

TRUE/FALSE

1. The two questions that motivate the discovery of order in the chaos of politics are “What do we observe?” and “Why?”

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

2. A government may be as simple as a tribal council.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

3. A tribal council that meets occasionally to advise the chief has all the essential elements of a government.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

4. If a country has all political authority vested in a single individual, then it has a totalitarian government.

ANS: F DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

5. When large numbers of people have some influence over government decision making, the government is said to be constitutional.

ANS: F DIF: Easy TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

6. When a small group of individuals controls most of the governing decisions, a government is said to be an oligarchy.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

7. Governments that are generally unrestrained by law but have leaders that are kept in check by other political or social institutions are called authoritarian governments.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Understanding

8. Nazi Germany was an example of a totalitarian regime.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

9. The term *politics* is defined as the decisions reached by democratic processes.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

10. The conflicts and struggles over the leadership, structure, and policies of government are called politics.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

11. All political behavior has a purpose.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

12. Few citizens have political goals, and fewer still work to achieve those goals.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

13. Some political acts take great effort, time, and financial resources.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

14. Legislators typically make their decisions with forethought and calculation.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

15. Elected officials are motivated by reelection, but political actors who are not elected do not have identifiable motivations.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

16. Political institutions help government function, while relieving communities have to reinvent collective action each time it is required.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Understanding

17. The Speaker of the House is free to send a newly introduced bill to any committee he or she likes.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

18. The more a large organization values participation by the broadest range of its members, the less it actually needs rules for making decisions.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

19. In the U.S. Senate, a simple majority can end debate and call for a vote.

ANS: F DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

20. In the U.S. Senate, 60 votes (out of 100) are required to shut off debate on most legislation.

ANS: T DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

21. The control over what a group will consider for discussion is called agenda power.

ANS: T DIF: Easy TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

22. Another term for agenda power is veto power.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

23. Through the agenda power, the president can prevent Congress from taking up a particular bill.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

24. The ability to defeat something even if it has made it on to the agenda of an institution is called veto power.

ANS: T DIF: Easy TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

25. Because the agent's preferences sometimes differ from those of the principal, usually the principal entirely eliminates the agent's prospective deviations by spelling out the agent's actions in a detailed contract.

ANS: F DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Understanding

26. Almost all politics takes place through formal, structured bargaining with clear winners and losers.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

27. A negotiation session over wages and working conditions between labor and management at the local manufacturing plant is likely to be based on informal bargaining.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

28. If all the members of a group share common values and objectives, a well-organized group usually emerges easily.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

29. A public good is any service provided by the government.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

30. The tragedy of the commons shows that self-interest usually leads to better outcomes than the pursuit of noble and altruistic goals.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

31. Elected officials' support of a party "brand name" is an example of a tragedy of the commons.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

32. The policy principle holds that political outcomes are the products of individual preferences and institutional procedures.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

33. Members of Congress are motivated solely by their ambitions for reelection.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

34. The fact that America's single-member district plurality voting rules, established in the eighteenth century, continue to shape the nation's party system today supports the notion of path dependency.

ANS: T DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Understanding

35. Past events and experiences are largely irrelevant to decisions made today because the world is fundamentally different today than even 20 years ago.

ANS: F DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Understanding

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What is the difference between an *empirical* question and a *normative* question?
- An empirical question is about observing facts and patterns about politics, while a normative question is about how the political world should be.
 - An empirical question focuses on theorizing about political phenomena, while a normative question seeks to describe typical behavior.
 - An empirical question asks how the world should be, while a normative question asks how it actually works.
 - An empirical question focuses on a single person or event, while a normative question focuses on patterns of behavior.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

2. The following question is an example of a(n) _____ question in political science: “Which political party do a majority of Latinos support in presidential elections?”
- a. empirical
 - b. analytical
 - c. normative
 - d. policy

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Applying

3. The following question is an example of a(n) _____ question in political science: “Are African American legislators more likely to support African American interests than other legislators with similar districts?”
- a. empirical
 - b. analytical
 - c. normative
 - d. policy

