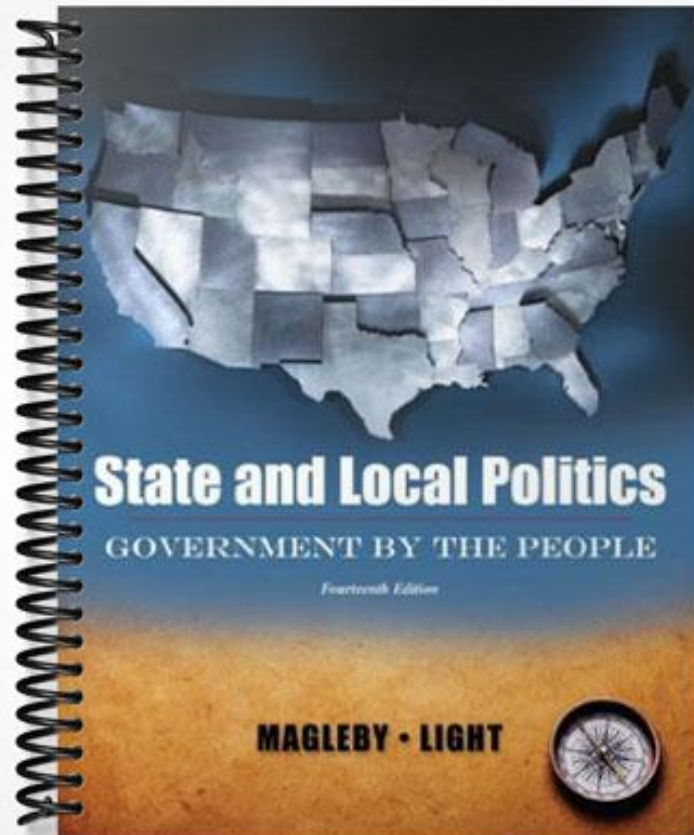


TEST BANK



State and Local Politics

GOVERNMENT BY THE PEOPLE

Fourth Edition

MAGLEBY • LIGHT



Instructor's Manual & Test Bank

to accompany

Magleby ♦ Light

State and Local Politics: Government by the People

Fourteenth Edition

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CHAPTER 1

State and Local Politics: Who Governs?

Since there are more than 88,000 distinct units of state and local government, it is hard to make generalizations about them. All states share somewhat similar formal institutions—separation of powers, three branches, judicial review, bicameral legislatures (with one exception, Nebraska)—but there are infinite variations on the relative strength of those formal institutions and their style of politics. Socioeconomic and cultural factors are especially important in shaping the power, number, and kinds of interest groups, the degree of party competition, and the presence of pluralistic or elitist power structures. And obviously, the socioeconomic and cultural differences between, for example, Mississippi and Minnesota, California and the Carolinas, are numerous and profound.

This chapter concentrates on power: Who has it and how it is obtained. The pluralist-elitist debate is only part of the chapter. Most is devoted to interest groups, public participation, and the stakes involved.

Again, there is great variation from state to state and community to community. Generally, however, there is public apathy toward state and local government. The stakes are high and the impact on daily life is massive, but most people find state and local politics boring. Political parties tend to be organizationally weak, and competition exists only in about half the states. Most candidates run for office on their own, with little party support or contributions to their campaigns.

This chapter introduces the state and local chapters that follow. It is important for students to understand the stakes involved at the state and local level and the ways that state and local politics differ from national politics.

I. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1) Analyze the different findings and research methods of the community power and reputational studies.
- 2) Contrast the functions of state and local governments with those of the federal government.
- 3) Compare across states the types of interest groups active in state and local politics.
- 4) Compare the activities and influence of interest groups at the national and at the state and local levels.
- 5) Identify major political participants in small and medium-sized cities and their levels and consistency of participation.

- 6) Identify current challenges facing state and local governments.

II. LECTURE SUGGESTIONS

A. GOVERNMENT “CLOSEST TO THE PEOPLE”

It would be impossible to work in government very long without hearing some claim that local government is superior because “it is the level of government closest to the people.” An interesting lecture can be developed from that chestnut.

The notion is that local government is spiritually close to the voters. Local elected officials attend the same schools and churches, belong to the same clubs, and generally know what the voters want without having to be told. Local government is like being governed by neighbors.

Governments “closest to the people” are those where the citizens and their leaders know each other, see each other frequently, and live under the same rules and conditions. It means a government where the electorate is well-informed and most people participate, where, as de Tocqueville put it, “no portion of the community is tempted to oppress the remainder,” and “the government really emanates from those it governs.”

Washington politicians, on the other hand, do not seem close to the local voters either geographically, spiritually, or in any other way. Members of Congress are seen as professional politicians who no longer live in their districts and generally avoid the consequences of the laws they enact.

But as Alan Ehrenhalt pointed out in *Governing* magazine in 1995, the notion of local government as “closest to the people” does not necessarily fit with reality. In reality, most of what local government does is invisible to the people in the community. The people do not know what is in the city budget, do not attend city council meetings, do not express opinions to their elected officials, and may not even have voted in the last election.

