AP Government
Multiple Choice questions

(From 2009 Course Description, 1989, 1999, 2002 released exams)
I. Constitutional Underpinnings

1. In the organization of government, the principle of federalism is illustrated BEST by the
   a. President's power as commander in chief.
   b. Separation of powers between the US Supreme Court and the Congress.
   c. Representation system for electing senators.
   d. Qualifications for the office of President.
   e. Federal bureaucracy.

2. The Constitution and its amendments expressly prohibit all of the following EXCEPT
   a. Slavery.
   b. Double jeopardy.
   c. Cruel and unusual punishment.
   d. Unreasonable searches and seizures.
   e. Sex discrimination in employment.

3. All of the following were concerns about the Articles of Confederation that led to the calling of the Constitutional Convention of 1787 EXCEPT
   a. Dissatisfaction over safeguards of individual rights and liberties.
   b. Fears for the stability of the central government.
   c. Desire to promote trade among the states.
   d. The need to give the central government the power to levy taxes.
   e. Dissatisfaction with the central government’s ability to provide for the national defense.

4. In the United States, which of the following is a rule on voting found in the Constitution or its amendments?
   a. No person may be denied the right to vote merely for lack of either state or federal citizenship.
   b. No person 18 years of age or older may be denied the right to vote on account of age.
   c. No person may be denied the right to vote merely because he or she has previously served a prison sentence.
   d. A state may not establish a residency requirement for voting.
   e. A state may require a person to pay a poll tax in order to register to vote.

5. Which of the following is argued by James Madison in The Federalist paper number 10?
   a. A system of republican representation helps to limit the excesses of factionalism.
   b. Small republics are better able to ensure individual liberty than are large republics.
   c. The presence of a few large factions helps to protect the rights of minorities.
   d. Participatory democracy is the surest way to prevent tyranny.
   e. The elimination of the causes of factionalism the best protection against tyranny.

6. The Tenth Amendment to the Constitution has been interpreted by the Supreme Court to
   a. Prevent states from taxing agencies of the federal government.
   b. Reserve powers to the states.
   c. Restrict the application of judicial review.
   d. Allow for the burning of the flag as an expression of protest.
   e. Limit the use of the legislative veto.

7. The terms “fiscal federalism” and “cooperative federalism” refer to situations in which?
   a. The federal government completely dominates state and local governments.
   b. States are forbidden any activity that has not been specifically approved by the Supreme Court.
   c. The federal judiciary uses its power of judicial review to ensure congressional dominance over state legislatures.
   d. State, municipal, and local income taxes are pooled by special agreement and redistributed in accordance with individual need.
Federal, state and local governments work together to complete a project, with the federal government providing much of the project funding.

8. Of the following, which has been used most to expand the power of the national government?
   a. The commerce clause of the Constitution
   b. The habeas corpus clause of the Constitution
   c. The bill of attainder clause of the Constitution
   d. The First Amendment
   e. The Fifth Amendment

9. Following the Civil War the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution was designed to overturn the
   a. Dred Scott decision.
   c. Emancipation Proclamation.
   d. Civil Rights Act of 1866.
   e. Slaughterhouse cases.

10. The procedure for formally amending the United States Constitution BEST illustrates which of the following?
    a. The dominance of the national government over state governments
    b. The dominance of the state governments over the national government
    c. The Founding Fathers’ desire to facilitate rapid constitutional revisions
    d. The Supreme Court’s power to review constitutional amendments
    e. The federal structure of the United States government

11. Which of the following is one of the central concerns of the First Amendment?
    a. The supremacy of the national over the state governments
    b. The right of citizens to bear arms
    c. The division of powers among the tree branches of government
    d. The right of citizens to petition the government for redress of grievances
    e. The protection of the rights of those accused of a crime.

12. The “wall of separation” doctrine refers to the
    a. Division between levels of government.
    b. Unique powers possessed by each branch of government.
    c. Division of church and state.
    d. Barrier between legislative chambers.
    e. Differentiation of municipal powers from county powers.

13. States and localities have the most discretion in establishing policy when federal funding is derived from
    a. Categorical grants
    b. Matching grants
    c. Block grants
    d. Project grants
    e. Grants-in-aid

14. Which of the following is true under the system of checks and balances?
    a. The Supreme Court can overrule the President’s policy proposals.
    b. The Senate must ratify realites negotiated by the President before they become law.
    c. A bill becomes law when the House and the Senate pass it, and the Supreme Court declares it constitutional.
    d. The Supreme Court can remove members of Congress, and Congress can impeach the President.
    e. The House of Representatives appoints justices to the Supreme Court and the Senate approves the appointments.
15. In *The Federalist Number 10*, James Madison argued that factions in a republic are
a. A more serious threat if the republic is large.
b. Natural but controllable by institutions.
c. Not likely to occur if people are honest.
d. Prevented by majority rule.
e. Prevented by free elections.

16. Which of the following was the most important effect of replacing the Articles of Confederation with the Constitution of 1787?
a. The protection of free speech
b. The guarantee of states’ rights
c. The establishment of direct democracy
d. The creation of a strong national government
e. The establishment of judicial review

17. Which of the following is NOT a core value of United States political culture?
a. Legal equality
b. Political equality
c. Economic equality
d. Freedom of religion
e. Freedom of speech

18. In *Marbury v. Madison* (1803), the Supreme Court assumed the power to
a. Decide whether internal congressional procedures are constitutional.
b. Advice Congress on the constitutionality of a proposed law.
c. Regulate slavery.
d. Decide on the constitutionality of a law or an executive action.
e. Approve executive agreements.

Questions 22-23 refer to the following excerpt from a US Supreme Court decision.

> We are unanimously of opinion, that the law passed by the legislature of Maryland, imposing a tax on the Bank of the United States, is unconstitutional and void...This is a tax on the operation of an instrument employed by the government of the Union to carry its powers into execution. Such a tax must be unconstitutional...

19. This decision of the Supreme Court upheld the principle that
a. The federal government and the state governments are equal.
b. Congress has only those powers specifically enumerated in the Constitution.
c. Congress has the power to make laws to carry out the constitutional duties.
d. Taxation without representation is unconstitutional.
e. The federal government alone may levy taxes.

20. Which of the following resulted from this Supreme Court decision?
a. The power of the national government was strengthened.
b. The power of the Supreme Court was weakened.
c. The power of state governments to tax individual citizens was clearly limited.
d. Congress was given the power to coin money.
e. Congress alone was given the power to charter banks.

21. In the Constitution as originally ratified in 1788, the provisions regarding which of the following most closely approximate popular, marjoritarian democracy?
a. Election of members of the House of Representatives
b. Election of members of the Senate
c. Election of the President  
d. Ratification of treaties  
e. Confirmation of presidential appointments

22. Which of the following BEST defines the constitutional interpretation of federalism?
   a. The federal government and the states each have separate and mutually exclusive roles and responsibilities.  
b. The states have some powers reserved to them which they may exercise if the Supreme Court permits.  
c. The federal government and the states have separate but overlapping powers; where these powers conflict, the federal government prevails.  
d. The states may only exercise those powers delegated to them by Congress.  
e. The federal government may exercise only those powers specifically enumerated in the Constitution.

23. All of the following issues were decided at the Constitutional Convention EXCEPT
   a. Representation in the legislature.  
b. Voting qualifications of the electorate.  
c. Congressional power to override a presidential veto.  
d. Qualifications for members of the House and Senate.  
e. LOOKS LIKE ONE IS MISSING HERE, BUT THIS IS THE WAY IT CAME TO ME.

24. Which of the following is an example of checks and balances, as established by the Constitution?
   a. A requirement that states lower their legal drinking age to eighteen as a condition of receiving funds through federal highway grant programs.  
b. Media criticism of public officials during an election campaign period.  
c. The Supreme Court's ability to overturn a lower court decision.  
d. The requirement that presidential appointments to the Supreme Court be approved by the Senate.  
e. The election of the President by the Electoral College rather than by direct election.

25. Registered voters directly elect which of the following?
   1. The president of the United States  
   2. Supreme Court justices  
   3. Members of the Senate  
   4. Members of the House of Representatives
   b. I only  
c. IV only  
d. I and II only  
e. III and IV only  
f. II, III, and IV only

26. The importance of Shays' Rebellion to the development of the US Constitution was that it
   a. Revealed the necessity of both adding the Bill of Rights to the Constitution and creating a new system of checks and balances.  
b. Demonstrated the intensity of antiratification sentiment within the thirteen states.  
c. Indicated that a strong, constitutionally designed national government was needed to protect property and maintain order.  
d. Convinced the delegates attending the Constitutional Convention to accept the Connecticut Plan.  
e. Reinforced the idea that slavery should be outlawed in the new constitution.
27. In a federal system of government, political power is primarily
   a. Vested in local governments.
   b. Vested in the regional government.
   c. Vested in the central government.
   d. Divided between the central government and regional governments.
   e. Divided between regional governments and local governments.