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Applying

4. The following question is an example of a(n) _____ question in political science: “Should a majority of Latinos support the Democratic Party in presidential elections?”
- a. empirical
 - b. analytical
 - c. normative
 - d. policy

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Applying

5. What is the general term used to describe the formal political arrangement by which a land and its people are ruled?
- a. authoritarianism
 - b. government
 - c. autarky
 - d. monarchism

ANS: B DIF: Easy TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

6. States and tribal councils are examples of which institutions and procedures through which a land and its people are ruled?
- a. governments
 - b. legislative bodies
 - c. democracy
 - d. bureaucracies

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Understanding

7. A form of government in which a single individual—king, queen, or dictator—rules is known as
- a. an autocracy.
 - b. an oligarchy.
 - c. totalitarianism.
 - d. anarchy.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

8. When France was ruled by King Louis XVI, Napoleon Bonaparte, and then Louis XVIII, it exemplified the governmental system known as
- a. an autocracy.
 - b. an oligarchy.
 - c. totalitarianism.
 - d. a democracy.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Applying

9. Autocracy can best be defined as rule by

- a. all.
- b. one.
- c. many.
- d. few.

ANS: B

DIF: Moderate

TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics

MSC: Remembering

10. If the populace has some direct role in political decision making, the government is most likely

- a. pluralistic.
- b. autocratic.
- c. constitutional.
- d. democratic.

ANS: D

DIF: Moderate

TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics

MSC: Remembering

11. When a small group of landowners, military officers, or wealthy merchants controls most of the governing decisions, the government is said to be a(n)

- a. autocracy.
- b. oligarchy.
- c. meritocracy.
- d. democracy.

ANS: B

DIF: Moderate

TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics

MSC: Remembering

12. On the small island nation of Tamazia, the small but elite group of purple-spotted Tamazians, who own most of the land on the more fruitful north side, have invaded the less productive southern sections of the island. Now they have taken control of all political institutions. Consequently, the pink-spotted and green-spotted Tamazians who make up the majority of the island inhabitants have to submit to the will of the purple-spotted Tamazians. This new government on the island nation of Tamazia would most correctly be classified as

- a. oligarchic.
- b. autocratic.
- c. constitutional.
- d. totalitarian.

ANS: A

DIF: Moderate

TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics

MSC: Applying

13. A system of rule that permits citizens to play a significant part in the governmental process, usually through the selection of key public officials, is called

- a. democratic.
- b. pluralistic.
- c. oligarchic.
- d. constitutional.

ANS: A

DIF: Moderate

TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics

MSC: Remembering

14. Which term describes a system of rule in which formal and effective limits are placed on the powers of government?

- a. pluralism
- b. monarchy
- c. authoritarian government
- d. constitutional government

ANS: D

DIF: Moderate

TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics

MSC: Remembering

15. In early thirteenth-century England, King John had few formal limits on his power yet needed the permission of the Catholic pope to marry many of his potential spouses and needed the cooperation of English nobles to wage war. A general term for a political system with informal limits on power is

- a. teleological.
- b. indirect government.
- c. authoritarian government.
- d. totalitarian.

ANS: C DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Applying

16. A government with specific limits on *what* governments control and *how* political power is exercised is called a
- a. theocracy.
 - b. constrained system.
 - c. divided government.
 - d. constitutional government.

ANS: D DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

17. To win elections, presidential candidates typically focus their campaign visits and spending on “swing states” that could vote for either major candidate. This strategic allocation exemplifies which of the five principles of politics?
- a. rationality principle
 - b. institution principle
 - c. policy principle
 - d. collective action principle

ANS: A DIF: Difficult TOP: Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

18. The Soviet Union during the rule of Joseph Stalin was a classic example of a(n) _____ society.
- a. democratic
 - b. authoritarian
 - c. constitutional
 - d. totalitarian

ANS: D DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Applying

19. The kind of rule in which the power of government has only minimal legal limits but is effectively restrained by other social, religious, or economic institutions is called
- a. autocratic.
 - b. totalitarian.
 - c. constitutional.
 - d. authoritarian.