As Ehrenhalt said, “(a) government that people scarcely know about cannot fairly be described as close to them, no matter how small it is, how local it is, or how familiar the faces of the officeholders might be. The only government really close to the people is one that manages to capture their attention a reasonable amount of the time.”

Based on this measure, Ehrenhalt concludes that, although the federal government seems to most Americans a rather remote institution, they spend more time thinking about the president than they do about local affairs.

B. SURVEYING THE LOCAL POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

One lecture that is always well-received is one that describes the political structure in the local college community. Most college students are strangers in the community and have little idea of

the political organization. In many colleges the students do not have a clear orientation toward state politics. Try to cover the following points:

1. What is the structure of city and county government in this community?
2. Who are the top officials? How did they obtain their positions (election, appointment)?
3. What major government programs are the city, county, state, and national governments, respectively, responsible for in this community?
4. What interest groups are prominent locally and in the state capital?
5. Assess the strength of neighborhood groups, minorities, business interests, and labor.
6. What newspaper is prominent in this community? Is it locally owned? What is its editorial stance?

C. INTEREST GROUP PROFILES

Using a state familiar to the students, a fascinating lecture can be developed concerning interest groups at the state capital. Pick one or two groups that appear prominently in media coverage of the state legislature. Such a lecture would touch on

1. Size of the groups
2. Sources of their influence, such as social status
3. Financial strength
4. Media and public relations image
5. Geographic distribution
6. Leaders and lobbyists (names and profiles)
7. Political goals
8. Success stories

D. STATE LEGISLATIVE TRENDS

A wealth of information about recent trends in state government can be obtained from *The Book of the States*, published every other year by the Council of State Governments. There are summaries of recent developments in practically every subject area: governors, bureaucracies, legislatures, courts, constitutions, electoral laws, intergovernmental relations, taxing and spending, and policy areas such as education and transportation.

III. CLASSROOM DISCUSSION

1. Do you agree with the authors' conclusion that certain interest groups are clearly dominant at the state and local level, but that the same thing does not exist at the national level?
2. What might be some reasons for the vast differences in taxes on tobacco products per state? Is geography and relation to tobacco-growing regions significant?

3. The problem that local officials face is that people want more services, yet at the same time they want their taxes cut. Is it possible to do both?
4. Is guaranteeing the best possible education for all young people a national issue, or is it something that can only be accomplished locally?
5. Why is it that while the federal government is downsizing, state and local governments are generally growing?
6. Do you share the authors' impression that state and local government is more corrupt than Congress?
7. Do you agree with the authors' claim that "few city authorities aggressively seek to alter the status quo" ?
8. The authors suggest that one reason for grassroots apathy about local government is "satisfaction with the state of the community," but then argue that many people are cynical about the effectiveness and fairness of local government. How can these two concepts be reconciled?
9. Do you agree with the authors that indifference towards economic injustice "undermines the sense of community and fairness in America" ?
10. Discuss the accomplishments of T. Willard Fair. What examples has he set that many others might follow?
11. Should environmental regulation occur primarily at the state or the local level? What role do zoning and building codes play in environmental policy?

IV. CRITICAL THINKING ACTIVITIES

A. LOCAL POLITICAL MEETINGS

Have each student attend a meeting of a local school board, city council, or board of county commissioners and then report back on the following items:

1. What was on the agenda?
2. Did the board follow the agenda?
3. Did the public have an opportunity to speak?
4. How many people attended?

B. LOBBYING LAWS

Have each student get a copy of the state laws pertaining to lobbying and giving gifts to elected officials. Have each student summarize what he or she found.

C. GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Have students list the services that state and local governments provide that benefit them directly or indirectly.

V. SUPPLEMENTARY CLASSROOM IDEAS

A. TEACHING TIPS

1. Discuss how political culture interacts with economic and social factors to make your state unique.
2. Local communities often face the challenge of a “big box” retailer such as Wal-mart opening near a downtown area and then drawing business away from local retailers through offering wider selection and lower prices. Should local governments resist or manage this sort of competition, and if so, how?
3. Discuss the extent to which an effective local government creates a lack of interest in local politics.

B. CURRENT APPLICATIONS

1. Point out how little voters know about the contact that lobbyists at the state capital have with their legislators.
2. One of the things that makes democracy work so well is that politicians never know before an election which group's support may be decisive.
3. Impress upon students that those who are willing to commit time and energy to local politics will be the ones who reap the benefits.
4. Discuss how the war on terrorism and new security measures in the U.S. have affected state and local politics, policies, and policing.

C. EXTRA CREDIT PROJECTS

1. Several books on the first Mayor Daley, and Chicago machine politics are available, including *Boss* by Mike Royko, *Clout* by Len O'Connor, and *Lords of the Last Machine* by Bill and Lori Granger. Have students report on one.
2. Ask students to write an essay on whether offices for which voter turnout is low should be converted to appointed offices. Instruct them to consider the reasons for low turnout and the factors that should be taken into account in selecting the best person for a particular position.