28. In *McCulloch v. Maryland*, the Supreme Court established which of the following principles?
   a. States cannot interfere with or tax the legitimate activities of the federal government.
   b. The judicial branch cannot intervene in political disputes between the President and Congress.
   c. The federal Bill of Rights places no limitations on the states.
   d. The federal government has the power to regulate commerce.
   e. It is within the judiciary’s authority to interpret the Constitution.

29. The reserved powers of the state governments can be BEST described as those powers
   a. Not specifically granted to the national government or denied to the states.
   b. Implied in the Fifth Amendment.
   c. Listed specifically in the Tenth Amendment.
   d. Exercised both national and state governments.
   e. Granted to states as part of the implied powers doctrine.

30. The establishment clause in the First Amendment does which of the following?
   a. Guarantees freedom of speech to all citizens.
   b. Prevents prior restraint of the press.
   c. Prohibits the setting up of a state church.
   d. Defines the concept of dual citizenship.
   e. Allows citizens to enter freely into contracts with other citizens.

**II. Institutions of US Government**

The Congress

1. All of the following contribute to the success of incumbent members of Congress in election campaigns EXCEPT
   a. Incumbents usually raise more campaign funds than do their challengers.
   b. Incumbents tend to understand national issues better than do their challengers.
   c. Incumbents are usually better known to voters than are their challengers.
   d. Incumbents can use legislative staff to perform campaign services.
   e. Incumbents often sit on committees that permit to serve district interests.

2. The voting patterns of members of Congress correlate most strongly with
   a. The population density of their districts.
   b. Their economic background.
   c. Their education level.
   d. Their political party affiliation.
   e. The location of their districts.

3. A member of the House of Representatives who wishes to be influential in the House itself would most likely seek a place on which of the following committees?
   a. Agriculture.
   b. International Relations.
   c. Transportation and Infrastructure.
   d. Rules.
   e. Veterans’ Affairs.
4. Which of the following committees of the House of Representatives sets the conditions for debate and amendment of most legislation?
   a. Ways and Means
   b. Appropriations
   c. Judiciary
   d. Rules
   e. Government Operations

5. Congressional district boundaries are usually redrawn every ten years by the
   a. Bureau of the Census
   b. State legislatures
   c. President
   d. House Rules Committee
   e. Federal Election Commission

6. The franking privilege refers to the
   a. Federal Reserve Board’s control over interest rates.
   b. Practice of permitting senators to preview lists of judicial nominees.
   c. Practice whereby legislators with the most seniority select the committees on which they want to serve.
   d. Right of the chair to control the schedule of his or her congressional committee.
   e. Right of members of Congress to send mail to their constituents at the government’s expense.

7. Which of the following is generally true of the gerrymandering of congressional districts?
   a. It results in more Democrats being elected to the House.
   b. It results in more Republicans being elected to the House.
   c. It guarantees that all minority parties will be equally represented.
   d. It creates districts that favor one political party over another.
   e. It violates the principle of one-person one-vote.

1. An electoral system based on single-member districts is usually characterized by
   a. Strong, centralized political parties and a weak executive.
   b. Higher rates of voter turnout than are common in other systems.
   c. Legislative representation of each party in proportion to the number of votes it receives proportion.
   d. Domination of the legislature by two political parties.
   e. Ideological rather than mass-based parties.

8. A major difference between the House of Representatives and the Senate is that
   a. Filibusters are possible only in the House.
   b. Revenue bills must originate in the Senate.
   c. Judicial nominations originate in a House committee.
   d. Each state has equal representation in the House but not in the Senate.
   e. There is unlimited debate in the senate but not in the House.

9. To which of the following congressional committees would a proposal to reform the national income-tax system initially be sent?
   a. House Appropriations Committee
   b. House Ways and Means Committee
   c. House Budget Committee
   d. Senate Budget Committee
10. A first-term member of the House of Representatives from North Dakota who wished to maximize opportunities for constituent service would be MOST likely to seek placement on which of the following committees?
   a. Judiciary
   b. Agriculture
   c. Rules
   d. Foreign Affairs
   e. Science and Technology

11. In the last thirty years, the single most important variable in determining the outcome of an election for a member of the House of Representatives has been
   a. Incumbency.
   b. Personal wealth.
   c. Previous political offices held in the district.
   d. Membership in the political party of the president.
   e. Positions on key social issues.

12. The power of the Rules committee in the House of Representatives rests on its authority to
   a. Choose the chairs of other standing committees and issue rules of the selection of subcommittee chairs.
   b. Initiate all spending legislation and hold budget hearings.
   c. Place a bill on the legislative calendar, limit the time for debate, and determine the type of amendments allowed.
   d. Determine the procedures by which nominations by the President will be approved by the House.
   e. Choose the President if no candidate wins a majority in the Electoral College.

13. The details of legislation are usually worked out in which of the following settings?
   a. A party caucus
   b. The majority leader's office
   c. The floor of the House
   d. Legislative hearings
   e. A subcommittee

14. “Pork barrel” legislation helps the reelection chances of a member of Congress because such legislation
   a. Gives the member of Congress national standing and coverage on national television news.
   b. Helps earn the member of congress a reputation for service to his or her district.
   c. Attracts campaign contributions from ideological political action committees (PACs).
   d. Prevents other candidates from claiming that the member of Congress is too liberal for his or her district.
   e. Requires the member of Congress to travel extensively.

15. Most of the bills introduced in the House and the Senate are then
   a. Passed by one chamber but not the other.
   b. Passed by one chamber but not the other.
   c. Referred to committee but never sent to the full Congress.
   d. Voted down during the amendment stage of the floor debate.
   e. Killed in the Rules Committee.
16. The subject of the cartoon above that is no longer a part of the American political system is the
   a. Role of state legislatures in electing US Senators.
   b. The role of money in influencing the outcome of an election.
   c. Election of millionaires to the Senate.
   d. High cost of running for Senate.
   e. Role of special interests in campaigns for state legislatures.

17. Which of the following has decreased in Congress over the past 20 years?
   a. The chances of members’ reelection
   b. The influence of committee chairs
   c. The power of subcommittees
   d. The total number of congressional staff employees
   e. The cost of congressional elections
18. Assume a two-member Republican majority in the US Senate and a Democratic presidential administration. Which of the senators listed on the chart above would fill a vacancy for chair of the Foreign Relations Committee under the normal working of the seniority system?
   a. Senator A
   b. Senator B
   c. Senator C
   d. Senator D
   e. Senator E

19. Debate of a bill in the House of Representatives under a “closed rule” means that
   a. The bill can only be amended by section.
   b. Debate on the bill will consist of five-minute speeches, pro and con.
   c. Only senior members are allowed to participate.
   d. Amendments to the bill cannot be offered.
   e. The bill must be approved by 2/3 of the House.

20. The role of a conference committee in Congress is to
   a. Hold hearings on proposed legislation.
   b. Oversee the actions of the executive branch of the government.
   c. Decide which bills should be considered by the full Senate.
   d. Conduct hearings that make information available to the public.
   e. Reconcile differences in bills passed by the House and Senate.

21. The committee system is more important in the House than in the Senate because
   a. The seniority system plays no role in the House and therefore committees must play a larger role.
   b. The Constitution mandates the type of committee structure in the House.
   c. Committee members are appointed by the President.
   d. The House is so large that more work can be accomplished in committees than on the floor.
   e. The majority party in the House prefers to give priority to the work of the committees.

22. Congressional standing committees are best described as
   a. Specially appointed investigative bodies.
   b. Joint committees of the two houses of Congress.
   c. Committees created for each session.
   d. Permanent subject-matter committees.
   e. Advisory staff agencies.

23. Which of the following actions can Congress take if the Supreme Court finds a federal law unconstitutional?
   a. Appeal the Court’s decision to the District of Columbia’s Court of Appeals.
   b. Formally request the President to veto the Court’s decision.
   c. Remove certain members of the Court and replace them with new members.
   d. Try to amend the Constitution.
   e. Reenact the same law.