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

20. In many nations in Europe, South America, Asia, and Africa, the law imposes few real limits, but the government is nevertheless kept in check by other political and social institutions that it does not control. Examples of these outside actors include autonomous territories, an organized church, organized business groups, or organized labor unions. Such governments are generally called
- a. autocratic.
 - b. totalitarian.
 - c. constitutional.
 - d. authoritarian.

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Applying

21. In the years leading up to World War II, the National Socialist (Nazi) Party rose to power in Germany and consolidated its hold on political institutions by effectively striking down any significant opposition through violence and intimidation. Nazi Germany achieved almost absolute control over every facet of its citizens' lives. In terms of limits on governmental power, the political system of Nazi Germany would most accurately be categorized as
- a. totalitarian.
 - b. monarchical.
 - c. constitutional.
 - d. authoritarian.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Applying

22. Political scientists would most accurately classify a governing system that recognizes no formal limits on its power and seeks to absorb or eliminate other social institutions that might challenge it as
- a. autocratic.
 - b. dictatorial.
 - c. authoritarian.
 - d. totalitarian.

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

23. The conflicts and struggles over the leadership, structure, and policies of government are called
- a. government.
 - b. politics.
 - c. lobbying.
 - d. war.

ANS: B DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

24. According to Harold Lasswell, the struggle over “who gets what, when, how” is known as
- a. government.
 - b. politics.
 - c. lobbying.
 - d. redistribution.

ANS: B DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Remembering

25. Efforts to gain power, influence those in power, bring new people to power, or throw current leaders out are forms of
- a. autocracy.
 - b. pluralism.
 - c. interest-group bargaining.
 - d. politics.

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Making Sense of Government and Politics
MSC: Understanding

26. According to the text, the five principles that help explain why government does what it does are (1) all political behavior has a purpose; (2) institutions structure politics; (3) all politics is collective action; (4) political outcomes are the products of individual preferences and institutional procedures; and (5)
- a. how we got here matters.
 - b. political socialization shapes government.
 - c. government shapes political socialization.
 - d. public opinion matters.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

27. A state legislature is considering raising taxes to pay for road improvements. Each legislator must decide whether he or she is going to support this bill, which has polarized public opinion in the state. The legislator from the Seventh District is particularly concerned about the consequences of her vote because her constituents are about equally divided for and against the bill. If the legislator votes for the bill, she will gain future electoral support from supporters of the bill but will likely also face a tough reelection campaign as bill opponents may mobilize to try and defeat her. If she votes against the bill, she still faces the same situation because bill supporters will mobilize against her in the next election. In either case, the legislator will benefit from her decision but also face some uncertain costs. This description of the legislator’s decision making is an example of which principle of politics?
- a. the policy principle
 - b. the rationality principle
 - c. the institution principle
 - d. the collective action principle

ANS: B DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Analyzing

28. A citizen attending a city council meeting to complain about the lack of city parks exemplifies the principle that
- cooperation is difficult.
 - rules and procedures matter.
 - all political behavior has a purpose.
 - policy results when political goals meet institutions.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

29. The saying “All political behavior has a purpose” is an expression of the
- institution principle.
 - rationality principle.
 - collective action principle.
 - history principle.

ANS: B DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

30. Politicians plan their activities and attempt to behave in a manner that recognizes a full calculation of political risk because their actions are not random but rather are
- corrupt.
 - ethical.
 - instrumental.
 - exceptional.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

31. When politicians vote in a particular way in order to win reelection, their behavior is best described as
- corrupt.
 - ethical.
 - instrumental.
 - exceptional.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

32. Which is NOT an example of a political actor rationally pursuing a political goal?
- a lobbyist donating to a politician to obtain a meeting
 - a bureaucratic agency trying to maximize its budget allocation
 - a congressional committee chair bargaining to expand her committee’s jurisdiction
 - the Social Security Agency automatically increasing its income payments to senior citizens as the cost of living increases

