

TEST BANK



Chapter 1: The Contours of American Democracy

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. No society has existed without some form of
- president.
 - government.
 - representative democracy.
 - media.
 - legislature.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: 3

2. Resolving conflicts over what society's priorities should be is the essence of
- power.
 - authority.
 - politics.
 - social engineering.
 - war.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: 4

3. Political scientist Harold Lasswell defined politics as the process of determining
- "how to get what you want from government."
 - "if men are angels, so that no government is necessary."
 - "how to wield influence and exercise power" in a society.
 - "who gets what, when, and how" in a society.
 - "who gets to do what to whom."

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: 4

4. Government can best be defined as
- the root of all evil.
 - the individuals and institutions that make society's rules and that also possess the power and authority to enforce those rules.
 - an exercise in futility.
 - a group of agencies that encourage social conflict.
 - the institutions that have been created to maintain the power of the ruling elite.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: 4

5. For a government to exercise authority, its power must be legitimate. In other words, its power
- is derived from a strong military.
 - rests in a monarchy.
 - stems from coercion.
 - is imposed on society by force.
 - is collectively recognized by society as legally and morally correct.

ANS: E PTS: 1 REF: 4

6. In a(n) ____, the power and authority of the government are in the hands of a single person.
- constitutional monarchy
 - direct democracy
 - divine right democracy

- d. autocracy
- e. republic

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: 7

7. The divine right theory
- a. held that God gave those of royal birth the unlimited right to govern other men and women.
 - b. held that even God could be judged by those of royal birth.
 - c. was used to justify the American presidency.
 - d. required monarchs to obey the wishes of the people.
 - e. held that the decisions of governmental rulers were divinely inspired.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: 7

8. Most modern monarchies are constitutional monarchies, in which the monarch shares governmental power with
- a. the church.
 - b. elected lawmakers.
 - c. the leaders of universities.
 - d. representatives of large corporations.
 - e. ceremonial leaders.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: 7

9. Most constitutional monarchs today serve
- a. merely as ceremonial leaders of their nations.
 - b. for four-year terms.
 - c. by divine right.
 - d. unchecked by any other leaders or by a bill of rights.
 - e. after being elected by parliament.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: 7

10. The United Kingdom (Britain) has a(n) ____ monarchy.
- a. absolute
 - b. divine right
 - c. totalitarian
 - d. theocratic
 - e. constitutional

ANS: E PTS: 1 REF: 7

11. A dictatorship is a form of
- a. autocracy.
 - b. democracy.
 - c. monarchy.
 - d. republicanism.
 - e. aristocracy.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: 7

12. Kim Jong Il in North Korea is an example of
- a. a constitutional monarch.
 - b. a totalitarian dictator.
 - c. an absolute monarch.

- d. a leader whose power is largely ceremonial.
- e. a ruler who serves in a presidential democracy.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: 7

13. The word *democracy* comes from the Greek *demos*, meaning _____, and *kratia*, meaning _____.
- a. “demonstrate” / “power”
 - b. “mob” / “rule”
 - c. “the people” / “rule”
 - d. “small” / “government”
 - e. “vote” / “candidates”

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: 7

14. The founders of the United States believed that direct democracy
- a. would require too many elections.
 - b. might lead to voter apathy.
 - c. would deteriorate into mob rule.
 - d. might cost too much to operate.
 - e. would too often promote the rights and opinions of people in the minority over those in the majority.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: 8

15. A representative democracy is a form of democracy in which
- a. the people participate directly in the making of public policy.
 - b. power is exercised by rulers who have earned the right to govern because of their special skills or talents.
 - c. Republicans have more power than Democrats.
 - d. the will of the majority is expressed through smaller groups of individuals elected by the people to act on their behalf.
 - e. the wealthy exercise ruling power.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: 8

16. In a presidential democracy, the lawmaking and law-enforcing branches of government are
- a. separate but equal.
 - b. controlled by religious leaders.
 - c. both located in parliament.
 - d. controlled by the aristocracy.
 - e. both located in the judiciary.

ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: 8

17. The United States is a(n)
- a. autocracy.
 - b. republic.
 - c. plutocracy.
 - d. meritocracy.
 - e. direct democracy.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: 8

18. Today, Britain is a(n)
- a. absolute monarchy.
 - b. direct democracy.

- c. republic.
- d. plutocracy.
- e. parliamentary democracy.

ANS: E PTS: 1 REF: 8

19. A government in which a small privileged class rules is best described as a(n)
- a. plutocracy.
 - b. representative democracy.
 - c. theocracy.
 - d. autocracy.
 - e. aristocracy.

ANS: E PTS: 1 REF: 9

20. Which of the following countries is an example of a theocracy?
- a. Cuba
 - b. Germany
 - c. Iran
 - d. China
 - e. Greece

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: 9

21. In a(n) ____, there is no separation of church and state. Rather, the government rules according to religious precepts.
- a. plutocracy
 - b. meritocracy
 - c. theocracy
 - d. aristocracy
 - e. democracy

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: 9

22. The Magna Carta (1215) clearly established the principle of
- a. unrestricted powers exercised by a monarch.
 - b. a right to privacy.
 - c. totalitarianism.
 - d. limited government.
 - e. divine right.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: 9

23. Which of the following was *not* a provision in the English Bill of Rights (1689)?
- a. The king or queen could not interfere with parliamentary elections.
 - b. The king or queen had to have Parliament's approval to levy taxes or to maintain an army.
 - c. The king or queen had to rule with the consent of the people's representatives in Parliament.
 - d. The people could not be subjected to cruel or unusual punishment or to excessive fines.
 - e. The monarch could not be prohibited from imprisoning political critics without a jury trial.

ANS: E PTS: 1 REF: 10

24. The English Parliament is a bicameral legislature consisting of the
- a. House of Representatives and the Senate.
 - b. General Assembly and the Senate.

- c. House of Delegates and the House of Burgesses.
- d. House of Commons and the House of Lords.
- e. House of Commons and the House of Nobility.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: 10

25. Natural rights are
- a. created in a social contract.
 - b. established by parliaments.
 - c. granted in constitutional provisions.
 - d. inherent within every man, woman, and child.
 - e. bestowed by the ruling elite.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: 10

26. John Locke was an English philosopher who argued that people are born with natural rights to
- a. life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
 - b. prosperity, privacy, and freedom.
 - c. life, liberty, and property.
 - d. freedom, property, and safety.
 - e. life, liberty, and privacy.

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: 10

27. Which of the following statements is *not* accurate?
- a. The English philosopher John Locke theorized that the purpose of government was to protect natural rights. If it did not, it would lose its legitimacy and need not be obeyed.
 - b. The English philosopher John Locke assumed that people are irrational and cannot govern themselves.
 - c. Such concepts as “natural rights” and a government based on a “social contract” became important tools in justifying the rebellion of the American colonists against British rule.
 - d. Democracy in the United States resulted from what can be viewed as a type of social contract among early Americans to create and abide by a set of governing rules.
 - e. Social-contract theory was developed in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: 10

28. Which of the following is *not* a fundamental principle on which American democracy is based?
- a. equality in voting
 - b. individual freedom
 - c. economic equality
 - d. majority rule and minority rights
 - e. equal protection of the law

ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: 11

29. Because of the political value of _____, Article I, Section 9, of the Constitution prohibits the government from granting titles of nobility.
- a. liberty
 - b. equality
 - c. multiculturalism
 - d. freedom
 - e. property

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: 13

30. Capitalism is
- a set of political beliefs that include the advocacy of active government.
 - a concept that holds, at a minimum, that all people are entitled to equal protection under the law.
 - a set of beliefs that include a limited role for the national government in helping individuals and in the economic affairs of the nation.
 - an economic system based on the private ownership of wealth-producing property, free markets, and freedom of contract.
 - the freedom of individuals to believe, act, and express themselves as they choose, so long as doing so does not infringe on the rights of other individuals in the society.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: 13

