does not grant Congress the power to regulate schools. The Tenth Amendment says that all powers not listed are vested in the States and the people. How Congress came up with this power is beyond the scope of the plain wording and the intent of the Constitution.
- 4) The Bill of Rights is the first ten amendments to the Constitution.
- 5) Although Congress does try to play God over our behavior, the intent of the Constitution is to define, affirm and protect our rights (see Preamble).
- 6) It is surprising how many Christians and conservatives get this one wrong. It must be from too many years of brainwashing by the ACLU. "Separation of church and state" is a phrase used in a letter from Thomas Jefferson to the Danbury Baptist Association on 01 January 1802. The Baptists were afraid Congress would establish a state denomination. Jefferson wrote to assure them the Constitution forbid the establishment of any denomination as the state church. On the other hand, we know Jefferson never intended to impede public religious activity, or expression because he not only signed bills appropriating financial support for chaplains in Congress and the armed services; he signed the articles of war in 1806 which urged soldiers to attend church services; he offered a *National Prayer For Peace* in 1805; and he wrote in a letter to Samuel Miller, in 1808, he viewed "the government of the US as interdicted by the Constitution from intermeddling with religious institutions, their doctrines, discipline, or exercises." (*America's God and Country*, Federer, William J. 1994, FAME Publishing, pgs 324-28).
- 7) The Constitution allows the federal government to own or control only that section of land known as Washington DC and land "for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings" (Art 1 §8 (17)).
- 8) There is no such amendment authorizing the Federal Reserve System.
- 9) There were thirteen original States, however, Rhode Island did not have any representatives at the Constitutional Convention. They were jealous of their rights and believed the larger States would overpower or swallow up the smaller States in the creation of a new union. They were the last State to ratify the Constitution; the last to get on board, only after they realized the nation was going ahead without them
- 10) Article one, section eight enumerates the powers granted to Congress. There are eighteen jurisdictions, or powers listed.
- 11) The listing of powers granted is implicitly limited. However, we know for certain this was the intent of the Founding Fathers because the Ninth Amendment says the enumeration of certain rights (or, conversely, powers), "shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people." Not only are our rights undiminished but the next answers expands upon where authority over powers not listed are vested.
- 12) The States and the people have authority over all powers not listed. The Tenth Amendment says, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

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