U.S. CONSTITUTION QUESTIONS FOR FIRST CLASS

- 1. One of the states in 1802 has a white male population of 200,000 (10,000 of whom are indentured servants); a white female population of 120,000 (5,000 of whom are indentured servants); a Native American population of 15,000; a free black population of 15,000; and a black slave population of 60,000. What population figure will be used to determine that state's representation in the House of Representatives?
- 2. If Pat Reyott is elected to the House of Representatives in the election of 1808, in the absence of a special provision, on what date will he take his seat with his colleagues?
- 3. What is the smallest numbers of Senators it would have taken to convict President Madison in an impeachment trial in 1812?
- 4. The "Saxbe Fix" was used for Senator Clinton in order to avoid the strictures of what provision in Article I?
- 5. On December 4, 1801, the House of Representatives passed a bill and sent it to the Senate, which passed the bill on December 11 and sent it to President Jefferson the same day. The President put the bill in his vest pocket, where it stayed for the next twelve days. Congress adjourned on December 23. Did the bill become a law before Congress adjourned?
- 6. There are three Commerce Clauses. What are they?
- 7. Where does the Constitution suggest that Congress has authority to enact statutes that are not specifically authorized by Article I?
- 8. In 1809, Senator Mancy Pator from Vermont introduced a bill to outlaw the importation of slaves from other countries. His fellow Senator from Vermont, Lee Burty, asserted that the bill was unnecessary as such importation was already forbidden by the Constitution. Is Senator Burty correct?
- 9. True or false: The federal government, like that of the states, cannot impair the obligation of contracts.
- 10. The actress Charlize Theron is a "Citizen of the United States." Why can't she be President?
- 11. According to the original, unamended Constitution, was John Tyler ever the President?

- 12. Does the Supreme Court have the power to hear an admiralty case before it has been tried in a lower court?
- 13. Does a state have to have an elected upper and a lower legislative chamber? Does the state have to have an elected legislature at all?
- 14. Does the Constitution authorize the people to call a new constitutional convention during which time new amendments can be added to the Constitution?
- 15. What one provision of the original Constitution still, in 2016, is not amendable?
- 16. How is it possible that several states required officeholders to adhere to certain religious beliefs even after the passage of the Constitution?
- 17. Explain: The United States Constitution took effect on June 21, 1788.
- 18. True or false: Based on the language of the First Amendment, a state, the President, or a federal agency can abridge freedom of speech and prohibit the free exercise of religion.
- 19. According to the Fifth Amendment, under what circumstances can a person be deprived of his or her property, and under what circumstances can that person have his or her private property taken by the government?
- 20. What one part of the Fifth Amendment made its way into the Fourteenth Amendment?
- 21. What part of Article IV of the original Constitution made its way into the Fourteenth Amendment (slightly reworded)?
- 22. According to the Fourteenth Amendment, what penalty do states face if it is determined that they engaged in voter suppression?
- 23. According to the Twenty-second Amendment, why was President Lyndon Baines Johnson eligible to run for re-election in 1968 (he chose not to run), even though he first became President back in 1963?
- 24. How long did it take between the time that the Twenty-seventh Amendment was introduced and ratified? Were any other amendments introduced at the same time, and were they all made part of the Constitution?