

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **GUIDED READING**

### **CHAPTER 2: STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN WEST VIRGINIA**

#### **Section 2: The Three Branches of State Government**

**Directions:** Use the information from pages 59-77 to complete the following statements.

#### **The Legislative Branch of State Government**

1. Voters elect thirty-four \_\_\_\_\_ (two from each of \_\_\_\_\_ districts) and one hundred members of the \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ districts.
2. Members of the West Virginia Senate are elected to \_\_\_\_\_-year terms. Terms are staggered so that \_\_\_\_\_ of the senators are elected every two years.
3. Members of the House of Delegates are elected to \_\_\_\_\_-year terms.
4. Senators must be at least \_\_\_\_\_ years old, but delegates may be elected at age \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Regular legislative sessions begin in \_\_\_\_\_ on the second Wednesday of \_\_\_\_\_ of each year. In the year following a governor's election, the session begins on the second Wednesday in \_\_\_\_\_ and continues for \_\_\_\_\_ days.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ may call the Legislature into special session at any time if there is a problem or if \_\_\_\_\_ of the members of the Legislature make such a request in writing.
7. The best known powers of the West Virginia Legislature are to pass \_\_\_\_\_ and to make \_\_\_\_\_ amendments.
8. The leader of the House of Delegates is called the \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The presiding officer of the Senate is called the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Senate- \_\_\_\_\_.
10. If the governor's office becomes vacant, the \_\_\_\_\_ acts as governor until the vacancy is filled.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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11. Most of the work in the Legislature is done through \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Laws begin as \_\_\_\_\_, which can be introduced in either \_\_\_\_\_ of the Legislature.
13. When bills are sent to the full House, they are read \_\_\_\_\_ times.
14. A bill must pass both \_\_\_\_\_ in exactly the same form in order to become \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The governor has \_\_\_\_\_ days to act on a bill and can \_\_\_\_\_ that bill into law, \_\_\_\_\_ the bill, or allow it to become law without a \_\_\_\_\_.
16. If a \_\_\_\_\_ of each house approves it, a bill becomes law over the governor's \_\_\_\_\_. Budget or appropriations bills require a \_\_\_\_\_ vote in each house to override a governor's \_\_\_\_\_.

### **The Executive Branch of State Government**

17. To be governor of West Virginia, a person must be at least \_\_\_\_\_ years of age and have lived in the state for at least \_\_\_\_\_ years.
18. The governor serves a \_\_\_\_\_-year term and may serve \_\_\_\_\_ consecutive terms.
19. As the chief \_\_\_\_\_ officer of the state, the governor prepares and sends to the Legislature an annual \_\_\_\_\_.
20. The governor is \_\_\_\_\_ of the state's military forces.
21. At the beginning of each legislative session, the governor makes a \_\_\_\_\_ Address.
22. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the keeper of the Great and Less Seals of the State and is in charge of all official papers and records and serves as the chief \_\_\_\_\_ officer.
23. The state \_\_\_\_\_ receives revenues and pays bills; the state \_\_\_\_\_ serves as the state's bookkeeper.
24. The \_\_\_\_\_ serves as the state's lawyer.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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25. One of the main roles of the \_\_\_\_\_ is to determine the value of public utility property for tax purposes. Public utilities include water, gas, and electric companies; telephone companies; pipelines; and freight and railroad companies.

26. There are \_\_\_\_\_ cabinet-level positions within the executive branch. The governor appoints the head of each of these departments.

### **The Judicial Branch of State Government**

27. A constitutional amendment in the year \_\_\_\_\_ completely rewrote the (1872) article providing for the judiciary.

28. In 1974, the system was again revised with the passage of the Judicial \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment.

29. The state court system has four major functions: (1) to hear and decide \_\_\_\_\_ cases, (2) to protect the individual \_\_\_\_\_ of all citizens, (3) to determine the innocence or guilt of those accused of \_\_\_\_\_ acts, and (4) to act as a check on the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ branches of government.

30. The highest court in the state, the \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_ judges, known as \_\_\_\_\_, who are elected by the people for \_\_\_\_\_-year terms.

31. The position of \_\_\_\_\_ rotates each year based on \_\_\_\_\_.

32. The court has \_\_\_\_\_ terms each year.

33. In the supreme court, there are no witnesses, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_. The justices hear \_\_\_\_\_ arguments and review printed material.

34. The supreme court also has the power to determine if state laws or the actions of state officials are \_\_\_\_\_.

35. The \_\_\_\_\_ court is West Virginia's only trial court of record.

36. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a serious crime, like robbery or murder, that is punishable by a \_\_\_\_\_ term.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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37. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a less serious crime, usually punishable by a sentence in a local \_\_\_\_\_.
38. \_\_\_\_\_ courts have jurisdiction over most misdemeanors, civil cases under \$10,000, traffic and natural resources offenses, etc.
39. Judges in \_\_\_\_\_ court hear cases involving divorce, annulment, separate maintenance, etc.

### **Financing the State Government**

40. West Virginia gets the money to maintain its government through the collection of a variety of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
41. Since the West Virginia constitution prohibits \_\_\_\_\_ spending, the governor must carefully balance spending against planned \_\_\_\_\_.
42. Lawmakers may change the amount of money in budget categories, but they cannot vote to spend more than the total amount the \_\_\_\_\_ proposed.
43. The \_\_\_\_\_ tax is the largest revenue source in the state.
44. The income tax is \_\_\_\_\_. That is, those who earn a higher income have a higher \_\_\_\_\_.
45. The state \_\_\_\_\_ tax is the second-largest source of revenue. Almost all retail sales are subject to this \_\_\_\_\_ percent tax.
46. West Virginia levies a \_\_\_\_\_ tax on coal, limestone, oil, natural gas, timber, and other \_\_\_\_\_.
47. West Virginia puts its revenue in five funds: the \_\_\_\_\_ Revenue Fund, the \_\_\_\_\_ Revenue Fund, the \_\_\_\_\_ Funds, the State \_\_\_\_\_ Fund, and the \_\_\_\_\_ Fund.
48. Most of the state's expenditures fall into five categories: (1) \_\_\_\_\_; (2) Health and \_\_\_\_\_ Resources; (3) \_\_\_\_\_; (4) \_\_\_\_\_; and (5) Other \_\_\_\_\_.

Name:

Date:

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### **West Virginia Portraits: Arthur Ingram Boreman**

49. Arthur Ingram Boreman was born July 24, \_\_\_\_\_, in \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
50. When he was four years old, his family moved to Middlebourne (\_\_\_\_\_ County).
51. He established a law practice in \_\_\_\_\_.
52. As a member of the General Assembly, Boreman opposed \_\_\_\_\_.
53. Boreman was active in West Virginia's \_\_\_\_\_ movement. In 1861, he presided over the First \_\_\_\_\_ Convention, which established the \_\_\_\_\_ Government of Virginia.
54. Following West Virginia's statehood, he became the state's first \_\_\_\_\_ in 1863. He was re-elected to that position in the year \_\_\_\_\_ and in the year \_\_\_\_\_.
55. Boreman resigned from the position of governor \_\_\_\_\_ days before the end of his third term to become a member of the United States \_\_\_\_\_.