VI. RESOURCE MATERIALS

BOOKS

- Beyle, Thad L., ed. *State Government: Congressional Quarterly's Guide to Current Issues and Activities, 2004-2005*. CQ Press, 2004.
- Coppa, Frank J. *County Government*. Praeger, 2000.
- Council of State Governments. *The Book of the States* (Council of State Governments, biannual).
- Dionne, E.J., ed. *Community Works: The Revival of Civil Society in America*. Brookings Institution Press, 1998.
- Dye, Thomas R. *Politics in States and Communities*. 11th ed. Prentice Hall, 2003.
- Gray, Virginia, Russell Hanson, and Herbert Jacobs, eds. *Politics in the American States: A Comparative Analysis*. 7th ed. CQ Press, 1999.
- International City Management Association, *The Municipal Yearbook* (ICMA, annual).
- Johnson, Valerie C. *Black Power in the Suburbs*. State University of New York Press, 2002.
- Osborne, David, and Ted Gaebler. *Reinventing Government: How the Entrepreneurial Spirit Is Transforming the Public Sector*. Addison-Wesley, 1992.
- Rosenthal, Alan, ed. *The Third House: Lobbyists and Lobbying in the States*. 2nd ed. CQ Press, 2001.
- Stone, Clarence A. *Regime Politics: Governing Atlanta*. University Press of Kansas, 1989.
- Teaford, John C. *The Rise of the States*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002.
- Van Horn, Carl. *The State of the States*. 3rd ed. CQ Press, 1996.

ARTICLES

- Borut, Donald J. "Aspirations and Accountability: Local Government in the Era of Devolution." *National Civic Review*, Fall 1996.
- Cole, Richard L., and David A. Caputo. "The Public Hearing as an Effective Citizen Participation Mechanism." *American Political Science Review*, June 1984.
- DeSantis, Victor, and Tari Renner. "The Impact of Political Structures on Public Policies in Counties." *Public Administration Review*, May--June 1994.
- Mladenka, Kenneth R. "The Urban Bureaucracy and the Chicago Political Machine: Who Gets What and the Limits to Political Control." *American Political Science Review*, December 1980.
- Seitz, John L. "Now That Was a Very Good Class: Learning About Politics by Observing Local Government." *PS*, March 1994.
- Sharp, Elaine B. "Citizen Demand Making in the Urban Context." *American Journal of Political Science*, November 1984.
- Stone, Clarence A. "Systemic Power in Community Decision Making: A Restatement of Stratification Theory." *American Political Science Review*, December 1980.
- Stone, Clarence A. "Preemptive Power: Floyd Hunter's 'Community Power Structure' Reconsidered." *American Journal of Political Science*, February 1988.

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

League of Women Voters.

<http://www.lwv.org//AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home>

National Association of Counties.

<http://www.naco.org/>

National League of Cities.

<http://www.nlc.org/>

Chapter 1 – State and Local Politics

Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which of the following is NOT a core component of democratic governance?
 - A. Civic and social involvement
 - B. Liberty
 - C. Representation
 - D. Responsible leadership
 - E. Constitutional checks and balances

Answer: A

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 4

Learning objective: 1

2. In their 1920s study of Muncie, Indiana, what did Robert and Helen Lynd find to be the way the city functioned in reality?
 - A. It functioned as a true democracy, with power evenly distributed.
 - B. The social and economic elite held the power.
 - C. The business elite, who were often different from the social elite, held the power.
 - D. Religious association was the key to holding power.
 - E. Civil leaders, no matter their social or economic standing, held the power.

Answer: B

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 4

Learning objective: 1

3. Though they were sociologists, Robert and Helen Lynd approached their study of Muncie, Indiana as though they were
 - A. mathematicians.
 - B. philosophers.
 - C. anthropologists.
 - D. historians.
 - E. statisticians.

Answer: C

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 4

Learning objective: 1

4. What were the conclusions made from Robert Dahl and his graduate students' study of New Haven, Connecticut?
- A. Communities tend to have a fixed elite, with only occasional changes.
 - B. There is no permanent elite in a community, but rather a shifting coalition of leaders.
 - C. There is no difference between the economic elite and the social elite in a community; they are the same people.
 - D. The elite of a community is hereditary; if your father or mother was a member of the elite, then you would be as well.
 - E. Business interests control who will become a member of a community's elite.

Answer: B

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 4

Learning objective: 1

5. What is social stratification, as defined by sociologists such as Floyd Hunter?
- A. The way in which socioeconomic divisions affects politics in a community
 - B. The way in which someone's socioeconomic class determines his or her party affiliation
 - C. The composition of the various sub-levels found within the power elite
 - D. The way in which political candidates use socioeconomic class to appeal to distinct sets of voters
 - E. The relationship between the highest and lowest socioeconomic classes within a given community

Answer: A

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 4

Learning objective: 1

6. How do social stratification studies differ from community power studies?
- A. Social stratification studies exclude political influence as a function of social stratification.
 - B. Community power studies focus upon influential people in a community.
 - C. Community power studies almost always determine that elected political leaders are subordinate to the power elite; social stratification studies generally find just the opposite.
 - D. Community power studies analyze how decisions are actually made and discount the influence of a power elite.
 - E. Social stratification studies generally find that influence is shared among many people within a community, and particular areas and issues determine that influence.