24. Which of the following statements about Congress is true?
   a. Members of Congress only occasionally are interested in and pay attention to constituents.
   b. The legislative process is frequently lengthy, decentralized and characterized by compromise and bargaining.
   c. Lobbyists and political action committees (PACs) successfully induce most members of Congress to trade their votes for campaign contributions.
   d. The growth in the size of Congress as an organization is the principal cause of growth in the federal budget deficit.
   e. Debate in both houses is structured by elaborate rules enacted by leaders of the majority party.
25. In the 1992 election, the membership of Congress was altered significantly by an increase in the number of
a. Conservative Democrats.
b. Liberal Republicans.
c. Third party representatives
d. Political independents
e. Minorities and women

26. The advantages of incumbency in congressional elections include which of the following?
   I. Incumbents receive more campaign contributions than do challengers.
   II. Incumbents are able to provide important services for individual voters.
   III. The government provides campaign funds for incumbents.
   IV. The President usually endorses incumbents for reelection.
   V. Most American voters believe Congress does a good job.

   a. I and II only
   b. III and IV only
   c. I, IV and V only
   d. II, III and V only
   e. III, IV and V only

27. Which of the following statements about rules of procedure in the House and Senate is correct?
   a. Debate by a determined minority in either chamber cannot be halted.
   b. The rules in each chamber are determined by the majority whip.
   c. The rules are specified in Article I of the Constitution.
   d. The rules can be changed by the President during a national emergency.
   e. The House operates more by formal rules, while the Senate operates more on informal understandings.

28. The boundaries of United States congressional districts are usually determined by
   a. The Federal Election Commission (FEC)
   b. The state legislatures.
   c. The House Rules Committee.
   d. A conference committee of the House and Senate.
   e. The director of the United States Census Bureau.

29. The congressional power that has been contested most frequently in the federal courts is the power to
   a. Establish post offices.
   b. Coin money.
   c. Levy taxes.
   d. Regulate commerce with foreign nations.
   e. Regulate interstate commerce.

30. Which of the following is an accurate statement about committees in Congress?
   a. The work of a committee ends when it submits a bill to the full House or Senate for consideration.
   b. An individual representative or senator can serve on only one committee and one subcommittee.
   c. Membership on key committees such as House Rules and Senate Finance is limited to fixed terms.
   d. Standing committees oversee the bureaucracy’s implementation of legislation.
   e. Committee recommendations tend to have little influence on floor voting.

**The Presidency**

1. In vetoing a bill, the President does which of the following?
a. Rejects only a part of the bill without rejecting it entirely.
b. Prevents any further action on the bill.
c. Sends the bill back to conference committee.
d. Rejects all sections of the bill.
e. Decides the bill’s constitutionality.

2. The primary elections system of selecting presidential candidates has had which of the following effects?
   a. It has increased the importance of state party organizations.
   b. It has loosened the hold of party leaders over the nomination process.
   c. It has reduced the role of citizens in the candidate selection process.
   d. It has lowered the cost of running for office.
   e. It has led to a decline in the importance of party voter-registration drives.

3. Which of the following is true of a presidential veto of a piece of legislation?
   a. It is rarely overridden by Congress.
   b. It is not binding unless supported by the Cabinet.
   c. It can only be sustained on revenue bills.
   d. It is automatically reviewed by the United States Supreme Court.
   e. It is subject to approval by a congressional committee.

4. In which of the following scenarios would a presidential veto MOST likely be upheld?
   a. The President has the support of the Supreme Court.
   b. The President is in a second term, removed from partisan politics.
   c. The proposed legislation enjoys widespread bipartisan support.
   d. The proposed legislation was originally adopted by a large majority in both houses of Congress.
   e. Two-thirds of the representatives and senators are members of the same party as the President.

5. Which of the following took place after presidential candidates Truman in 1948, Nixon in 1968, and Clinton in 1992 won only pluralities of the popular vote?
   a. The election was formally decided in the House of Representatives.
   b. The election was formally decided in the Senate.
   c. The winning candidate took office after receiving less than 50% of the popular vote.
   d. The Electoral College votes cast by independents were critical in determining the winner.
   e. The results of the popular vote necessitated a runoff.
6. Which of the following statements about trends in presidential approval ratings is supported by information presented in the graph above? (31)
   a. President Reagan was the most popular President since 1953.
   b. There is little relationship between military conflicts and presidential approval ratings.
   c. Presidents have tended to become more popular over time.
   d. A President's popularity tends to fall during his term in office.
   e. President Carter suffered the largest drop in popularity of any President since 1953.

7. Which of the following is NOT a presidential role authorized by the Constitution?
   a. To be commander in chief of the armed forces
   b. To lead the political party of the President
   c. To negotiate treaties with foreign nations
   d. To be chief executive
   e. To present the State of the Union address

8. The President can do which of the following without seeking the consent of either the House or the Senate?
   a. Ratify a treaty
   b. Appoint ambassadors
   c. Appoint district court judges
   d. Deploy troops
   e. Declare war

9. Which of the following is true about the line-item veto?
   a. It is specifically granted to the President by the Constitution.
   b. It is used by many state governors.
   c. It is basically the same as a pocket veto.
   d. Its use was upheld by the Supreme Court.
   e. It would, if instituted, strengthen the power of congressional leaders.

10. Since the 1970s, Presidents have made use of executive orders at an increasing rate because executive orders
    a. Are noncontroversial measures that can be easily implemented.
    b. Are rarely defeated in Congress.
    c. Do not need to be passed by Congress.
    d. Avoid judicial review.
    e. Must be ratified by the Senate rather than by the House.

11. All of the following help to explain the President’s difficulty in controlling cabinet-level agencies EXCEPT
    a. Agencies often have political support from interest groups.
    b. Agency staff often have information and technical expertise that the President and presidential advisers lack.
    c. The President can only fire appointees before they have been confirmed by the Senate.
    d. Civil servants who remain in their jobs through changes of administration develop loyalties to their agencies.
    e. Congress is a competitor for influence over the bureaucracy.

12. In *US v. Nixon* the Supreme Court ruled that
    a. The judicial branch should not intervene in political disputes between the President and Congress.
    b. Presidential power is not automatically extended during times of national emergency.
c. Presidents must account to the Court for the way in which they implement policy.
d. There is no constitutional guarantee of unqualified executive privilege.
e. The President does not have the power of an item veto over congressional legislation.

13. All of the following are formal or informal sources of presidential power EXCEPT
a. Presidential authority to raise revenue.
b. Presidential access to the media.
c. Precedents set during previous administrations.
d. Public support.
e. The Constitution.

14. A president may persuade reluctant Congressmen to vote for a particular bill by
a. Having members who oppose the bill transferred to unpopular committees.
b. Denying campaign funds to members who oppose the bill.
c. Threatening to deny renomination to members who oppose the bill.
d. Threatening to item veto part of a different bill that enjoys bipartisan support in Congress.
e. Making a direct appeal to the public through the mass media.

15. The President’s veto power is accurately described by which of the following statements?
   i. A President sometimes threatens to veto a bill that is under discussion in order to influence congressional decision-making.
   ii. A President typically vetoes about a third of the bills passed by Congress
   iii. Congress is usually unable to override a President’s veto
a. I only
b. iii only
c. I and iii only
d. ii and iii only
e. I, ii and iii

16. Invocation of the War Powers Act of 1973 would be most important in determining which of the following?
a. The nature of the commitment of US Marines to a peace-keeping role in Lebanon
b. The amount of financial aid to the Contras of Nicaragua
c. The timing of naval maneuvers off the coast of Libya
d. The appointment of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
e. The legality of extraditing foreign agents responsible for acts of terrorism against US citizens abroad

17. The usefulness to the President of having cabinet members as political advisors is undermined by the fact that
a. The President has little latitude in choosing cabinet members.
b. Cabinet members have no political support independent of the President.
c. Cabinet members are usually drawn from Congress and retain loyalties to Congress.
d. The loyalties of cabinet members are often divided between loyalty to the President and loyalty to their own executive departments.
e. The cabinet operates as a collective unit and individual members have no access to the President.

18. When selecting a vice-presidential candidate, a presidential nominee is usually concerned primarily with choosing a running mate who
a. Has significant personal wealth.
b. Adds balance and appeal to the national ticket.
c. Comes from the same ideological wing of the party as the President.
d. Can serve as the most important domestic policy adviser to the President.
e. Can effectively preside over the Senate.
19. A President attempting to influence Congress to pass a legislative program might employ all of the following strategies EXCEPT
   a. Using the media to draw attention to the legislative program.
   b. Assigning legislative liaisons in the Executive Office of the President to lobby legislators.
   c. Denying campaign reelection funds to legislators who oppose the President's policy stand.
   d. Exploiting a partisan majority for the President's party in both the House and Senate.
   e. Reminding legislators of high popularity ratings for the President in public opinion polls.

20. Presidents have had the MOST success in changing the direction of decisions of the federal judiciary by
   a. Threatening to ask Congress to impeach specific judges.
   b. Using the media to build consensus for the President's position.
   c. Requesting that Congress reduce the term of office that judges may serve.
   d. Using the appointment process to select judges with judicial philosophies similar to those of the President.
   e. Pressuring Congress to pass the appropriate legislation to override judicial opinions.

