

WASSCE / WAEC MAY / JUNE 2017 GOVERNMENT PAST QUESTION PAPER
(MULTIPLE CHOICE)

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Good luck!

Note:

- This WASSCE Government past question paper is a little bit different from our standard format but we had to get a copy for our audience ASAP.
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Answer all the questions.

Each question is followed by four options lettered A to D. Find the correct option for each question and shade in pencil on your answer sheet, the answer space which bears the same letter as the option you have chosen. Give only one answer to each question. An example is given below.

Indirect rule was introduced into the British West Africa by

- A. George Goldie.
- B. Frederick Lugard.
- C. Donald Cameron.
- D. Margery Perham.

The correct answer is Frederick Lugard, which is lettered B and therefore answer space B would be shaded.

[A]

~~B~~

[C]

[D]

Think carefully before you shade the answer spaces; erase completely any answer(s) you wish to change.

Do all rough work on this question paper.

Now answer the following questions.

1. Government is defined as an agency established to manage the affairs of
- A. rulers.
 - B. foreigners.
 - C. the state.
 - D. all workers.

2. A function of government is
- A. controlling electoral commission.
 - B. organizing pressure groups.
 - C. making of laws.
 - D. forming political parties.

3. Government maintains law and order through the following except
- A. police.
 - B. immigration.
 - C. the legislature.
 - D. prison service.

7. Acceptability of the government in power by the governed is known as
- A. legitimacy.
 - B. sovereignty.
 - C. democracy.
 - D. authority.

8. For democracy to be sustained in a country it needs a
- A. rich political leader.
 - B. well-informed electorate.
 - C. partial electoral commission.
 - D. large police force.

9. Which of the following agents can be considered as the most effective agent of political socialization? The
- A. family.
 - B. peer group.
 - C. school.
 - D. mass media.

10. The guiding principle of communism is 'from each according to his/her
- A. ability and to each according to his/her need'.
 - B. qualification and to each according to his/her need'.
 - C. race and to each according to his/her ability'.
 - D. age and to each according to his/her status'.

11. Which of the following countries practised totalitarianism?
- A. Germany, Russia and Japan
 - B. Italy, Russia and Germany
 - C. Italy, Germany and Japan
 - D. Russia, Italy and England

12. The theory of separation of powers was propounded by
- A. A. V. Dicey.
 - B. Max Weber.
 - C. Charles Montesquieu.
 - D. Gabriel Almond.

13. The principle of checks and balances is important because it
- A. prevents each organ of government from being dictatorial.
 - B. frees other organs from judicial control.
 - C. makes the organs confront themselves.
 - D. makes the government to perform its civic responsibilities.

14. An agreed set of regulations, conventions and customs by which a country or an organization is governed is the
- A. constitution.
 - B. sovereignty.
 - C. suffrage.
 - D. culture.

15. A constitution is considered to be flexible if it
- A. can be amended by a simple majority.
 - B. can be altered through special procedure.
 - C. requires two-third majority.
 - D. is difficult to amend.

16. The body responsible for the implementation of law is the
- A. judiciary.
 - B. legislature.
 - C. executive.
 - D. court.

17. Bicameralism is necessary in a federal state to demonstrate that
- the executive is adequately represented.
 - localized interests receive adequate representation.
 - representation in the upper house is based on population.
 - representation of the rich in society is taken care of.
18. Which of the following strengthens the power of the Supreme Court against the executive and the legislature?
- Judicial precedent
 - Judicial review
 - Court injunction
 - Oath swearing
19. In the United States of America, the legislature is called the
- Congress.
 - National Assembly.
 - National Security.
 - Parliament.
20. In a constitutional monarchy, the king or queen is referred to as
- ceremonial head.
 - political head.
 - constitutional head.
 - democratic leader.
21. A corrupt judicial system erodes the observance of
- national peace and stability.
 - the rule of law.
 - international laws and conventions.
 - democratic values of the executive.

22. Which system of government has fusion of ceremonial and executive functions as a feature?
- Presidential
 - Cabinet
 - Confederal
 - Republican
23. One duty of a good citizen is
- building schools and hospitals.
 - respect of the dignity and rights of others.
 - loyalty to other nations.
 - defending a suspect.
24. The rights of citizens to benefit from public utility is classified as
- social rights.
 - natural rights.
 - religious rights.
 - political rights.
25. Which of the following is a fundamental right?
- life.
 - education.
 - criticize government.
 - public office.
26. The political party whose membership comprises people of high social status is called
- religious party.
 - broker party.
 - elite party.
 - mass party.