Answer: D

Bloom's level: Comprehension

Page reference: 4

Learning objective: 1

7. What is the theory of pluralism?
- A. No matter whom one asks, there is general agreement that a small group of people are the power brokers in a community.
 - B. Every member of a community is active in some way, in different policy areas, and has an equal effect on the community's decisions.
 - C. The "powers that be," generally those with a large amount of control over the local economy, are the real power brokers in a community.
 - D. A variety of people in a community are active (not just the power elite), and generally different people are active in different policy areas.
 - E. A plurality of values, specific to a community, is the underlying source of community power.

Answer: D

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 5

Learning objective: 1

8. Which of the following is NOT a function of state and local governments?
- A. Education
 - B. Marriage and divorce laws
 - C. Maintenance of criminal and civil courts
 - D. Operation of the student loan system
 - E. The bulk of building and maintaining the public highway system

Answer: D

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 5-6

Learning objective: 2

9. What percentage of U.S. college students are educated at state and local colleges and universities?
- A. Approximately 75 percent
 - B. Approximately 50 percent
 - C. Approximately 85 percent
 - D. Approximately 63 percent
 - E. Approximately 90 percent

Answer: A

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 6

Learning objective: 2

10. In what ways do state and local governments contribute to homeland security?
- A. They protect water supplies.
 - B. They protect transit systems.
 - C. They are first responders in most emergencies.
 - D. Homeland security is an exclusively federal domain.
 - E. A, B, and C

Answer: E

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 6

Learning objective: 2

11. Which of the following best describes recent trends in state and local government spending as compared to federal government spending?
- A. State and local government spending has grown, while federal spending has decreased.
 - B. Federal spending has increased, while state and local government spending has decreased.
 - C. Both federal spending and state and local spending have increased, especially since September 11, 2001.
 - D. Both federal spending and state and local spending have decreased, as Republican tax policies have decreased the federal budget, impacting the state and local budgets.
 - E. Both federal spending and state and local spending have held steady in recent years; there have been no significant increases or decreases.

Answer: A

Bloom's level: Comprehension

Page reference: 6

Learning objective: 2

12. State and local governments employ approximately ____ times as many workers as the civilian federal government.
- A. 2
 - B. 4
 - C. 5
 - D. 7
 - E. None of the above. The civilian federal government employs more workers than state and local governments.

Answer: D

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference 7

Learning objective: 2

13. Which of the following is NOT a major sector of state and local government employment?
- A. Education
 - B. Hospitals
 - C. Law enforcement
 - D. Corrections
 - E. Homeland security

Answer: E

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 7

Learning objective: 2

14. How many U.S. workers are employed by state and local governments?
- A. 12 million
 - B. 16 million
 - C. 30 million
 - D. 7 million
 - E. 4 million

Answer: B

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 7

Learning objective: 2

15. State and local government revenues account for approximately ____ percent of the U.S. gross domestic product.
- A. 13
 - B. 19
 - C. 23
 - D. 11
 - E. 35

Answer: A

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 6

Learning objective: 2

16. What state-administered federal program is responsible for providing health care coverage for poor Americans?
- A. Medicare
 - B. Social Security
 - C. Medicaid
 - D. Aid for Families with Dependent Children
 - E. Health care coverage for poor Americans is not provided through a federal program.

Answer: C

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 6

Learning objective: 2

17. Which of the following statements is most accurate?
- A. The line between state and local government functions and federal government functions is blurry; it is often difficult to distinguish the functions of each.
 - B. Because federal government has downsized while state and local governments have grown, the line between the functions of each has become more clearly delineated.
 - C. State and local government functions, which date back to the founding of the nation, have always been clearly delineated from federal government functions.
 - D. The public education system in the U.S. is the one area of state and local governments in which the federal government plays almost no part.
 - E. The health care sector is one in which state and local governments play almost no role; it is almost completely within the federal realm.

Answer: A

Bloom's level: Evaluation

Page reference: 7

Learning objective: 2

18. Researchers conducting community power studies generally believe that
- A. pluralism is a theory that has no ability to describe the nature of politics in any American communities.
 - B. influence is shared among many people and tends to be limited to particular issues and areas.
 - C. power in communities can only be explained through social stratification.
 - D. the same small group of individuals has complete influence over all policy issues.
 - E. public policy is controlled by elected officials who are not at all responsive to citizens.

Answer: B

Bloom's level: comprehension

Page reference: 4

Learning objective: 1

19. State and local governments have custody over what percent of the country's 1.6 million prison and jail inmates?
- A. 23 percent
 - B. 11 percent
 - C. 52 percent
 - D. 5 percent
 - E. 88 percent

Answer: E

Bloom's level: knowledge

Page reference: 6

Learning objective: 2

20. Which of the following is NOT one of the most common jobs held by employees of state and local governments?
- A. Education
 - B. Corrections
 - C. Law enforcement
 - D. Hospitals
 - E. State legislatures

Answer: E

Bloom's level: knowledge

Page reference: 7

Learning objective: 2

21. Which of the following is NOT an activity of interest groups in the states?
- A. Lobbying at state capitols and city halls
 - B. Educating and organizing voters
 - C. Supporting political friends
 - D. Running members for public office under the group's label
 - E. Trying to build up membership of the organization

Answer: D

Bloom's level: comprehension

Page reference: 7

Learning objective: 3

22. Which statement best describes special-interest groups' power?
- A. It is generally stronger at the state and local level than in Washington, D.C.
 - B. It is generally stronger in Washington, D.C. than at the local level.
 - C. The type of special-interest group is the deciding factor in whether it is stronger at the state and local level than in Washington, D.C.
 - D. Thanks to campaign reform laws, the strength of special-interest groups has been greatly diminished at both the state and local level and the federal level.
 - E. Special-interest groups have never been particularly powerful in U.S. politics, either at the state and local level or the federal level.

