

2015 GOVERNMENT WEST AFRICAN SENIOR SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

PAPER I: OBJECTIVE TEST

- Which of the following best defines government as an institution of a state?
 - An institution established for class struggle
 - Machinery established for exercising political power
 - A process of organizing societal values
 - The art through which political parties are managed
- Which of the following is a reason for studying government?
 - Knowledge of the rights of the individual
 - Acquisition of skills to work in a state-owned industry
 - Helps the individual to form a pressure group
 - Enables citizens to vote during elections
- The most visible feature of a state is
 - compulsory membership
 - defined geographical territory
 - written constitution
 - sovereign power
- Representative democracy is characterized by
 - free election and proper register of voters
 - a politically educated elite
 - representation of the poor only
 - rule of the interest groups
- The set of attitudes and beliefs that determine the behavior of citizens in a political system is called
 - socialization
 - political culture
 - representative government
 - devolution
- Fundamental Human Rights are entrenched in constitutions purposely to
 - ensure freedom of speech
 - guarantee the liberty of citizens
 - promote good governance
 - promote trade
- Diplomatic and parliamentary put limitations on
 - the rule of law
 - separation of powers
 - checks and balances
 - foreign policies
- Montesquieu's political theory of separation of powers was meant to
 - promote unity in government
 - prevent dictatorial rule
 - ensure social justice
 - enhance state security
- Which of the following countries practices a centralized system of government?

- A. Nigeria
 - B. Ghana
 - C. USA
 - D. India
10. Which of the following countries operates an unwritten constitution?
- A. Britain
 - B. USA
 - C. Japan
 - D. Canada
11. A constitution that can be amended through the ordinary law-making process is said to be
- A. written
 - B. unwritten
 - C. rigid
 - D. flexible
12. Which of the following systems of government operates on the principle of checks and balances?
- A. Theocracy
 - B. Presidential
 - C. Parliamentary
 - D. Monarchical
13. Confederal system of government means
- A. powerful center and weak component units
 - B. weak center and powerful component units
 - C. powerful center and powerful component units
 - D. weak component units and weak center
14. In a federal system of government, the power shared between the central and state government is known as
- A. legislative power
 - B. exclusive power
 - C. concurrent power
 - D. judicial power
15. The prerogative power resides with the
- A. ombudsman
 - B. executive
 - C. national assembly
 - D. civil organization
16. Quick decision-making is an advantage of
- A. unilateralism
 - B. constitutionalism
 - C. federalism
 - D. republicanism
17. The organ of government responsible for implementation of policies in a state is the
- A. legislature
 - B. judiciary
 - C. executive
 - D. public bureau
18. A citizen is an individual who
- A. has the legal and political rights in a country
 - B. has lived in a country for some time
 - C. enjoys only economic rights
 - D. enjoys immunity in the country

19. Which of the following is a condition for granting citizenship to a foreigner?
- A. Swearing an oath of allegiance
 - B. Possession of a university degree
 - C. A registered member of a political party
 - D. Possession of an international passport
20. Citizenship can be acquired through all of the following methods except
- A. birth
 - B. nationalization
 - C. naturalization
 - D. marriage
21. The conferment of citizenship on a distinguished personality of another country is called
- A. citizenship by birth
 - B. honorary citizenship
 - C. adoption
 - D. citizenship by registration
22. The primary aim of any political party is to
- A. pressurize the government
 - B. remain in the opposition
 - C. control the government
 - D. ensure fair play in business
23. A manifesto can be defined as the
- A. opportunity to form a political party
 - B. proposed programmes of a political party
 - C. policy of a political party in power
 - D. power to rule the masses
24. Which of the following exists in a one-party state?
- A. Only the workers' party is allowed to exist
 - B. Only the students' party is allowed to exist
 - C. Elections to the legislature are held at the party's conference
 - D. The ruling party is the only legal party
25. Which of the following party systems best represents all shades of opinions?
- A. Multi-party
 - B. Two-party
 - C. One-party
 - D. Elite-party
26. The practice of a multi-party system in West Africa tends to promote
- A. sectionalism and factionalism
 - B. national integration
 - C. social discrimination
 - D. economic integration
27. Franchise is the right to
- A. express political views
 - B. control the government
 - C. vote and be voted for
 - D. ensure good governance
28. The following are the aims of an election except that
- A. a group sticks on to power
 - B. there is accountability of the leaders
 - C. there is a smooth change of government
 - D. the people determine who rules
29. Politics is practically demonstrated during
- A. electioneering campaigns
 - B. parliamentary debates