21. Which of the following is a significant trend in the presidential nominating process over the past three decades?
   a. Replacement of national party conventions by national primaries for each party.
   b. Increasing importance of presidential primaries rather than state conventions.
   c. A sharply declining role for political action committees (PACs).
   d. Decreasing cost of campaigns.
   e. Increasing control of political party leaders over outcomes.

22. All of the following powers are granted to the President by the Constitution EXCEPT
   a. Commissioning officers in the armed forces.
   b. Addressing the Congress on the state of the union.
   c. Receiving ambassadors.
   d. Granting pardons for federal offenses.
   e. Forming new cabinet-level departments.

23. Which of the following is articulated in the War Powers Resolution?
   a. The President may declare war.
   b. The President must finance any war efforts from a special contingency fund.
   c. The President must bring troops home from hostilities within 60 to 90 days unless Congress extends the time.
   d. The President may not nationalize state militias without congressional consent.
   e. The President may not send troops into hostilities without a declaration of war from Congress or a resolution from the United Nations.

24. Which of the following procedures results in the removal of the President from office?
   a. The House and Senate vote for impeachment and the Supreme Court reaches a guilty verdict.
   b. The House votes for impeachment, and the Senate conducts a trial and reaches a guilty verdict.
   c. The House and Senate both vote for a bill of impeachment.
   d. Only the House votes for a bill of impeachment.
   e. A criminal court finds the President guilty of “high crimes and misdemeanors.”

25. All of the following have contributed to an increase in presidential power in the post-1945 era EXCEPT
   a. Tensions between the US and the Soviet Union during the Cold War period.
   b. An increase in public expectations for services for the federal government.
   c. Economic and domestic problems such as inflation, unemployment, and civil rights issues.
   d. Increasing United States' involvement in international affairs.
   e. Legislation granting the President the power to impound funds appropriated by Congress.
26. The request of recent Presidents of the line-item veto is a challenge to which of the following principles?
   a. Separation of powers
   b. Senatorial courtesy
   c. Eminent domain
   d. Executive privilege
   e. Congressional oversight

27. Cabinet members often do not have a dominant influence on presidential decision-making because
   a. Cabinet members generally maintain close independent ties to Congress.
   b. Cabinet members generally view their position only as a stepping-stone to further their own political ambitions.
   c. Cabinet members are not permitted to disagree publicly with the President.
   d. Presidential goals often conflict with the institutional goals of individual cabinet-level agencies.
   e. Only half of all cabinet members can be members of the President's party.

31. Which of the following is a result of the Electoral College system?
   a. The winner of the presidency often lacks a majority of the popular vote.
   b. Candidates focus on one-party states in which they can win most of the electoral votes.
   c. The House of Representatives frequently chooses the President from the top three candidates.
   d. Candidates focus on the state with the largest populations.
   e. Campaign spending increases because candidates emphasize television advertising.

32. In which of the following did Congress move to regain powers previously lost to the executive branch?
   a. Budget and Impoundment Control Act
   b. Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act
   c. Presidential Disability Act
   d. Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
   e. Persian Gulf War Resolutions

The Bureaucracy

1. The largest source of federal revenue is the
   a. Capital gains tax.
   b. Social security tax.
   c. Property tax.
   d. Income tax.
   e. Sales tax.

2. Federal spending for which of the following is determined by laws that lie outside the regular budgetary process?
   a. Military procurement
   b. Regulatory agency funding
   c. Government-subsidized housing programs
   d. Educational assistance programs such as student loans
   e. Entitlement programs such as Social Security

3. In recent presidential administrations, the principal staff for the President has been made up of members of the
   a. White House Office.
   b. Cabinet.
c. Congress.
d. National committee of President's party.
e. Civil service.

4. Senate confirmation is required for which of the following presidential appointments?
   I. Secretary of State
   II. White House Chief of Staff
   III. Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
   IV. Attorney General

   a. I only
   b. II and III only
   c. II and IV only
   d. I, III, and IV only
   e. I, II, III, and IV

5. The activities of the Federal Reserve Board have the most direct influence on

   a. Bank interest rates.
b. Government spending.
c. Oil prices.
d. Troop-strength levels of the armed services.
e. Availability of scarce minerals.

6. Which of the following is responsible for the preparation of executive pending proposals submitted to Congress?
   a. Treasury department
   b. Council of Economic Advisors
   c. Federal Trade Commission
   d. Department of Commerce
   e. Office of Management and Budget

7. An advantage that bureaucrats in federal government have over the President in the policy making process is that bureaucrats

   a. Control the budgetary process.
b. Have an independence from the President that is guaranteed by the Constitution.
c. Find it easier to marshal public support than does the President.
d. Usually have a continuity of service in the executive branch that the President lacks.
e. Have better access to the media than does the president.

8. Which of the following is the best predictor of the Department of Education's annual budget?
   a. The preferences of the chair of the Senate Finance Commerce Committee
   b. The budget recommendations of the National Education Association
   c. The rate of increase of teachers' salaries
   d. The number of children entering kindergarten
   e. The size of the previous year's budget

9. In general, independent regulatory commissions are created primarily for the purpose of

   a. Supporting and helping cabinet-level departments
   b. Proposing policy alternatives during periods of crisis.
c. Regulating the activities of other bureaucratic agencies to ensure that they act in a fair and objective manner.
d. Regulating certain industries to protect the public interest.
e. Increasing the President's patronage powers.
10. **Cabinet departments differ from independent regulatory agencies in which of the following ways?**
   a. The President can use an executive order to create a cabinet department but not to create an independent regulatory agency.
   b. The President can dismiss cabinet officers, but not commissioners of independent regulatory agencies.
   c. The President seeks appointees who reflect administration views in making cabinet appointments but not in making appointments to independent regulatory agencies.
   d. Through the appropriations process, Congress can exert control over the cabinet departments but not over independent regulatory agencies.
   e. The courts can overrule regulations issued by cabinet departments but not those issued by independent regulatory agencies.

11. **A fundamental source of power for the federal bureaucracy lies in its**
   a. Role in moving legislation out of subcommittees.
   b. Role in mediating interstate conflicts.
   c. Ability to convince congress to fund most projects it supports.
   d. Ability to mobilize public opinion in support of legislative initiatives.
   e. Ability to set specific guidelines after receiving a general mandate from Congress.

12. **Congress has exerted the greatest influence on the operation of a federal agency by doing which of the following?**
   a. Requiring the agency to participate in interagency task forces.
   b. Dismissing an agency head who disagrees with congressional priorities.
   c. Reviewing the annual budget appropriations for the agency.
   d. Passing "sunset" legislation that terminates programs after a certain period.
   e. Asking the Supreme Court for advisory opinions on agency regulations.

31. **One of the formal tools used by Congress for oversight of the bureaucracy is**
   a. The line-item veto.
   b. Authorization of spending.
   c. Impoundment bills.
   d. Private bills.
   e. Senatorial courtesy.

**The Federal Courts**

1. **When a lower court decision is appealed to the Supreme Court, which of the following is MOST likely to occur?**
   a. The Supreme Court will reconsider the case, and overturn the lower court decision.
   b. The Supreme Court will reprimand the lower court judge for improperly deciding the case.
   c. The plaintiffs or defendants will file motions for a change of venue.
   d. The case will be retried at the lower court level.
   e. The Supreme Court will not hear the appeal.

2. **Which of the following is true of amicus curiae briefs?**
   a. They are used by interest groups to lobby courts.
   b. They are used exclusively by liberal interest groups.
   c. They are used exclusively by conservative interest groups.
   d. They are now unconstitutional.
   e. They are the means by which a litigant seeks Supreme Court review of a lower court decision.
3. Which of the following BEST illustrates the point being made in the cartoon above? (15)
   a. The influence of presidents on the Supreme Court is limited because the Senate often rejects their nominees.
   b. The terms of Supreme Court justices should be reduced from their current forty years.
   c. Presidents can have an influence on public policy far beyond their terms of office.
   d. The opinions of Supreme Court justices remain very similar over long periods of time.
   e. Supreme Court justices seldom issue dissenting opinions.

4. A major reason why the majority of Supreme Court justices have had political experience prior to appointment to the Court is that
   a. Justices are expected to act like politicians in their decision-makings.
   b. Presidents seek to place individuals on the Court whose policy views are similar to their own.
   c. The Senate will refuse to confirm any nominee to the Court who is not familiar with the political process.
   d. Appointment to the Supreme Court is a reward for political party loyalty.
   e. The Court is expected to defer to the political branches in making its decisions.

5. The Supreme Court ruled the legislative veto unconstitutional on the grounds that such vetoes
   a. Were the province of the courts alone.
   b. Violated the principle of separation of powers.
   c. Would give the executive branch too much power.
   d. Would give too much authority to nonelected officials.
   e. Were an unwarranted infringement on the rights of state governments.