Answer: A

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 7

Learning objective: 3

23. Which of the following special-interest groups is likely to be least powerful at the state and local level?
- A. One that supports the auto industry in Michigan
 - B. One that supports the coal industry in West Virginia
 - C. One that supports senior citizens' rights in Florida
 - D. One that supports tobacco farmers in California
 - E. One that supports dairy farmers in Wisconsin

Answer: D

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 7

Learning objective: 3

24. In which two states were more than one-third of all U.S. welfare recipients found in 2007?
- A. Alabama and Mississippi
 - B. South Carolina and Tennessee
 - C. West Virginia and Michigan
 - D. California and New York
 - E. Louisiana and Texas

Answer: D

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 8

Learning objective: 3

25. When comparing the various considerations affecting voters' choices in the U.S., ethnic interests are generally
- A. of relatively little importance.
 - B. the deciding factor for most voters.
 - C. no longer important in voters' choices.
 - D. comparable to party affiliation in importance.
 - E. only important to Hispanic voters.

Answer: A

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 9

Learning objective: 3

26. Why are businesspeople particularly interested in good relationships with local government?
- A. Because they cannot find enough common ground to have any real influence in Washington
 - B. Because they often depend upon local governments for their livelihoods; local governments are, many times, large clients
 - C. Because they are also community leaders and they want to be sure their communities' best interests are protected
 - D. Because they often seek office themselves and want to establish a potential voter base
 - E. Because many times businesspeople are part of the local government, so good relationships are a given

Answer: B

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 9

Learning objective: 3

27. Why are professional associations so concerned with public policy?
- A. Because the states provide their licenses and determine the requirements to become licensed
 - B. Because the states award contracts based upon professional associations' lobbying strength and public image
 - C. Because they want to make sure licensing requirements are as liberal as possible in order to increase their numbers and, therefore, their influence
 - D. Because their number-one priority is to shape public policy, which will make their professions more marketable to potential clients
 - E. They aren't; professional associations do not involve themselves in government.

Answer: A

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 9-10

Learning objective: 3

28. How many states now ban lobbyists from contributing to campaigns?
- A. 22
 - B. 13
 - C. 5
 - D. 9
 - E. All 50

Answer: C

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 10

Learning objective: 4

29. What legislative restriction is often called the “no cup of coffee” rule?
- A. Lobbyists are not allowed to meet with legislators outside the legislators’ offices.
 - B. Lobbyists are not allowed to contribute to legislators’ campaigns.
 - C. Lobbyists are not allowed to meet with legislators during a legislative session.
 - D. Lobbyists are not allowed to give state officials gifts exceeding \$3.
 - E. Lobbyists are not allowed to give state officials gifts of any kind.

Answer: E

Bloom’s level: Knowledge

Page reference: 10

Learning objective: 4

30. Which state limits gifts to public employees to no more than \$3 in value?
- A. Texas
 - B. Virginia
 - C. California
 - D. Iowa
 - E. Vermont

Answer: D

Bloom’s level: Knowledge

Page reference: 10

Learning objective: 4

31. Which state banned gifts from lobbyists altogether?
- A. Iowa
 - B. Texas
 - C. Florida
 - D. Georgia
 - E. Massachusetts

Answer: C

Bloom’s level: Knowledge

Page reference: 10

Learning objective: 4

32. According to 2006 U.S. Census Bureau estimates, where does roughly 75 percent of the Hispanic population live?
- A. In the South and Midwest
 - B. In the South and West
 - C. In the West
 - D. In the West and Northeast
 - E. In the South

Answer: B

Bloom’s level: Knowledge

Page reference: 11

Learning objective: 4

33. What was the percentage of white Americans in 2006 (according to estimates)?
- A. 78
 - B. 66
 - C. 83
 - D. 52
 - E. 91

Answer: B
Bloom's level: Knowledge
Page reference: 11
Learning objective: 4

34. Which state had the highest minority population in 2006?
- A. Hawaii
 - B. New Mexico
 - C. California
 - D. Texas
 - E. Arizona

Answer: A
Bloom's level: Knowledge
Page reference: 11
Learning objective: 4

35. What was the percentage of Hispanics who lived in the West as of 2006?
- A. 12
 - B. 25
 - C. 30
 - D. 10
 - E. 18

Answer: B
Bloom's level: Knowledge
Page reference: 11
Learning objective: 4

36. In which three states would you find half of the Asian–Pacific Islander population of the U.S.?
- A. Hawaii, California, and Nevada
 - B. Oregon, Washington, and Idaho
 - C. California, New York, and Hawaii
 - D. New Mexico, Arizona, and California
 - E. California, New Mexico, and Arizona

Answer: C
Bloom's level: Knowledge
Page reference: 11
Learning objective: 4

37. Among those Americans who were classified as Hispanic in the 2000 census, 60 percent identified themselves as
- A. Cuban.
 - B. Puerto Rican.
 - C. Spanish.
 - D. Mexican.
 - E. Guatemalan.

