

CONSTITUTION 101

Module 14: Battles for Freedom and Equality: Modern Battles

14.6 Test Your Knowledge

BATTLES FOR FREEDOM AND EQUALITY: MODERN BATTLES

Complete the questions in the following quiz to test your knowledge of basic ideas and concepts covered in this module.

1. The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments were ratified during a transformative period after the Civil War that was known as _____.
 - a. The Age of Jackson
 - b. The Antebellum era
 - c. The Founding era
 - d. Reconstruction era
2. What did the 14th Amendment do?
 - a. Abolished slavery
 - b. Wrote the promise of equality into the Constitution
 - c. Granted Congress the power to pass an income tax
 - d. Provided for the direct election of senators
3. Republicans in Congress thought a new amendment was necessary to protect African Americans from laws that denied them the rights of citizenship. These laws were known as the _____.
 - a. Black Codes
 - b. White Codes
 - c. Southern Codes
 - d. Reconstruction Codes
4. This congressman, a Republican from Ohio, is considered the primary author of the 14th Amendment.
 - a. Abraham Lincoln
 - b. John Bingham
 - c. Thaddeus Stevens
 - d. Ulysses S. Grant
5. According to Section 1 of the 14th Amendment, a person is a citizen of the United States and of the state wherein they reside if they _____.
 - a. Pay their taxes on time
 - b. Own property

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- c. Live in the United States for 14 years
 - d. Are born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof

6. Section 5 granted which of the following the power to enforce the promises of the 14th Amendment?
 - a. Congress (national government)
 - b. Local sheriffs only
 - c. State legislatures
 - d. State governors

7. 7. On the issue of equality, the original Constitution _____.
 - a. Said all men are created equal
 - b. Was silent
 - c. Went into great detail
 - d. Contained the Equal Protection Clause

8. The infamous *Dred Scott* decision asserted that African Americans _____.
 - a. Could become citizens
 - b. Were citizens if free
 - c. Were not and could never be United States citizens
 - d. Should petition for citizenship

9. The Supreme Court declared that Wong Kim Ark was an American citizen because _____.
 - a. His parents were diplomats
 - b. He was 21 when he traveled to China
 - c. He was born in America
 - d. He had passed the citizenship test

10. The Privileges and Immunities Clause of the 14th Amendment was effectively written out of the Constitution as a result of the Supreme Court decision in _____.
 - a. *The Dred Scott Case*
 - b. *The Slaughter-House Cases*
 - c. *Plessy v. Ferguson*
 - d. *Marbury v. Madison*

11. What clause in the 14th Amendment was used in *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954) to end school segregation?
 - a. Preamble

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- b. Commerce Clause
 - c. 10th Amendment
 - d. Equal Protection Clause
12. In what ways did Southern states deny the promise of the 14th Amendment in the Jim Crow era?
- a. Violence
 - b. Intimidation
 - c. Laws
 - d. All of the above
13. The case of *Plessy v. Ferguson* _____.
- a. Allowed the practice of separate but equal
 - b. Banned all Jim Crow laws
 - c. Banned segregation in schools
 - d. Granted African Americans the right to vote
14. Writing for the majority in the *Plessy* case, Justice Henry Billings Brown wrote that while the object of the 14th Amendment was to enforce equality before the law, it also _____.
- a. Ended school segregation
 - b. Promoted social equality
 - c. Forced the commingling of races
 - d. None of the above
15. What was the reasoning given by Justice John Marshall Harlan for dissenting in the case of *Plessy v. Ferguson*?
- a. In the eye of the law, there is no superior dominant class of citizens.
 - b. The Constitution is colorblind.
 - c. He predicted that the majority's decision will prove as pernicious as the *Dred Scott* case.
 - d. All of the above
16. This lawyer, who later became the first African American to serve on the Supreme Court, read Justice Harlan's dissent before making his argument in *Brown v. Board of Education*.
- a. Martin Luther King Jr.
 - b. Thurgood Marshall
 - c. Clarence Thomas
 - d. Malcolm X

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17. In the landmark ruling of *Brown v. Board of Education*, this chief justice concluded that, “in the field of education, the doctrine of ‘separate but equal’ has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.”
- Henry Billings Brown
 - John Marshall Harlan
 - Earl Warren
 - Roger Taney
18. In the *Loving* and *Obergefell* Cases, the court protected the right to marry using the _____.
- Equal Protection Clause
 - First Amendment
 - Due Process Clause
 - Both A and C
19. The fancy word for taking the national freedoms of the Bill of Rights and applying them to the states is called _____.
- Filibuster
 - Incorporation
 - Jurisprudence
 - Doctrine
20. Which of the following helped ensure that the Declaration of Independence’s promise of freedom and equality became a reality?
- The 14th Amendment
 - The *Brown v. Board of Education* decision
 - The Civil Rights Act of 1964
 - All of the above

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Answer Key

1. D
2. B
3. A
4. B
5. D
6. A
7. B
8. C
9. C
10. B
11. D
12. D
13. A
14. D
15. D
16. B
17. C
18. D
19. B
20. D