- C. formation of political parties
D. inter-party consultative meetings
30. An election held to fill a vacant post in the legislature due to the death or resignation of a member is called
- A. run-off election
B. electoral college
C. bye-election
D. primary election
31. Which of the following is a function of pressure groups?
- A. Represent and protect the rich
B. Protect the interest of government
C. Serve as a venue for political victimization
D. Provide a forum for the ventilation of grievances
32. Public opinion is defined as the
- A. aggregate views of the people
B. sentiments of opposition parties
C. consensus of the mass media
D. reaction of pressure groups
33. Public opinion on the performance of a government is best measured by
- A. military strength
B. general elections
C. the mass media
D. parliamentary debates
34. The method in which a group of people are interviewed on a specific political issue is called
- A. referendum
B. opinion sampling
C. individual writing
D. individual speech
35. The Civil Service is an administrative institution of
- A. the executive arm of government
B. public corporations
C. para-military organization
D. a business enterprise
36. Which of the following is a feature of the civil service?
- A. Disloyalty
B. Impartiality
C. Political activism
D. Temporary tenure
37. The major source of local government revenue is
- A. donations
B. income from investments
C. loans from finance institutions
D. grants from the central authority
38. In the pre-colonial African political system, the functions of the Kingmakers were performed by
- A. Age grades
B. Women
C. Council of Elders
D. Special people
39. Colonialism is defined as the
- A. struggle against foreign domination
B. political struggle for independence
C. economic dependence on developed nations
D. imposition of foreign rule on a territory
40. 'Casting vote' was one of the ways the Governor in British West Africa controlled the
- A. Colonial treasury
B. Colonial secretary
C. Native authority
D. Legislative council
41. The French policy of assimilation was based on the assumption that African culture was
- A. expensive
B. inferior
C. unpopular
D. superior
42. The administrative structure adopted in the French colonial territories was
- A. more of a centralized administration
B. focused mainly on traditional rulers

- C. favorable to the African age grades
D. for the development of African culture
43. The Pan-African Movements emerged as a result of
A. African cultural heritage
B. European racial domination
C. the formation of the African Union
D. the growth of socialism in Europe
44. Which of the following was the first print media used by nationalists to oppose colonialism in British West Africa?
A. Daily News
B. Daily Times
C. West African Pilot
D. Guardian newspaper
45. One of the prominent West African nationalist leaders was
A. Kwame Nkrumah
B. Jomo Kenyatta
C. S. L. Akintola
D. Sekou Toure
46. Which of the following cannot be altered by a military coup d'état? The
A. constitution
B. legal system
C. legislature
D. state
47. Laws promulgated by a military government are called
A. bills
B. acts
C. decrees
D. proclamations
48. The origin of the Commonwealth of Nations can be traced to
A. colonial ties
B. equality of states
C. world economic order
D. sovereignty of states
49. The first African to hold the position of UN Secretary-General was
A. Salim Ahmed Salim
B. Kofi Annan
C. Emeka Anyaoku
D. Nelson Mandela
50. The Secretary-General of the United Nations Organization (UNO) is appointed for a period of
A. three years
B. five years
C. seven years
D. nine years

Objective Test Solutions:

- | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. B | 6. B | 11. D | 16. A | 21. B |
| 2. A | 7. C | 12. B | 17. C | 22. C |
| 3. B | 8. B | 13. B | 18. A | 23. B |
| 4. A | 9. B | 14. C | 19. A | 24. D |
| 5. B | 10. A | 15. D | 20. B | 25. A |

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 26. A | 31. D | 36. B | 41. B | 46. D |
| 27. C | 32. A | 37. D | 42. A | 47. C |
| 28. A | 33. B | 38. C | 43. B | 48. A |
| 29. A | 34. B | 39. D | 44. C | 49. B |
| 30. C | 35. A | 40. D | 45. A | 50. B |

SECTION A THEORY SOLUTION

QUESTION 1A

Constitutionalism refers to the adherence to a system of constitutional government.

QUESTION 1B

1. Impartial judicial system
2. Checks and balances
3. Rule of law
4. Supremacy of the constitution
5. Respect for fundamental human rights

QUESTION 2A

Separation of powers is the division of governmental responsibilities into distinct branches to prevent any one branch from exercising the core functions of another.

QUESTION 2B

- (i) **Presidential System:** The executive is separate from the legislature, with clear checks and balances.
- (ii) **Cabinet System:** There is a fusion of executive and legislative powers, where the cabinet is part of the legislature.

QUESTION 3A

Parliamentarianism is a system where the head of state is different from the head of government, and legislative and executive powers are fused.

QUESTION 3B

See details in historical comparisons of parliamentary and presidential systems.

QUESTION 4A

Public Opinion is the aggregate of individual views, attitudes, and beliefs about a particular topic or issue.

QUESTION 4B

1. Through mass media
2. By political parties
3. Through pressure groups, rumors, and gossips

QUESTION 4C

See examples and methods of public engagement.

QUESTION 5A

1. Party agents
2. Security agents (e.g., police)
3. INEC officials
4. Polling agents
5. Returning officers

QUESTION 5B

1. **Party agents:** Represent parties and observe the election process.
 2. **Security agents:** Ensure security at polling units.
 3. **INEC officials:** Handle and oversee election materials.
 4. **Polling agents:** Manage voter accreditation and registration.
 5. **Returning officers:** Return results and unused materials for collation.
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SECTION B THEORY SOLUTIONS

QUESTION 6

See relevant answers regarding colonial administration and the Secretary of State's functions.

QUESTION 7A

1. **Lagos Daily News** by Herbert Macaulay

2. **West African Pilot** by Nnamdi Azikiwe
3. Another influential local publication

QUESTION 7B

1. Means of communication
2. Development of indigenous press
3. Educating the populace
4. Opposing discrimination in civil service
5. Supporting trade union growth

QUESTION 8

See the achievements of the Action Group as a political entity.

QUESTION 9

- (i) The military refers to the armed forces, including the army, air force, and navy.
- (ii) **Military coup d'état**: A sudden overthrow of a government by the military.

QUESTION 9B

1. Suspension of the constitution
2. Governance through decrees
3. Dictatorial approach

QUESTION 10

Consult solutions for external relations and contributing factors.

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