Unit 1 MC Practice Questions

- 1. The first American constitution created a confederation, which can best be described as:
- a. a highly centralized governmental system in which the national government derives almost unlimited authority directly from the citizens rather than from the states.
- b. a highly decentralized governmental system in which the national government derives limited authority from the states rather than directly from the citizens.
- c. a parliamentary system heavily reliant on party discipline.
- d. a presidential system featuring a very strong executive with broad police powers.
- 2. When Madison fashioned independent executive and judicial branches that could contain efforts by the states to subvert national policy, he was establishing:
- a. habeas corpus.
- b. federalism.
- c. states' rights.
- d. checks and balances.
- 3. One central feature of the New Jersey Plan was:
- a. broad judicial review for the courts.
- b. a single executive who could not be removed from office by the legislature.
- c. more narrow legislative authority than was provided for by the Articles of Confederation.
- d. a single house chamber with equal representation for each state regardless of population.
- 4. The "necessary and proper clause" of the Constitution:
- a. is an historical artifact dictating the minimally proper dress code for the House of Representatives.
- b. provides Congress with the authority to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution the powers enumerated by the Constitution.
- c. provides the judicial branch with jurisdiction over any matter the Supreme Court deems to be "necessary and proper."
- d. provides the executive with the power to override any act of Congress so long as the president certifies such an override is "necessary and proper."
- 5. The process of "incorporation" by the Supreme Court refers to:
- a. bringing state laws and practices under Bill of Rights protections by applying the Fourteenth Amendment to the states.
- b. the practice of not overturning prior decisions.
- c. depending on precedent to find the proper ruling.
- d. amending the Constitution to subject it to state-level constraints.