6. The Supreme Court established the incorporation doctrine when the Court
   a. Interpreted the Fourteenth Amendment as extending the most of the requirements of the Bill of Rights to the states as well as the federal government.
   b. Interpreted the Ninth Amendment as requiring national health and worker-safety standards to protect the individual’s implied right of personal safety.
   c. Stripped the armed forces of their discretionary powers regarding military service for gay men, lesbians, and married people.
   d. Strengthened local police forces by granting them the power to investigate and prosecute federal offenses.
   e. Granted the federal government the power to declare acts of Congress unconstitutional.
7. The doctrine of original intent holds that
   a. Supreme Court justices must emphasize independent and original thinking in considering constitutional matters.
   b. The meaning of the Constitution depends on the intention of the framers.
   c. Cases selected for review by the Supreme Court must address an original and new concern not previously addressed by the Court.
   d. Supreme Court justices should avoid bias by documenting their original impressions of a case.
   e. The Supreme Court should review all treaties that alter previously established foreign policy.

8. All of the following serve as checks on the power of the federal courts EXCEPT
   a. Federal judges can be impeached.
   b. The voters can oust federal judges in national elections.
   c. Congress can pass laws clarifying “legislative intent.”
   d. Presidents, governors, and local executives can refrain from enforcing court rulings.
   e. Congress and the state legislatures can amend the Constitution.

9. Which of the following statements is supported by the chart above?
   a. Both Republican Presidents nominated a greater proportion of Latinos to the judiciary than did either Democratic President.
   b. President Carter made more judicial nominations than President Reagan.
   c. The percentage of nominees to the judiciary who were minorities was higher for Republican Presidents than for Democratic Presidents.
   d. The percentage of nominees to the judiciary who were women was higher for Republican Presidents than for Democratic Presidents.
   e. President Reagan nominated the smallest percentage of women to the judiciary.

10. Which of the following best defines “judicial activism”?
    a. The demands on judges to hear large numbers of cases.
    b. The efforts of judges to lobby Congress for funds.
    c. The attempts by judges to influence election outcomes.
d. The unwillingness of judges to remove themselves from cases in which they have a personal interest.
e. The tendency of judges to interpret the Constitution according to their own views.

11. Which of the following best describes the relationship between the Supreme Court and public opinion?
   a. The Court assesses public opinion on a controversial issue and then tries to follow it.
   b. Court prestige is so high that its decisions become public opinions.
   c. The existence of a public consensus on an issue limits the extent to which the Court will render decisions contrary to that consensus.
   d. Public opinion has no bearing on the effective implementation of the Court’s decisions.
   e. There is no relationship between public opinion and the Court’s decisions.

12. Which of the following statements best describes the Supreme Court’s actions with respect to disputes between Congress and the President?
   a. The Court has steadily favored the expansion of presidential power at the expense of Congress.
   b. The court has refused to allow congress to subpoena officials from the executive branch.
   c. The Court generally has tried to avoid deciding conflicts between Congress and the President.
   d. The Court has supported congressional limits on the President’s powers as commander-in-chief.
   e. The Court has supported congressional use of the legislative veto as a means of controlling the president.

13. Supreme Court justices were given tenure subject to good behavior by the framers of the Constitution in order to ensure that
   a. Justices are free from direct political pressures.
   b. Justices remain accountable to the public.
   c. Justices are encouraged to make politically popular decisions.
   d. Cooperation between the judicial and legislative branches is assured.
   e. Presidents are encouraged to seek younger nominees for the Supreme Court.

14. The most important source of the Supreme Court’s caseload is
   a. Its original jurisdiction.
   b. Its appellate jurisdiction.
   c. Instruction from the solicitor general.
   d. The special master’s certification of cases for review.
   e. Congress’ certification of cases for review.

15. Which of the following statements accurately describes the selection of the caseload for the United States Supreme Court?
   a. The United States Constitution spells out all of the categories of cases that the Supreme Court must hear.
   b. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has the authority to select the cases that the Court will hear.
   c. The Solicitor General in the Department of Justice determines the Supreme Court’s agenda.
   d. The Supreme Court is free to choose the cases it hears with only a few limitations.
   e. The Attorney General screens cases for consideration by the Court.

16. Decisions reached by the Supreme Court by the Supreme Court under the leadership of Chief Justice Earl Warren (1953-1969) did all of the following EXCEPT
   a. Rule against malapportionment in state legislatures.
   b. Void state statutes that permitted school segregation.
   c. Invalidate state abortion statutes.
   d. Expand the rights of criminal defendants.
   e. Increase protection for First Amendment freedoms.
III. The Political Process: Political Culture, Ideology, Interest Groups & Political Parties

1. The chart above supports which of the following conclusions? (8)
   a. A majority of the men polled identified with the Republican Party.
   c. The younger a man was, the more likely he was to identify himself as a Democrat.
   d. The Geraldine Ferraro vice-presidential candidacy caused many formerly Republican women to identify with the Democrats.
   e. The gender gap among those who identified with the Republican Party was narrowest for those between 25 and 34 years of age.

2. Which of the following statements about Democrats and Republicans is true?
   a. City dwellers are more likely to call themselves Republicans than Democrats.
   b. Republicans are more likely than Democrats to label themselves “conservatives.”
   c. African American citizens are more likely to call themselves Republicans than Democrats.
   d. Republicans are more likely than Democrats to believe that adequate medical care should be guaranteed by the federal government.
   e. People in working class occupations are more likely to call themselves Republicans than Democrats.

3. Political socialization is the process by which
   a. The use of private property is regulated by the government.
   b. Governments communicate with each other.
   c. Public attitudes toward government are measured and reported.
   d. Political values are passed to the next generation.
   e. Children are trained for successful occupations.
4. The table above supports which of the following conclusions? (28)
   I. A plurality of the people has consistently supported the Democrats
   II. Support for the two major parties increased slightly between 1952 and 1994
   III. The largest percentage increase in political identification between 1952 and 1994 occurred among independents
   b. I only
   c. II only
   d. III only
   e. I and II only
   f. I, II, and III

5. According to the table above, which of the following statements is correct?
   a. Students who identify themselves as independents are most likely to have parents who are Republicans.
   b. Of the three groups of parents, the Democrats are the most likely to pass on their party identification to their children.
   c. Students identified with the Democratic Party are more likely to have parents who are Republicans than parents who are independents.
   d. The children of Republicans are less likely to identify as independents than are the children of Democrats.
   e. Parents who are independents are the least likely to have children who share their party identification.

6. Suppose that in 1980, “strong” Democrats who shared Ronald Reagan’s views on taxation and republican women who opposed their party’s plank on the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) both tuned out to vote at unexpectedly low rates. These findings would provide evidence for which of the following hypotheses?
   a. Anything that produces cross pressure reduces turnout.
   b. Strong party identification promotes participation.
   c. “Rational” voters need a sense of civic duty to motivate them to vote.
   d. Those who are party activists are not likely to vote.

7. All of the following are commonly used by interest groups to influence the political process except
   a. Lobbying
   b. Contributing money to candidates
   c. Nominating candidates
   d. Filing lawsuits
   e. Appealing to public opinion

8. Political parties serve which of the following functions in the United States?
   9. Informing the public about political issues
   10. Mobilizing voters and getting them to the polls
   11. Organizing diverse interests within society
   12. Establishing the rules governing financial contributions to political candidates
   a. II only
b. I and II only  
c. III and IV only  
d. I, II, and III only  
e. I, III, and IV only

13. An interest group is most likely to have influence in Congress when the issue at stake  
   a. Is narrow in scope and low in public visibility.  
   b. Is part of the President’s legislative package.  
   c. Has been dramatized by the media.  
   d. Engages legislators’ deeply held convictions.  
   e. Divides legislators along party lines.

14. Which of the following statements best describes the organization of the two major political parties of the United States?  
   a. Parties have no organization except at the national level.  
   b. Parties are centrally organized to provide a smooth transition from one national campaign to the next.  
   c. Parties are organized much like a large corporation, in that decisions flow from national to state and local levels.  
   d. Local and state parties have virtually no power in the party system.  
   e. Separate and largely independent party organizations exist at national, state and local levels.

15. Lobbyists try to influence legislators mainly through  
   a. “Wining and dining” legislators.  
   b. Orchestrating petition drives and letter-writing campaigns.  
   c. Placing persuasive advertisements in the media.  
   d. Threatening to help the legislator’s opponent in the next election.  
   e. Providing legislators with information on technical issues.