Answer: D

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 11

Learning objective: 4

38. What is the purpose of a PIRG?
- A. Lobbying for corporate interests at the state level
 - B. Serving as public policy “watchdog” group
 - C. Unionizing workers, generally auto workers
 - D. Organizing teachers’ unions in multiple states
 - E. Organizing state lobbyists for a particular cause into a federal lobbying organization

Answer: B

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 11

Learning objective: 4

39. The text cites a 2006 poll that asked citizens about the level of trust they had in local, state, and federal governments. How did the three government levels rank in the poll results, from most trust to least?
- A. Federal, local, state
 - B. State, federal, local
 - C. Local, federal, state
 - D. Local, state, federal
 - E. All government levels ranked equally, at about 65 percent.

Answer: D

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 12

Learning objective: 4

40. What are redistributive policies?
- A. Those that shift wealth from one segment of the population to another, generally from rich to poor
 - B. Those that shift the tax burden from individuals to corporations
 - C. Those that shift the source of taxes from income to purchases
 - D. Those that attempt to equalize the percentage of taxes paid by each individual, taking into account both income and sales taxes
 - E. Those that shift the tax burden from corporations to individuals

Answer: A

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 12

Learning objective: 4

41. At what level of government are redistributive policies least likely found?
- A. The local level
 - B. The state level
 - C. The federal level
 - D. About equally at the local and federal level
 - E. About equally at all levels of government

Answer: A

Bloom's level: Comprehension

Page reference: 12

Learning objective: 4

42. Which of the following best describes the behavior of most mayors and city officials?
- A. They generally push for more radical agendas and reforms than state or federal officials, secure in their community's support.
 - B. If they are serving a first term, they generally view their election as a mandate for a change in the status quo.
 - C. They usually try to avoid confrontation or altering the status quo in ways that would divide their communities.
 - D. They are usually the ones who initiate redistributive policies in order to shift resources to poorer constituents (something state or federal elected officials are reluctant to do).
 - E. They are usually reluctant to tell constituents to take their arguments in support of redistributive policies to a higher level of government, as this will diminish their own power within the community.

Answer: C

Bloom's level: Comprehension

Page reference: 12-13

Learning objective: 4

43. If you were a small-town mayor, which of the following would likely be last on your agenda?
- A. Convincing a manufacturer to build a facility in your town
 - B. Repaving downtown streets
 - C. Upgrading the 911 call center at your fire/rescue station
 - D. Writing a grant for matching funds for an after-school program in your grammar school
 - E. Changing the property tax code to decrease the property taxes paid by citizens whose income falls below the federal poverty guidelines

Answer: E

Bloom's level: Comprehension

Page reference: 12

Learning objective: 4

44. A NIMBY reaction is most likely to be triggered in a community when it is announced that
- A. federal funds have been procured to build a new high school.
 - B. a new landfill will be built.
 - C. a local election has no clear winner and a runoff will result.
 - D. a proposed new airport will not be built after all.
 - E. an elected official has been accused of scandalous behavior.

Answer: B

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 13

Learning objective: 4

45. Professional associations are concerned with public policy for all but which of the following?
- A. Rules for admission to their profession or trade
 - B. The way in which professional misconduct is defined and punished
 - C. The nature of regulatory laws
 - D. The makeup of regulatory boards and agencies
 - E. Taxes charged by the government on products unrelated to their profession

Answer: E

Bloom's level: comprehension

Page reference: 9-10

Learning objective: 3

46. To which government(s) do citizens typically feel closest?
- A. The national government
 - B. Foreign governments
 - C. State governments
 - D. City and county governments
 - E. International governments

Answer: D

Bloom's level: knowledge

Page reference: 12

Learning objective: 4

47. Citizen opposition to having a drug treatment clinic or a prison in their neighborhood is an example of
- A. a total lack of empathy.
 - B. the Not in My Back Yard response.
 - C. PACs.
 - D. political propaganda.
 - E. the please pick another place pattern.

Answer: B

Bloom's level: comprehension

Page reference: 13

Learning objective: 4

48. Compared to state and national elections, local elections
- A. tend to have lower levels of turnout.
 - B. occur much less frequently.
 - C. are much more competitive.
 - D. generate greater levels of citizen interest.
 - E. typically have greater rates of citizen participation.