27. A political party is significant because it
- stimulates political rancour.
 - encourages electoral malpractices.
 - seeks political power.
 - settles disputes.
28. A political system in which there is only one legalized political party is called a
- de jure one-party system.
 - de facto one-party system.
 - totalitarian single party system.
 - mass party system.
29. Provision of political education through rallies and newspapers is a function of
- political parties.
 - pressure groups.
 - educated elite.
 - the clergy.
30. Which of the following is not a method used by pressure groups to achieve their objectives?
- Employing lobbyists
 - Embarking on demonstrations
 - Embarking on strikes and boycotts
 - Contesting for political positions
31. An effective way of strengthening societal institutions is through the expression of
- personal opinion.
 - group opinion.
 - elite opinion.
 - public opinion.

32. A "Yes" or "No" vote on a specific political issue in a country is called
- referendum.
 - public opinion.
 - gerrymandering.
 - suffrage.
33. The electoral system in which the winner should have more than all the votes of all the other contestants put together is called
- simple majority system.
 - referendum.
 - second ballot system.
 - absolute majority system.
34. Which of the following is a civil/public servant?
- House majority leader
 - Clerk of the House
 - Party whip
 - Minister of education
35. Which of the following statements about public corporation is not true?
- It is managed by a board of directors
 - It is established by an act of parliament
 - A huge capital is needed for its establishment
 - It is financed mainly by private individuals
36. Local governments are vital in modern politics as they
- encourage dictatorship.
 - train the local people in the art of governance.
 - make laws for the whole country.
 - execute government policies at all levels.

37. In the pre-colonial era, the breaking of an oath by a chief could
- lead to a war with his neighbours.
 - lead to ritual cleansing.
 - make his state come under a curse.
 - lead to his destoolment.
38. One feature of pre-independence constitutions in West Africa is the
- Judicial and executive councils.
 - executive and legislative councils.
 - Judicial and legislative councils.
 - consultative and judicial councils.
39. The excessive power of the traditional rulers in the pre-colonial era could be checked by
- the hunters.
 - the priests.
 - children of the chiefs.
 - the farmers.
40. The Secretary of State for the colonies was responsible for
- democratization of local governments.
 - initiating colonial policies.
 - fighting for the interest of the people.
 - working with traditional rulers.
41. The crown colonies in the British West Africa were administered through
- assimilation.
 - decentralization.
 - association.
 - direct rule.

42. Colonial administration in West Africa was as a result of
- a need for a new environment.
 - the desire to underdevelop West Africa.
 - a need for raw materials and markets.
 - the urge to introduce western education.
43. Policy of assimilation was successfully operated by the French in
- Lomé.
 - Goré.
 - Bamako.
 - Abidjan.
44. The post-Second World War nationalism in West Africa was characterized by
- disorganization.
 - lukewarm demands.
 - disorientation.
 - increased agitation.
45. One of the defects associated with most pre-independence constitutions in British West Africa was
- veto power of the Governor.
 - all inclusive franchise.
 - African domination of the executive council.
 - African domination of the legislative council.
46. In a military regime, the arms of government that are usually fused are
- executive and judiciary.
 - legislature and local council.
 - legislature and executive.
 - judiciary and the press.
47. A military intervention into the politics of a state involves
- an overthrow of a legitimate government by pressure groups.
 - the seizure of power from a legitimate government by the armed forces.
 - violent overthrow of a democratic government by the police.
 - the legitimate seizure of power by the police and civilians.
48. A major merit of a country's foreign policy is that it
- encourages infringement on the territories of other states.
 - promotes country's national interest.
 - stimulates political activities in the state.
 - promotes understanding between the leaders and the led.
49. One primary objective of the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) is to
- settle disputes among African nations.
 - eradicate poverty.
 - betray corrupt African leaders.
 - protect African citizens.
50. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) was formally established in Lagos on
- December 20, 1945.
 - June 20, 1963.
 - March 15, 1971.
 - May 28, 1975.