16. Political action committees (PAC’s) representing which of the following groups have increased in number most substantially since the mid-1970s?  
   a. Labor  
   b. Business  
   c. Health-care professionals  
   d. Veterans groups  
   e. Civil rights advocates

17. Which of the following activities of American labor unions is recognized by law?  
   a. Engaging in strikes  
   b. Denying the public access to a business  
   c. Refusing a subpoena to appear before an investigative committee of Congress  
   d. Disobeying court injunction to return to work  
   e. Requiring members to make political contributions

18. Which of the following below were LEAST likely to have been part of the New Deal electoral coalition?  
   a. Blue-collar workers  
   b. Racial minorities  
   c. Southerners  
   d. Northern business leaders  
   e. Farm laborers

19. Which of the following groups would be LEAST likely to maintain a national lobbying organization in Washington, DC?  
   a. Environmentalists
b. Public housing tenants
c. Nurses
d. Automobile manufacturers
e. Automobile assembly-line workers

20. All of the following are commonly used by interest groups to influence the political process EXCEPT
   a. Lobbying
   b. Contributing money to candidates
   c. Nominating candidates
   d. Filing lawsuits
   e. Appealing to public opinion

21. Which of the following techniques would a corporate lobbyist be likely to use to influence political outcomes in Congress?
   1. Organizing a demonstration in Washington just before a key house vote.
   2. Ensuring that the corporation's political action committee (PAC) makes donations to the campaigns of members of key committees
   3. Meeting informally with Senate aides over lunch or cocktails
   4. Bringing influential constituents to Washington to discuss important policy matters with their representatives

   b. II only
c. I and II only
d. III and IV only
e. I, III, and IV only
f. II, III, and IV only

22. Which of the following statements about political action committees (PACs) is true?
   a. PACs may give unlimited contributions to the election campaigns of individual candidates.
   b. PAC spending has not kept pace with inflation.
   c. PAC activity is limited to direct contributions to candidates.
   d. Social issue groups are the source of most PAC dollars.
   e. PAC spending makes up a higher percentage of congressional campaign funds than that of presidential campaign funds.

23. Question: We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. I'm going to show you a seven-point scale on which the political views that people might hold are arranged from extremely liberal—point 1—to extremely conservative—point 7. Where would you place yourself on this scale? (Point 4 not shown on scale).
24. **The graph above supports which of the following statements?**
   a. People with higher incomes are more likely to think of themselves as conservative than are those with lower incomes.
   b. Americans with incomes under $10,000 are twice as likely to think of themselves as liberal than as conservatives.
   c. A majority of people whose incomes fall between $10,000 and $50,000 think of themselves as conservative.
   d. No income group contains more people who think of themselves as liberal than people who think of themselves as conservative.
   e. People with higher incomes are less likely to think of themselves as either liberal or conservative than are those with lower incomes.

25. **Political socialization is the process by which**
   a. The use of private property is regulated by the government.
   b. Governments communicate with each other.
   c. Public attitudes toward government are measured and reported.
   d. Political values are passed to the next generation.
   e. Children are trained for successful occupations.

26. **The primary function of political action committees (PACs) is to**
   a. Serve as fund-raising organizations for challengers.
   b. Provide members of Congress with unbiased information regarding proposed legislation.
   c. Consult with the President regarding domestic policy.
   d. Encourage broader participation in politics among the electorate.
   e. Raise campaign funds to support favored candidates.

27. **A corporate lobbyist would be LEAST likely to have an informal discussion about a pending policy matter with which of the following?**
   a. A member of the House in whose district the corporation has a plant.
   b. A member of the White House staff concerned about the issue.
   c. A member of the staff of the Senate committee handling a matter of concern to the corporation.
   d. A federal judge in whose court a case important to the corporation is being heard.
   e. A journalist for a major newspaper concerned about the issue.

28. **Interest groups and political parties both promote United States democracy by**
   a. Expressing detailed, ideologically distinct programs.
   b. Centralizing public authority.
   c. Linking citizens to the political process.
   d. Increasing domination of the political process by elites.
   e. Lobbying members of Congress.

29. **Which of the following is the MOST accurate statement about political parties in the United States?**
   a. Parties increasingly identify themselves with coherent ideologies to attract large blocs of voters.
   b. The percentage of voters identifying themselves as either Democratic or Republican has been declining since the 1970s.
   c. National party organizations are generally the strongest party organizations.
   d. It is increasingly difficult for third parties to gain more than two percent of the popular vote.
   e. Most candidates prefer to run as independents rather than as Democrats or Republicans.

33. Of the following, the most important role in the political socialization of children is played by
a. Their peer groups  
b. Their places of worship  
c. The family  
d. The media  
e. The school

IV. The Political Process: Public Opinion, Participation, Voting, Campaigns, Elections, & the Media

1. Of the following groups of eligible voters, which is LEAST likely to vote?
   a. The young with low education levels.  
b. The middle-aged with low education levels.  
c. Middle-aged and older women.  
d. Blue-collar workers.  
e. Middle-class African American citizens.

2. Of the following, which BEST predicts the likelihood that citizens will vote?
   a. Their race  
b. Their religion  
c. Their educational level  
d. Their gender  
e. Their region of residence

3. Considering all elections at all levels of government, which of the following best describes electoral behavior in the United States?
   a. Primary elections tend to elicit a higher voter turnout than do general elections.  
b. The majority of the electorate does not vote in most elections.  
c. Voter turnout plays an insignificant role in most elections.  
d. Adult citizens under the age of 30 tend to have the highest rate of voter turnout.  
e. Voters with strong party identification vote less regularly than do independents.

4. Which of the following statements about voting behavior in the US is correct?
   a. College graduates are more likely to vote than are those who have at most a high school diploma.  
b. Voters under the age of 25 are more likely to vote than are those in any other age group.  
c. Registration requirements have no significant effect on voter turnout.  
d. Since 1920, the proportion of women who have voted is approximately the same as the proportion of men who have voted.  
e. During the 20th century, the proportion of African Americans who voted was approximately the same as the proportion of White Americans who voted.

5. Which of the following is a provision of federal election laws?
   a. A small fee must be paid by persons voting in federal elections.  
b. On-site registration to vote must be permitted on the day of any federal election.  
c. Electoral districts must be apportioned to equalize the numbers of Democratic and Republican voters wherever a historic imbalance exists.  
d. Citizens must be automatically registered to vote on their eighteenth birthday.  
e. In areas with significant populations of linguistic minorities, voting materials must be made available in the preferred languages of the population.
6. The concept of “critical elections” is most closely associated with
   a. The electoral college process
   b. Elections during wartime
   c. The nomination process
   d. Economic recession
   e. Party realignment

7. Which of the following statements MOST accurately compares elections in the US with those in most other Western democracies?
   a. US citizens have fewer opportunities to vote in elections.
   b. Political parties exert a stronger influence over voting in the US.
   c. There are fewer obstacles to voting in the US.
   d. There are more political parties in the US.
   e. The voter turnout rate in the US is usually lower.

8. Which of the following BEST describes the relationship between socioeconomic status and participation in politics?
   a. The lower one’s socioeconomic status, the more likely it is that one will run for public office.
   b. The higher one’s socioeconomic status, the greater the probability of active involvement in the political process.
   c. Adults who are unemployed have a greater personal interest in policy and tend to participate more actively in politics than do employed adults.
   d. People in the lower middle class are the most likely to participate in politics.
   e. There is no relationship between socioeconomic status and political participation.

9. Which of the following would result from the direct election of presidential candidates?
   a. A national primary would be established.
   b. Party nominating conventions would be abolished.
   c. Each vote would count equally in determining which candidate won the election.
   d. The Electoral College would become more influential in the electoral process.
   e. Third-party candidates would have less chance of winning the election.

10. Since 1960, the presidential election process has been affected by an increase in all of the following EXCEPT the
    a. Proportion of independents in the electorate
    b. Influence of political consultants
    c. Number of primaries
    d. Turnout of voters
    e. Role of television

11. Between 1964 and 1984, which of the following would have been most likely to vote for the Democratic presidential candidate?
    a. A Cuban-American business executive from Miami
    b. A black teacher from Los Angeles
    c. A white doctor from Atlanta
    d. A Polish-American truck driver from Phoenix
    e. A Methodist farmer from Iowa
12. “Voting is partly a matter of habit: the more frequently a person has voted in the past, the more likely she or he is to vote in the current election.” All of the following support the observation above EXCEPT
   a. Immediately after the 26th amendment in 1971 gave 18-21 year olds the vote, the proportion of eligible voters who actually voted declined.
   b. Immediately after the 19th amendment in 1920 gave women the vote, the proportion of eligible voters who actually voted declined.
   c. Immediately after the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 the participation rate of black voters in the South was lower than that of white voters in the South.
   d. Unmarried persons over the age of 65 are less likely to vote than are married persons in that age group.
   e. Newly naturalized citizens may need special inducements to vote.