31. For Americans, ____ and the pursuit of happiness are closely related.
- liberty
 - equality
 - privacy
 - property
 - justice

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: 13

32. ____ is the preeminent capitalist institution.
- Home ownership
 - The stock market
 - Congress
 - The family farm
 - The privately owned corporation

ANS: E PTS: 1 REF: 13-14

33. ____ is the belief that the many cultures that make up American society should remain distinct and be protected by our laws.
- Capitalism
 - Multiculturalism
 - Progressivism
 - Liberalism
 - Libertarianism

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: 14

34. For the nation as a whole, non-Hispanic whites will be in the minority by
- 2015
 - 2030
 - 2045
 - 2050
 - 2075

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: 14

35. Which of the following statements is *not* accurate?
- Ideology* refers to a system of political ideas that are typically rooted in religious or philosophical beliefs about human nature, society, and government.

- b. Generally, assumptions as to what the government's role should be in promoting basic values, such as liberty and equality, are important determinants of political ideology.
- c. When it comes to political ideology, Americans tend to fall into two broad camps: liberals and conservatives.
- d. Most Americans are ideologues.
- e. Those who hold strongly to political ideologies that are well thought out and internally consistent are called ideologues.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: 14-18

36. Which of the following statements is accurate?
- a. Most politicians who might have called themselves conservatives in the past have abandoned the term and have labeled their philosophy progressivism instead.
 - b. Modern liberalism in the United States traces its roots to the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt.
 - c. Conservatives typically believe in the separation of church and state, and generally think that the government should not involve itself in the moral or religious life of the nation.
 - d. By the time of Ronald Reagan, liberals placed a high value on the principles of law and order, states' rights, and individual initiative.
 - e. Social conservatives can best be described as those who seek to minimize government spending and intervention in the economy.

ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: 16

37. Which of the following statements is *not* accurate?
- a. People whose views fall in the middle of the traditional political spectrum are generally called moderates.
 - b. There is a close relationship between those holding conservative views and those identifying themselves politically as Republicans.
 - c. Today's liberals continue to believe that the government has a responsibility to undertake social-welfare programs, at the taxpayers' expense, to assist the poor and the disadvantaged.
 - d. The administration of Franklin Roosevelt gave conservatives a common cause: opposition to the New Deal and to big government.
 - e. Moderates usually classify themselves as conservative, and consistently vote for Republican candidates.

ANS: E PTS: 1 REF: 16-18

38. The radical left includes
- a. libertarians and liberals.
 - b. conservatives and socialists.
 - c. progressives and fascists.
 - d. communists and socialists.
 - e. reactionaries and communists.

ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: 17

39. *Progressivism* is an alternative, more popular term for the set of political beliefs also known as
- a. capitalism.
 - b. multiculturalism.
 - c. liberalism.
 - d. anti-libertarianism.
 - e. radicalism.

ANS: C

PTS: 1

REF: 17

40. ____ oppose government action to regulate the economy, just as they oppose government involvement in issues of private morality.
- Libertarians
 - Socialists
 - Communists
 - Liberals
 - Conservatives

ANS: A

PTS: 1

REF: 18

ESSAY

1. Discuss three essential purposes government serves in most countries. Provide examples.

ANS:

Students' answers may vary.

PTS: 1

2. American democracy is based on five fundamental principles. What are they? Why do these principles frequently lie at the heart of America's political conflicts?

ANS:

Students' answers may vary.

PTS: 1

3. Traditionally, liberalism and conservatism have been regarded as falling within a political spectrum that ranges from the far left to the far right. Draw the traditional political spectrum and describe the important characteristics of each ideology.

ANS:

Students' answers may vary.

PTS: 1

4. Many Americans do not adhere firmly to a particular political ideology. Draw a two-dimensional political classification that illustrates the positions Americans take on economic issues and social matters. Describe the various combinations of views which complicate the relationship between ideology and the American electorate.

ANS:

Students' answers may vary.

PTS: 1