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Civics & Economics SOL Review, CE 2-5 and 9

CE.2a – Fundamental Political Principles

1. The government and those who govern are bound by the law – Rule of Law
2. Government is not all-powerful – Limited Government
3. Government may do only those things people have given it the power to do – Limited Government
4. Government where the people rule – Democracy
5. Government where people elect officials to make laws and govern on their behalf – Representative Government
6. People are the source of any and all government power – Consent of the Governed

CE.2b – Influence of Early American Documents

1. Rights of Englishmen guaranteed to colonists – Charters of the Virginia Company of London
2. Served as a model for the Bill of Rights – Virginia Declaration of Rights
3. Declared the colonies’ independence from Great Britain – Declaration of Independence
4. Declaration of Independence stated grievances against – the King of Great Britain
5. Declaration of Independence states, “All (men) people are created equal under the law”
6. What are the names of the rights in the Declaration of Independence? Unalienable rights
7. What are the unalienable rights? Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness
8. First form of national government – Articles of Confederation
9. Articles of Confederation maintained major powers resided with the – states
10. Articles of Confederation had a weak central government
11. In Articles of Confederation the central government had no power to tax or enforce laws.
12. First stated the idea of freedom of religion - Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom
13. Document replaced the Articles of Confederation and established our current form of government – U.S. Constitution
14. The Constitution guarantees equality under the law with majority rule, but the rights of the minority protected.-The Constitution affirms the worth and dignity of all people.
15. What are the Bill of Rights? The 1st Ten Amendments to the Constitution
16. What part of the Bill of Rights: Freedom of religion, assembly, press, petition, and speech? 1stAmendment

CE.2c – The Preamble

The Constitution begins with the Preamble and expresses the reason why the Constitution was written. How do we know the power of the government comes from the people? (HINT: First Three Words) - We the People

What are the six purposes/reasons for government listed in the Preamble? (HINT: DJ WUTL)

1. To form a more perfect union

2. To establish justice

3. To ensure domestic tranquility (peace)

4 .To provide for the common defense

5 .To promote the general welfare

6. To secure the blessings of liberty (freedom)

CE.2d - The Amendment Process

1. What document defines the process of amending the U.S. Constitution? The U.S. Constitution
2. Who can propose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution? Congress or a Constitutional Convention
3. Who must ratify an amendment to the U.S. Constitution? The States
4. How many amendments have been added to the U.S. Constitution? 27
5. What document defines the process of amending the Virginia Constitution? The Virginia Constitution
6. Who can propose an amendment to the Virginia Constitution? The General Assembly
7. Who must ratify an amendment to the Virginia Constitution? Voters in Virginia

CE.3a – Citizenship

1. What amendment defines citizenship? 14thAmendment
2. What are the two ways to obtain citizenship? Birth & Naturalization
3. Naturalization requires a person to show knowledge of American history plus the ability to read, write, and speak words in ordinary usage in the English language.
4. Immigration especially in the 20th century has led to an increasingly diverse society.

CE.3b – The First Amendment

1. Few rights, if any, are considered absolute. (First Amendment doesn’t give you the freedom to break other laws.)
2. Individuals may gather peacefully - assembly
3. The right to gather and publish information including that which criticizes the government - press
4. Individuals have the right to make their views know to public officials - petition
5. Individuals are free to express their opinions or beliefs - speechIndividuals have the freedom to worship as they choose without undue influence from the government –religion
6. What amendment says state governments must treat you fairly? 14thAmendment

CE.3c & CE. 3d – Duties and Responsibilities

Responsibilities are voluntary while duties are required by the law and necessary for the government to be effective.

1. Serve as a witness in court - duty
2. Respect others’ views and rights - responsibility
3. Pay taxes - duty
4. Serve on a jury - duty
5. Participate in politics and hold elective offices - responsibility
6. Obey laws - duty
7. Serve in voluntary, appointed government positions - responsibility
8. Serve in the armed forces if called - duty
9. Keep informed regarding current issues and communicate with government officials - responsibility
10. Register and vote - responsibility
11. Citizens who choose not to fulfill these civic duties face legal consequences.

CE.3e – Participating in Community Service

1. Who does a democratic society need active participation from? Its Citizens
2. Volunteering, tutoring, and becoming involved in public service organizations are all ways we can show concern for our community and make it a good place to work and live.