Answer: A

Bloom's level: comprehension

Page reference: 14

Learning objective: 5

49. Which of the following is least likely to be found in a small community newspaper?
- A. coverage of the high school football team's big game
 - B. coverage of the most recent city council meeting
 - C. coverage of a congressional debate over tax increases
 - D. coverage of a new manufacturing plant opening
 - E. coverage of a congressional election

Answer: B

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 13

Learning objective: 5

50. What event is most likely to result in large voter turnout at the local level?
- A. A mayoral election
 - B. A city council or commissioner election
 - C. A school board election
 - D. A gubernatorial election
 - E. A police commissioner election

Answer: D

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 514

Learning objective: 5

51. Though Thomas Jefferson declared the town meeting to be “the noblest, wisest instrument yet devised for the conduct of public affairs,” what percentage of the population, on average, attends such meetings today?
- A. 2 to 3 percent
 - B. 5 percent
 - C. 8 to 10 percent
 - D. 28 percent
 - E. 32 percent

Answer: A

Bloom’s level: Knowledge

Page reference: 14

Learning objective: 5

52. What factors contribute to what the text refers to as “grassroots apathy”?
- A. Local elections held at times when there is no national or state election
 - B. When many of the local candidates in an election run unopposed
 - C. When a ballot issue would only affect a small portion of the population
 - D. When none of the issues on the ballot are particularly controversial
 - E. When ballot issues only address taxes or school-related issues

Answer: E

Bloom’s level: Knowledge

Page reference: 14

Learning objective: 5

53. What does the text identify as “one of the greatest threats to the economic health of the country”?
- A. Inadequate federal reaction to natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina
 - B. The seemingly unbreakable cycle of poverty in inner cities
 - C. Consistently decreasing federal and state funds for public education
 - D. Consistently decreasing federal and state funds for public health care
 - E. A lack of community involvement at the local level

Answer: B

Bloom’s level: Knowledge

Page reference: 15

Learning objective: 6

54. Which of the following best describes the state and federal initiatives to assist inner-city residents and bring them into the economic mainstream?
- A. Promising
 - B. Nonexistent (most have been discontinued)
 - C. Inadequate
 - D. A bright spot of success in an otherwise dismal economic picture
 - E. Hugely successful in some states, but dismal in others

Answer: C

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 15

Learning objective: 6

55. Which of the following does NOT contribute to the fiscal challenges facing city and state officials?
- A. Increased Internet purchasing
 - B. A shift to the consumption of goods rather than services
 - C. Increasing health care costs
 - D. Increasing energy prices
 - E. Decreasing voter participation in state and local elections

Answer: E

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 15

Learning objective: 6

56. How is the issue of immigration, at the local level where foreign-born residents have recently settled, best described?
- A. The value of immigrant labor is best appreciated at the local level.
 - B. In smaller communities, individuals are more likely to be accepting of new immigrants.
 - C. Immigration reform at the federal level has “trickled down” to the local level and greatly improved relations between native-born Americans and new immigrants.
 - D. Many longtime residents resent the new immigrants and have pushed both local and state officials to do something to stop, or at least slow, immigration.
 - E. Most new immigrants keep to themselves and neither want nor seek interaction with the established community.

Answer: D

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 15-16

Learning objective: 6

57. What percentage of state expenditures in 2007 went to corrections?
- A. 3
 - B. 7
 - C. 10
 - D. 11
 - E. 14

Answer: B

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 17

Learning objective: 6

58. Which of the following is NOT among the solutions that states have implemented in order to decrease the cost of corrections and prisons?
- A. Diverting potential inmates to rehabilitation instead
 - B. Offering credits to low-risk offenders so they can be released early
 - C. Increasing the use of private prisons, sometimes in other states
 - D. Requiring judges to implement mandatory minimum sentences in order to decrease the need for parole hearings
 - E. All of these are solutions states have pursued.

Answer: D

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 17

Learning objective: 6

True-False Questions

1. Since Robert and Helen Lynd's groundbreaking study of Muncie, Indiana in the 1920s, similar, more recent studies of other cities have reached the same conclusions.

Answer: False

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 4

Learning objective: 1

2. According to sociologists such as Floyd Hunter, a city's leading industrialist would be subordinate to the city's mayor in that city's social stratification.

Answer: False

Bloom's level: Application

Page reference: 4

Learning objective: 1

3. A community power theorist would insist that though the social structure of a community is important, it is not the determining factor when distributing goods and services through local politics.

Answer: True

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 4-5

Learning objective: 1

4. Though state and local governments make significant contributions to the U.S. economy, the federal government raises and spends more money.

Answer: False

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 6

Learning objective: 2

5. State and local correctional facilities house 88 percent of the U.S. prison and jail inmates.

Answer: True

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference 6

Learning objective: 2

6. There are often extensive rules and requirements that accompany federal funding to state and local government.

Answer: True

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 7

Learning objective: 2

7. Despite historical efforts to balance the national power of individual states, states with larger populations exert greater influence on how most U.S. citizens are governed.

Answer: True

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 8

Learning objective: 3

8. One of the greatest strengths of special-interest groups is their cohesion and agreement on state, local, and federal policy goals.

