AIR Review Civic Involvement
NAME_________________________________________

**Civic Involvement** – Students participate in the common good through governmental and nongovernmental channels using the media, political parties, and interest groups.

**Civic Participation and Skills** – Democratic government is enhanced when individuals participate. Citizens will use public records, surveys, and data to formulate persuasion, compromise, and consensus building in the Democratic process.

**Role of the People** – Citizens have rights to protect them from the government and historically the government has struggled with majority rule and minority rights. Improving civil rights for many minority groups improving their civic participation.

**Public Policy** – The 3 branches of government work on 3 levels (federal, state, and local) to form domestic and foreign policy.

Circle the correct letter(s)

1. Citizens must choose a plan to build a new city auditorium or a plan to restore the old one. Supporters of the new auditorium claim that building a new auditorium would be more economical that restoring the old one. In evaluating the credibility of the claim, citizens should pay particular attention to:
   A. the number of performances held in the auditorium each year.
   B. the amount of money the supporters spend on promoting their position.
   C. the popularity of the supporters as community leaders.
   D. the projected cost data provided by architects and accountants.

2. A town council faces budget cuts and can no longer afford to pay for landscaping in town parks. How could a citizen work with his or her own community to help the local government address this problem?
   A. by mailing Ohio’s congressional delegation to inform them of this issue.
   B. by organizing a group of residents to volunteer for weekly park maintenance.
   C. by requesting that the governor supply the town with state funds for park maintenance.
   D. by running for a seat in the General Assembly with a promise to increase funding for local parks.

3. How can a citizen become involved in addressing problems that affect the entire state?
   A. by joining a community watch group
   B. by volunteering for the fire department
   C. by signing petitions to place issues on the ballot
   D. by attending a meeting of the local school board

4. Which statement accurately describes the relationship between the Ohio Constitution and the U.S. Constitution?
   A. Ohio laws overrule federal laws when there is a conflict.
   B. All articles of the Ohio Constitution must be the same as all articles of the U.S. Constitution.
   C. The structure of the Ohio Constitution does not resemble the structure of the U.S. Constitution.
   D. The Ohio Constitution is consistent with the key principles of the U.S. Constitution, but contains some laws that differ from the laws of the U.S. Constitution.

5. Your city is debating whether to install a skateboard park on city-owned land. You want to support the park. Which method would be effective in helping to determine public policy on this decision?
   A. Participate in the governor’s reelection campaign.
   B. Send an email to your U.S. senators expressing your point of view.
   C. Attend the meeting of the city council and present the benefits of a park.
   D. Organize a letter-writing campaign to members of the Ohio General Assembly.
6. In response to public concern about downtown parking availability, a city’s mayor appoints a panel of traffic engineers, transportation officials, and citizens to study the issue. Six months later, the panel publishes a 30-page report documenting its findings.

Which factor will contribute to the credibility of the report as a source on the topic?

A. the length of the report
B. the cost of the report to the city
C. the number of tables and charts in the report
D. the qualifications of the contributors to the report

7. Fill in the blank with the type of information Public Records or Survey

This source contains data collected by major polling organizations.

Examples of this source may include county tax documents or a report issued by a state agency.

This source may consist of opinions obtained through a representative sample of citizens.

Short Answer

A state is considering an amendment to its constitution requiring that judges be appointed rather than elected. A supporter of the amendment makes the following statement:

ELECTING JUDGES ALLOWS CHOICES TO BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF POLITICAL INFLUENCE, NOT MERIT. I BELIEVE THAT IT IS TIME TO CONSIDER CHANGING THIS PRACTICE TO A SYSTEM WHEREBY JUDGES ARE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND CONFIRMED BY THE LEGISLATURE.

Our State Bar (lawyers) Association supports this change because during election years, campaigning and fundraising for the election of judges delays the hearing of cases. This creates a backlog in the year following the election. Furthermore, a survey of voter habits by the State Election Commission reports that 60% of voters fail to vote for judges at all. Voters say they lack relevant criteria for making selections. The Commission has stated its support for the amendment in order to better assure that judges have been chosen on their merits rather than their appeal to special interests.

Explain why the use of the particular sources presented by the supporter of the amendment makes the supporter’s position credible. Be sure to refer to:

The qualification of the sources;

The consistency (agreement) between the sources.

Write your answer is the space provided. (2 points)