13. Which of the following is an accurate statement about political participation in the US today?
   a. A majority of Americans campaign for a candidate in each presidential election.
   b. Over 75% of Americans vote in presidential elections.
   c. People who participate in the political process are usually angry at government.
   d. Similar proportions of eligible men and women vote in presidential elections.
   e. People in their thirties or forties are less likely to be active in politics than are those aged 18 to 21.

14. During the past twenty-five years, all of the following changes in public opinion and political behavior have occurred in the US EXCEPT
   a. A decline in party competition in the South.
   b. A decline in the level of trust in government.
   c. A drop in voter turnout.
   d. An increase in ticket-splitting.
   e. An erosion of party loyalties, especially among young people.

15. The term "horse-race journalism" refers to the tendency of the media to
   a. Cover Congress by focusing on committee chairs rather than on the work of the committees.
   b. Cover campaigns by emphasizing the relative standings of the candidates in the polls rather than the issues they discuss.
   c. Cover politics by concentrating on scandal and corruption rather than on instances of integrity and honorable action.
   d. Compete for access to sources rather than to cooperate in gathering the news.
   e. Compete to be first with major breaking news stories rather than trying to present full, accurate accounts of such stories.

16. Which of the following generalizations about group voting tendencies is true?
   a. Jewish voters tend to vote Republican.
   b. Protestant voters tend to be more liberal than Roman Catholics on economic issues.
   c. More women than men identify themselves as Republicans.
   d. Rural voters are more likely to support Democratic candidates than are urban voters.
   e. African American Democrats tend to support the more liberal candidates within their party.
17. Which of the following statements about voting patterns is BEST supported by the table? (3)
   a. Women were more likely than men to vote Democratic.
   b. People who were young, White, and from the South were most likely to be Perot supporters.
   c. Voters with low educational attainment were more likely to vote Republican than Democratic.
   d. Voters in the South were more likely to support Republican presidential candidates in 1992 than they were in 1980.

18. The data in the table provide clear evidence that
   a. Republicans were increasingly likely to defect from their party's candidate.
   b. The vote in the Midwest predicted the outcome rather consistently.
   c. The East has become a Republican stronghold.
   d. Voters under the age of 30 were more likely than older voters to support the Democratic candidate.
   e. Nonwhite voters showed no preference for one party over another.
19. The table BEST supports which of the following statements about party identification and voting behavior? (16)
   a. There is no consistent relationship between party identification and voting behavior.
   b. People with weak party identification tend to vote for opposing party candidates.
   c. Independent-leaning Democrats are unreliable voters for the Democratic Party.
   d. People who most resist party identification tend to vote for Republican candidates.
   e. People with strong Democratic Party identification tend to vote for the Democratic Party.

20. The table BEST supports which of the following statements about the two elections for which data are provided?
   a. In 1988 and 1990 elections were clear victories for the Democratic Party.
   b. Republican voters exhibited greater party discipline in 1990 than they did in 1988.
   c. Independent-leaning Republicans were the Republicans least likely to vote for the Democratic presidential candidate in 1988 than for the Democratic House candidates in 1990.
   d. Weak Democrats were the group most likely to vote for Republican candidates.

21. Which of the following BEST explains why delegates to both the Republican and Democratic Conventions in 1996 were much more likely to have college and postgraduate degrees than was the rest of the voting population?
   a. College education increases the likelihood of holding liberal political positions.
   b. College education increases the likelihood of holding conservative political positions.
   c. Political activism increases with education levels.
   d. Education allows people to have more time to attend conventions.
   e. Some states required delegates to hold college degrees.

22. Which of the following can be concluded from the figures in the table above? (23)
   b. Jewish voters were the only group that did not register gains for Reagan between 1980 and 1984.
   c. In terms of support for Reagan, the gap between men and women grew between 1980 and 1984.
   d. In terms of support for Reagan, the gap between Black and White voters grew between 1980 and 1984.
   e. In terms of support for Reagan, the gap between younger voters and older voters grew between 1980 and 1984.
23. **The data displayed in the table above BEST support which of the following statements?**
   
a. The reelection rate is higher in the Senate than in the House.
b. The average vote won by Senate members surpasses that won by House members.
c. House seats are safer from election turnover than are Senate seats.
d. House members serve more terms than do Senators.
e. More members of the Senate win reelection by 60% or more of the vote than do members of the House.

24. **Which of the following is the MOST important influence on the choice made by voters in presidential elections?**
   
a. Partisan identification.
b. Party platform adopted at the national convention.
c. Vice presidential running mate.
d. Endorsement by political incumbents.
e. Appeal of the candidates’ spouses.

25. **A primary election in which voters are required to identify a party preference before the election and are not allowed to split their ticket is called**
   
a. An open primary.
b. A blanket primary.
c. A closed primary.
d. A runoff primary.
e. A presidential preference primary.

26. **Public monies are used to help finance which of the following campaigns?**
   
   1. Presidential
   2. Congressional
   3. Gubernatorial

   b. I only
   c. II only
27. Critical elections in the US typically have occurred
   a. As a result of a temporary shift in the popular coalition supporting one or both parties.
   b. Whenever a third party has secured more than fifteen percent of the presidential vote.
   c. Each time a Republican has been elected President.
   d. When voter turnout has declined significantly from the previous election.
   e. When groups of voters have changed their traditional patterns of party loyalties.

28. When 18 to 21 year olds received the right to vote in 1971, in the 1972 national elections they did which of the following?
   a. Voted overwhelmingly for Republican candidates.
   b. Voted overwhelmingly for Democratic candidates.
   c. Voted overwhelmingly for radical candidates.
   d. Turned out at a lower rate than the rest of the electorate.
   e. Turned out at the same rate as the rest of the electorate.

29. The largest amount of political coverage in newspapers during presidential campaigns is devoted to
   a. Day-to-day campaign activities.
   b. The platforms of the major parties.
   c. Candidates' policy stands on domestic issues.
   d. Candidates' stands on foreign policy issues.
   e. Candidates' experience and qualifications.

30. A state has 11 electoral votes. In a presidential election, the Democratic candidate receives 48 percent of that state’s popular vote, the Republican candidate receives 40 percent of the vote, and an independent candidate receives 12 percent of the vote.
   If the state is similar to most other states, who will the electoral votes most likely be allocated?
   a. The Democratic candidate will receive 5 electoral votes, the Republican will receive 4, and the independent will receive 2.
   b. The Democratic candidate will receive 6 electoral votes and the Republican will receive 5.
   c. The Democratic candidate will receive all 11 votes.
   d. The votes will not be allocated until there has been a runoff election between the Democratic and Republican candidates.
   e. The House of Representatives will determine the allocation of the electoral votes.

31. An election involving more than two candidates in which the person who receives the most votes is the winner is called
   a. A majority election
   b. A proportional election
   c. A plurality election
   d. A simple election
   e. An indirect election

32. V. Civil Rights & Civil Liberties
1. In *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, the Supreme Court established which of the following principles?
   a. A school official can search a student for drugs.
   b. Everyone must go to school at least until the age of 16.
   c. Tuition for private schools cannot be tax deductible.
   d. Separation of students by race, even in equally good schools, is unconstitutional.
   e. A moment of silent prayer at the beginning of the school day is allowable under the First Amendment.

2. In *Miranda v. Arizona* the US Supreme Court declared that
   a. Illegal aliens have the same right to an education as United States citizens.
   b. Evidence seized during an illegal search cannot be used in court.
   c. Affirmative action programs cannot employ numerical quotas.
   d. Police must inform criminal suspects of their constitutional rights before questioning suspects after their arrest.
   e. The death penalty is constitutional as long as juries are supplied with sentencing guidelines.

3. The 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision that upheld a woman's right to secure an abortion was based on the right to
   a. Privacy implied in the Bill of Rights.
   b. Equality guaranteed by the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments.
   c. Due process of law enumerated in the Fifth and Sixth Amendments.
   d. Adequate medical care implied in the Preamble to the Constitution.
   e. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness enumerated in the Declaration of Independence.

4. Which of the following principles protects a citizen from imprisonment without trial?
   a. Representative government
   b. Separation of powers
   c. Due process
   d. Checks and balances
   e. Popular sovereignty

5. The federal Constitution guarantees all of the following rights to a person arrested and charged with a serious crime EXCEPT the right to
   a. Remain silent.
   b. Be represented by a lawyer.
   c. Negotiate a plea bargain.
   d. Demand a writ of habeas corpus.
   e. Receive a speedy and public trial.