Answer: False

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 7

Learning objective: 3

9. Citizens' lobbying groups, such as those who support same-sex marriage or are against unionization, influence decision making at the state level.
Answer: True
Bloom's level: Knowledge
Page reference: 10
Learning objective: 4
10. Federal lobbying scandals, such as the one involving Jack Abramoff, have greatly influenced federal lobbying laws but have had little effect on state lobbying laws.
Answer: False
Bloom's level: Knowledge
Page reference: 10
Learning objective: 4
11. As of 2006, Hispanics outnumbered African Americans in the U.S. population.
Answer: True
Bloom's level: Knowledge
Page reference: 11
Learning objective: 4
12. Redistributive policies tend to favor the poor.
Answer: True
Bloom's level: Knowledge
Page reference: 12
Learning objective: 4
13. Voter participation is generally higher for local elections, since those issues affect voters' lives more directly.
Answer: False
Bloom's level: Knowledge
Page reference: 14
Learning objective: 5
14. The Environmental Protection Agency applauded and endorsed California's request to set stricter motor vehicle emissions laws.
Answer: False
Bloom's level: Knowledge
Page reference: 12
Learning objective: 4
15. The town meeting continues to be the one community political process that still attracts large crowds, but town meetings are only held in New England.
Answer: False
Bloom's level: Knowledge
Page reference: 14
Learning objective: 5

16. Citizens tend to have greater interest in, and more information about, local government than the national government.

Answer: false

Bloom's reference: comprehension

Page reference: 14

Learning objective: 5

17. Compared to the national government, local governments are more likely to engage in redistributive policies.

Answer: false

Bloom's reference: comprehension

Page reference: 12-13

Learning objective: 4

18. Proposals to raise taxes, cut school funding, or build low-income housing are likely to spur political participation in small communities.

Answer: True

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 14

Learning objective: 5

19. Widespread use of the Internet has helped increase tax revenues in most communities.

Answer: False

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 15

Learning objective: 6

20. Federal officials are proposing cuts to many of the programs that aid state and local governments.

Answer: True

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 15

Learning objective: 6

21. In order to address the growing needs of local communities, citizens are increasingly supporting tax increases at the local level.

Answer: False

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 15

Learning objective: 6

22. Local communities generally welcome new immigrants because the role of immigrants in American history is so revered.

Answer: False

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 15

Learning objective: 6

23. Despite tragic evidence—such as the failure of New Orleans' levees—that the country's infrastructure is in dire need of attention, the cost of repairs or replacements is generally beyond most states' fiscal capacity.

Answer: True

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 16

Learning objective: 6

24. Privatization of correctional facilities is one of the ways states are trying to counter the rapidly increasing cost of maintaining such facilities.

Answer: True

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 17

Learning objective: 6

25. Most states support the No Child Left Behind program, because it increases the amount of federal funding states receive without many requirements.

Answer: False

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 17

Learning objective: 6

26. Local public hospitals are one of the few health-care-related industries that are not suffering as a result of skyrocketing health care costs in the U.S.

Answer: False

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 17

Learning objective: 6

27. The traditional description of wealthier suburbs and poorer inner cities is no longer accurate.

Answer: False

Bloom's level: Knowledge

Page reference: 17

Learning objective: 6

Short Answer

1. Identify some of the policy areas in which state and local governments typically make decisions.
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 5-7
2. Define social stratification and explain its relationship to the power elite identified by some social scientists.
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 4
3. Explain the theory of pluralism.
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 5
4. Compare levels of employment in the national government to those in state and local governments.
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 7
5. What are professional associations and why are they active in state and local politics?
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 9-10
6. Why might interest groups yield greater influence in state and local politics than in national politics?
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 7
7. What does it mean to say a group is a “watchdog” of the public policy process? Give an example of a group that might claim it is a watchdog group.
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 11
8. Identify several of the states with the highest percentage of minority populations. Why might this matter?
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 11
9. Identify patterns in citizen levels of trust toward different segments of the United States government.
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 12

10. Why might local governments avoid involvement in redistributive policies?
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 12
11. What is meant by NIMBY? Give an example of how it might happen.
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 13
12. What is the nature of local media coverage of local politics?
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 13
13. Identify the conditions under which citizen activism and civic initiatives are more likely to occur.
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 14-15
14. Identify several of the main issues currently facing state and local governments.
Bloom's reference: analysis
Page reference: 15-17

Essay Questions

1. Compare and contrast levels of revenue, spending, and employment in the national government versus those in state and local governments.
Bloom's reference: evaluation
Page reference: 5-7
2. Contrast the functions of state and local governments with those of the federal government.
Bloom's reference: evaluation
Page reference: 5-7
3. Assess the influence of interest groups in national politics versus their influence in state and local politics.
Bloom's reference: evaluation
Page reference: 7-10
4. Evaluate the significance of state size with regard to national policy.
Bloom's reference: evaluation
Page reference: 8

5. Compare the activities and influence of lobbyists at the national level and at the state and local levels.
Bloom's reference: evaluation
Page reference: 10-11
6. As racial and ethnic "minority" groups become majorities in more states, what might happen to political divisions in those states and what might the effects of this trend be on public policies?
Bloom's reference: evaluation
Page reference: 11
7. Compare and contrast citizen participation in local government with participation in national government.
Bloom's reference: evaluation
Page reference: 12-13
8. Should states have control over environmental policies or should the federal government have exclusive control in this area?
Bloom's reference: evaluation
Page reference: 13
9. Who was DeWitt Clinton and what were his main contributions to American politics?
Bloom's reference: evaluation
Page reference: 16
10. List and discuss the main challenges currently facing state and local governments.
Bloom's reference: evaluation
Page reference: 15-17
11. Discuss the implications of the fact that the American political system does not rely exclusively on one level of government to address public policy issues.
Bloom's reference: evaluation
Page reference: 17