CE.4a-g – Traits of a Good Citizen

1. Obeying the speeding limit and other traffic signals shows – respect for the law
2. Helping an elderly person across the street shows – courtesy and respect for others
3. Standing for the national anthem shows - patriotism
4. Admitting you accidentally broke a window and mowing lawns to pay for it shows – responsibility,
5. accountability, & self-reliance
6. Returning a wallet you found on the sidewalk shows – honesty & trustworthiness. Staying updated on current issues, reading information on both candidates, and voting in elections - Informed Voter

What are some ways we can participate in the school and/or local community? Being involved with school and community organizations

CE.5a-b - Political Parties

1. Political parties recruit and nominate – candidates
2. Political parties educate the potential voters (electorate) about – campaign issue.
3. Political parties help candidates win – elections
4. Political parties monitor the actions of – office holders

CE.5b – Similarities between political parties

1. Both parties organize to win elections.
2. Both parties attempt to influence public policies (lawmaking).
3. Both parties reflect liberal and conservative views, but still attempt to appeal to the political center (moderate views) in order to get the support of the majority.
4. The differences between parties can be found in the party’s platform and campaigning.
5. The American political process is characterized by a two party system.
6. Although third parties rarely win they play an important role in the political process.
7. Third parties often introduce new ideas or press for particular issues.
8. Third parties often revolve around a political personality like Teddy Roosevelt.

CE.5c - The Role of Mass Media in Elections & Evaluating Campaign Information

1. During elections the mass media plays important role, the mass media identifies candidates and emphasizes selected issues plus broadcasts different points of view.
2. During elections, the mass media writes editorials, creates political cartoons, and publishes op-ed pieces in order to inform the public about elections.
3. When voters evaluate campaign information it is important to separate fact from opinion.
4. When a newspaper is reporting only one side of the story they are showing bias.
5. Campaign ads are not the best source of information on candidates.
6. Presenting misleading information to sway the opinions of voters is called propaganda.

CE.5d – Rising Campaign Costs and Campaign Finance Reform

1. Running for political office is expensive and requires candidates to conduct extensive fundraising activities. Due to the cost of running for office, it gives the wealthy an advantage and limits opportunities for others to run for office.
2. The high cost of getting elected has led to the development of PAC’s (Political Action Committees) and other special interest groups who raise money for candidates in order to gain influence.
3. Rising campaign cost have led to efforts to reform campaign finance laws and limit the amount individuals may contribute to political candidates and campaigns.

CE.5e - Voter Registration and Participation

1. What does a citizen have to do before they can vote? Register
2. How many days before the election does registration close? 22 Days
3. In order to register in Virginia, you must be citizen of the United States, a resident of Virginia and the voting precinct, and 18 years of age by the day of the election.
4. The registrar’s office, the DMV, by mail, and other designated sites are all places you can register to vote.
5. The number of citizens who vote is often related to how important the election issues are to citizens along with these 3 factors: Age, education, and income
6. The top two reasons people fail to vote are lack of interest (apathy) and failure to register.
7. More people vote during Presidential elections than state and local elections.
8. Every vote is important.

CE.5f - The Electoral College

1. What determines the slate of electors from each state? Popular vote
2. A candidate who wins the majority of the popular vote receives all of the states’ Electoral College votes in most states.
3. Who officially chooses the President and Vice-President? The Electoral College
4. What determines how many votes a state gets in the Electoral College? Its Congressional Representation
5. What determines each state’s representation in Congress? Its population
6. What states do candidates target during elections? Largely populated states
7. When do the candidates pay the most attention to the states with small populations? During tight elections
8. The requirements for a majority vote favor a two party system.
9. A candidate needs 270 votes out of 538 in order to be elected President.

CE.5g - Students and the Democratic Process

1. How can students participate in the democratic process during elections? Participate in campaigns and simulations

CE.9a - Ways the Media Influences on Public Policy

1. The government uses the media to communicate with the public.
2. Who does the media hold accountable? The government
3. The media influences public policy because it focuses public attention on selected issues and offers a forum in which opposing viewpoints are communicated.

CE.9b - Ways Individuals and Interest Groups Influence Public Policy

1. Seeking to influence legislators to introduce or vote for or against a bill – lobbying
2. Voting, campaigning, running office for office, lobbying, demonstrating, writing letters, and joining interest groups are all ways individuals can influence public policy.
3. Identifying issues, making political contributions ($$$), and lobbying government officials are all ways interest groups can influence public policy.

CE.9c - Local Governments and Public Policy

Which international issues and events would require local government officials to act?

1. Responding to public health concerns

2. Planning for the public safety in the event of an act of terrorism

3. Preparing economic development policies in response to the emerging global economy

4. Implementing policies to protect the environment and conserve wildlife.