6. All of the following statements reflect positions the Supreme Court has taken with regard to the right of free speech EXCEPT
   a. A restriction on the right of free speech should always be viewed with skepticism.
   b. There are no acceptable governmental restrictions on free speech.
   c. Government has an obligation to try to ensure citizens the right to be heard.
   d. The right to free speech is a fundamental natural right.
   e. The First Amendment protects free speech from incursions of both the federal and state governments.

7. American political culture is characterized by strong popular support for all of the following EXCEPT
   a. The rule of law
   b. Limited government
   c. Individual liberty
   d. Equality of opportunity
   e. Economic equality
8. **The card above was issued as a consequence of which of the following Supreme Court decisions?**
   a. *Gitlow v. New York*
   b. *Munn v. Illinois*
   c. *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*
   d. *Gideon v. Wainwright*
   e. *Miranda v. Arizona*

The next two questions are based on the following excerpt from a major Supreme Court decision.

"Such considerations apply with added force to children in grade and high schools. To separate them from others of similar age and qualifications solely because of their race generates a feeling of inferiority as to their status in the community that may affect their hearts and minds in a way unlikely ever to be undone...We conclude that in the field of public education the doctrine of “separate but equal” has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal. Therefore, we hold that the plaintiffs... are, by reason of segregation complained of, deprived of the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the 14th Amendment."

9. **The doctrine of “separate but equal” referred to above had previously been upheld by which of the following Supreme Court decisions?**
   a. *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857)
   b. *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896)
   d. *Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company v. Sawyer* (1952)
   e. *Swann v. Charlotte Mecklenburg County Board of Education* (1971)

10. **The Supreme Court decision quoted above did which of the following?**
    a. Brought a rapid end to school segregation in the South.
    b. Prohibited segregation in hotels and restaurants.
    c. Required desegregation of teaching staff.
    d. Initially affected only schools where segregation was mandated by law.
    e. Affected segregation in the North rather than the South.

11. **The amendments to the Constitution that were ratified during Reconstruction were primarily designed to**
    a. Protect the rights of women against infringement by the federal government.
    b. Protect the rights of Black citizens against infringement by state governments.
    c. Ensure equal economic opportunity for Black citizens.
    d. Facilitate the rebuilding of the Southern economy.
    e. Limit the power the President had gained during the Civil War.
12. Which of the following Supreme Court cases involved the principle of “one person, one vote”?
   a. Baker v. Carr
   b. Roe v. Wade
   c. Mapp v. Ohio
   d. Korematsu v. US
   e. Gideon v. Wainwright

13. Which of the following did the MOST to expand civil rights in the 1950s?
   a. State legislative decisions desegregating public accommodations.
   b. State court decisions outlawing poll taxes.
   c. The passage of voting-rights legislation by Congress.
   d. Executive orders mandating affirmative action.
   e. The Supreme Court decision declaring state-mandated school segregation to be unconstitutional.

14. Which of the following is true about the right of free speech, as currently interpreted by the Supreme Court?
   a. It protects the right to express opinions even without the actual use of words.
   b. It protects the use of language deemed obscene by the courts.
   c. It allows citizens to disobey laws that they believe to be unjust.
   d. It is protected from infringement by the federal government but not from infringement by state governments.
   e. It cannot be limited in any manner.

15. Discrimination in public accommodations was made illegal in the US as a direct result of the
   a. Supreme Court decision in Brown v. the Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas
   b. Supreme Court decision in Sweatt v. Painter
   c. Civil Rights Act of 1964
   d. Montgomery bus boycott
   e. Voting Rights Act of 1965

16. Most of the individual protections of the Bill of rights now apply to the states because of the Supreme Court’s interpretation of the Constitution’s
   a. Preamble.
   b. Necessary and proper clause.
   c. Supremacy clause
   d. Tenth Amendment
   e. Fourteenth Amendment
17. Which of the following best explains the trend depicted in the chart above? (30)
   a. *Brown v. the Board of Education of Topeka*
   b. Imposition of a federal poll tax
   c. Elimination of all-White primary elections
   d. The voting rights Act of 1965
   e. The Civil Rights Act of 1964

18. The "Miranda warning" represents an attempt to protect criminals suspects against
   a. Unfair police interrogation.
   b. Biased jury selection.
   c. Imprisonment without trial.
   d. Illegal wiretapping.
   e. Unjustified police surveillance.

19. *Griswold v. Connecticut* and *Roe v. Wade* are similar Supreme Court cases in that both cases are based on the
   a. Rights of gay men and lesbian women.
   b. Right of privacy.
   c. Right to an abortion.
   d. Right to freedom from cruel and unusual punishment.
   e. Right of women to equal protection before the law.

VI. Public Policy

1. All of the following are true about the relationship between regulatory agencies and the industries they regulate EXCEPT
   a. Agency employees are often recruited from the regulated industry.
   b. Agencies often rely on support from regulated industries in making budget requests before Congress.
   c. An agency's relationship with a regulated industry may changes when a new president takes office.
   d. Agencies usually make decisions without consulting the regulated industry.
   e. Agency employees often are employed by the regulated industry once they leave the agency.
2. **Which of the following statements about the federal government between 1948 and 1978 is supported by the chart?**

   a. Federal government spending increased primarily to keep pace with increasing employment.
   b. Short-term decreases in the number of federal regulations led to decreases in spending and employment.
   c. The bulk of the increase in federal spending resulted from wage increases.
   d. A relatively stable number of employees administered larger federal budgets and enforced more regulations.
   e. The high cost of regulation prevented the federal government from hiring more workers.

3. **Which of the following public policy problems is MOST likely to result from the situation shown in the chart?**

   a. Government employees may become responsible for larger bodies of regulation than they can effectively monitor.
   b. Regulations may apply to an increasingly small portion of industry as the economy grows.
   c. Governmental hiring patterns may draw too many educated workers from the private sector.
   d. The influence of special-interest groups may increase as the number of federal employees grows.
   e. Increases in the number of federal employees may necessitate the construction of new and expensive federal facilities.

4. **Federal spending for which of the following is determined by laws that lie outside of the regular budgetary process?**

   a. Military procurement
   b. Regulatory agency funding
   c. Government-subsidized housing programs
   d. Educational assistance programs such as student loans
   e. Entitlement programs like Social Security

5. **Which of the following statements can be supported from information in the table above?** (6)
I. Federal grants to state and local governments have increased substantially in total dollar amount since 1950.

II. In 1994, the federal government devoted a larger percentage of outlays to grants than in 1980.

III. Between 1980 and 1990, grants decreased as a percentage of federal outlays.

IV. In 1994, states were more dependent on federal grants for revenue than in 1990, 1970, or 1960.

   a. IV only
   b. I and III only
   c. II and III only
   d. II and IV only
   e. I, III, and IV only

6. Which of the following actions by the federal government best illustrates the concept of unfunded mandates?
   a. Requiring that polling booths remain open beyond the hours of the workday.
   b. Requiring states and municipalities to provide certain services for their citizens without providing resources to pay for those services.
   c. Requiring state governments to guarantee short-term bonds issued by large municipalities in their states.
   d. Requiring all municipalities to impose a minimum property tax on all residential and business properties.
   e. Requiring states and municipalities to privatize many previously publicly funded services.

7. The largest portion of “uncontrollable spending” in the federal budget is designated for which of the following?
   a. Interest on the national debt
   b. Entitlement spending
   c. Defense spending
   d. Environmental programs
   e. Salaries of federal bureaucrats

8. Federal benefits that must be funded by Congress and must be paid to all citizens who meet eligibility criteria are called
   a. Discretionary appropriations
   b. Individual entitlements
   c. Tax expenditures
   d. Distributive benefits
   e. Continuing appropriations

9. Which of the following statements reflects a pluralist theory of American politics?
   a. American politics is dominated by a small elite.
   b. Public policies emerge from cooperation among elites in business, labor and government.
   c. Public policies emerge from compromises reached among competing groups.
   d. American politics is dominated by cities at the expense of rural areas.
   e. The American political arena is made up of isolated individuals who have few group affiliations outside the family.
10. Which of the following conclusions about income distribution during the Reagan administration is supported by the table above?
   a. The share of income received by the lowest fifth increased, whereas the share received by the fourth fifth decreased.
   b. The share of income received by the second fifth increased, whereas the share received by the fourth fifth decreased.
   c. The share of income received by the highest fifth increased, whereas the share received by the lowest fifth decreased.
   d. The number of people earning high incomes increased.
   e. The middle class disappeared.

11. Diversity of public policy throughout the United States is primarily a consequence of
   a. Federalism.
   b. Separation of powers.
   c. Innovation within bureaucratic agencies.
   d. Decentralization in the Senate.
   e. Lack of party discipline in the House.

12. Yellow highlight:  Course Description
    Blue highlight:  1989 exam
    Purple highlight: 1999 exam