



AP GOVERNMENT TEST CHAPTER 1
An Introduction to Government



MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- 1) Political knowledge
 - A) is not that important in a democracy.
 - B) is greater among youth than the elderly.
 - C) is generally high in the United States.
 - D) fosters political tolerance.
 - E) fosters cynicism about the government.

- 2) Government is defined as the
 - A) executive branch and its agencies.
 - B) institutions through which public policies are made for society.
 - C) agency that implements policies that have been enacted by other institutions of the political system.
 - D) body that is concerned with economic problems while leaving social problems to other institutions of society.
 - E) organization that brings problems to the attention of public officials.

- 3) The policymaking institutions of the American national government include all of the following EXCEPT
 - A) Congress.
 - B) the Supreme Court.
 - C) political parties.
 - D) the Presidency.
 - E) the Senate.

- 4) A public good is defined as
 - A) something that the government provides at a loss rather than a profit.
 - B) something in which any member of society can share.
 - C) a public policy that is good for the nation as a whole.
 - D) something provided by the government that cannot be provided by the private sector.
 - E) a choice that government makes in response to a political issue.

- 5) Single-issue groups
- A) usually run their own candidates for public office.
 - B) are rapidly losing prominence in American politics.
 - C) are highly regarded by political scientists for their contributions to democracy.
 - D) help facilitate the construction of a cohesive national public policy.
 - E) have little sympathy for compromising.
- 6) A set of institutions and activities that link together government, politics, and public policy is
- A) political decision making.
 - B) a linkage institution.
 - C) a policy agenda.
 - D) a policymaking system.
 - E) a government.
- 7) A choice that government makes in response to some issue on its agenda is called
- A) a law.
 - B) stimulus-response.
 - C) public policy.
 - D) rational choice theory.
 - E) selective selection.
- 8) The effects a policy has on people and problems are called
- A) policy implementation.
 - B) policy agenda.
 - C) policy issues.
 - D) policy outputs.
 - E) policy impacts.
- 9) Two of the most important principles of democratic theory are majority rule and
- A) Roberts' Rules of Order.
 - B) judicial review.
 - C) minority rights.
 - D) majority restraint.
 - E) the plurality rule.

- 10) Pluralist theory contends that in the United States
- A) too many influential groups cripple government's ability to govern.
 - B) many groups vie for power with no one set of groups dominating.
 - C) the many members of Congress dominate a singular official such as the President.
 - D) society is governed solely by an upper-class elite.
 - E) because most citizens fail to pay attention to serious issues, government has become an elite institution.
- 11) Representation refers to
- A) the protection of minority rights in a pluralist system.
 - B) electing office holders in fair and free elections.
 - C) the correspondence between the few leaders and the many followers in a democracy.
 - D) majority rule.
 - E) all policy views being included in political debate.
- 12) Which of the following is NOT a contemporary theory of democracy?
- A) pluralism
 - B) hyperpluralism
 - C) democratic centralism
 - D) class theory
 - E) elite theory
- 13) According to hyperpluralists, the increasing caseloads of federal and state courts demonstrate
- A) that groups have lost confidence in Congress.
 - B) the high status of attorneys in the United States.
 - C) the inability to control the bureaucracy in implementing policy.
 - D) the expanding scope of government in the United States.
 - E) groups being more likely to appeal to different institutions in order to gain policy benefits.
- 14) People who worry about PACs are most especially concerned about
- A) too much democracy being dangerous to social stability.
 - B) the close connection between money and politics.
 - C) the decline in American voter turnout.
 - D) single-issue voters.
 - E) the role Party Affairs Councils play in elections.

15) The ability of groups to prevent the government from taking actions adverse to their interests leads to what the text calls

- A) Dahl's "ideal democratic process."
- B) policy gridlock.
- C) enlightened understanding.
- D) elite dominance.
- E) budget deficits.

16) The largest item in the U.S. government budget, consuming more than one-fifth of spending, is

- A) national defense.
- B) foreign aid.
- C) education spending.
- D) welfare for the poor.
- E) Social Security payments.

17) Escalating campaign costs are a challenge to democracy because

- A) they reflect diverse interests.
- B) only the wealthy can enter into political campaigns.
- C) they are associated with more technical policies.
- D) it is believed that PAC contributions affect the way members of Congress vote on some issues.
- E) they lead to policy gridlock.

18) The writers of the U.S. Constitution

- A) were interested in promoting equality above all else.
- B) believed in majority rule.
- C) patterned our government after Britain's except for the King.
- D) sought to establish the most democratic system they could.
- E) were distrustful of democracy.

19) Political issues

- A) are always acted upon by the government.
- B) arise when people disagree about a problem or public policy choices made to combat a problem.
- C) are limited in number in the United States.
- D) usually emerge out of group consensus on a problem.
- E) all of the above

- 20) When compared to the rest of the world, America has a relatively low
- A) frequency of elections.
 - B) number of candidates who seek office.
 - C) number of offices up for election.
 - D) voter turnout in elections.
 - E) all of the above
- 21) One advantage of the Internet for democracy is that
- A) it will provide more accurate information than traditional news sources.
 - B) it will provide more political information to the elderly.
 - C) it makes it easier for citizens to communicate directly with government.
 - D) it makes it easy to avoid political topics.
 - E) it provides less information than newspapers.
- 22) Governments in the modern world, whether democratic or not, are similar in doing all of the following EXCEPT
- A) providing public services.
 - B) providing public goods.
 - C) collecting taxes.
 - D) maintaining a national defense.
 - E) protecting citizens' civil liberties.
- 23) A means of selecting policymakers and/or organizing government so that policy represents and responds to the public's preferences is
- A) government.
 - B) politics.
 - C) public administration.
 - D) democracy.
 - E) all of the above
- 24) The most fundamental element of democratic theory is
- A) access to information.
 - B) equality.
 - C) majority rule.
 - D) government efficiency.
 - E) power to the people!

- 25) American government is viewed most positively by the
- A) hyperpluralist theory.
 - B) socialist theory.
 - C) elite and class theory.
 - D) positivist philosophy.
 - E) pluralist theory.

Essay Question

The American Governmental system is a delicate balance between the Republic and a democratic society. Explain the delicate balance.

Hints:

Show an understanding of the puzzle

Make sure you clearly define both arenas

Make sure you identify the problem and the elements of the problem

Perhaps illiberal democracy

Perhaps consider way one we must be forced to engage

What are up with "We the People"?

Make sure you discuss possible solution

Your response can be in bullet form.