ANS: D DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

33. A five-term member of the House has developed a reputation as being particularly successful at securing federal resources for his district to revitalize the historic downtown area, build new bridges, and repair dilapidated roads and sidewalks. This member of the House of Representatives has also been criticized for accepting large campaign contributions from agricultural entities that maintain substantial interests in the rural areas of the district. This legislator defends his actions as necessary to win reelection. After five terms, the representative abruptly decides he will retire at the end of his next term for personal reasons. In the following two years, he fails to obtain any federal resources for his district but continues to accept campaign contributions from the agricultural industry and advocate for agricultural interests in the hope of obtaining a job as a lobbyist with an agricultural group. This scenario is an example of which kind of behavior?
- institutional
 - democratic
 - ideological
 - instrumental

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

34. A politician who helps a constituent navigate through the federal bureaucracy to find a misplaced Social Security check is engaging in _____ politics.
- a. retail
 - b. wholesale
 - c. systematic
 - d. institutional

ANS: A DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

35. A politician who helps a constituent's child apply for a Washington internship is engaging in _____ politics.
- a. retail
 - b. wholesale
 - c. systematic
 - d. transitional

ANS: A DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

36. A legislator who introduces a bill to increase Social Security payments to senior citizens across the country is engaging in _____ politics.
- a. retail
 - b. wholesale
 - c. systematic
 - d. local

ANS: B DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

37. The governor of Louisiana asks the president of the United States to reform the national flood insurance program so that residents of coastal states like Louisiana would pay less money to be protected from hurricanes. The governor is engaging in _____ politics.
- a. retail
 - b. wholesale
 - c. systematic
 - d. local

ANS: B DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

38. Routine, structured relations based on rules and procedures that shape politics by providing incentives for political behavior are called
- a. institutions.
 - b. social culture.
 - c. planning agendas.
 - d. classifications.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

39. The designated domain over which institutional actors have the authority to make decisions is referred to as
- a. jurisdiction.
 - b. decisional alignment.
 - c. trespass boundary.
 - d. zoning.

ANS: A DIF: Easy TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

40. The responsibility of the Food and Drug Administration to regulate the marketing of pharmaceuticals is its
- a. jurisdiction.
 - b. decisional alignment.
 - c. trespass boundary.
 - d. zoning.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

41. One of the unique features of the U.S. Congress is the jurisdiction assigned to each
- a. standing committee.
 - b. congressional staff.
 - c. oversight authority.
 - d. special authority.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

42. The Senate's rule that requires 60 votes to close debate and move to a final passage vote is an example of
- a. legislative jurisdiction.
 - b. direct democracy.
 - c. deliberative democracy.
 - d. decisiveness rules.

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

43. The specific control over what a group will consider for discussion in the first place is called
- a. veto power.
 - b. agenda power.
 - c. docket authority.
 - d. discretionary authority.

ANS: B DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

44. Those who exercise some form of agenda power are said to engage in
- a. earmarking.
 - b. logrolling.
 - c. pork barreling.
 - d. gatekeeping.

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

45. The power to make proposals and to block proposals from being made is known as
- a. jamming.
 - b. damming.
 - c. gatekeeping.
 - d. obstruction.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

46. The ability to defeat a measure after it comes up for consideration or has received preliminary approval is called
- a. veto power.
 - b. agenda power.
 - c. docket authority.
 - d. decision rule.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

47. When the Speaker of the House exercises his or her authority to keep a bill from even being discussed, it exemplifies the Speaker's ability to exert
- a. veto power.
 - b. gatekeeping.
 - c. docket authority.
 - d. discharge action.

ANS: B DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

48. A large number of members of the House of Representatives publicly support legislation to increase the federal minimum wage. However, the bill must pass through the Committee on Education and the Workforce before being brought to the floor for a vote. The chair of the committee decides whether to allow the committee to vote on the bill. The committee chair's decision is an example of
- jurisdiction.
 - veto power.
 - agenda power.
 - delegation.

ANS: C

DIF: Difficult

TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics

MSC: Analyzing

49. The transmission of authority to some other official or body for the latter's use (though often with the right of review and revision) is called
- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| a. abdication. | c. decisiveness. |
| b. conveyance. | d. delegation. |

ANS: D

DIF: Easy

TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics

MSC: Remembering

50. In American representative democracy, citizens are considered to function as _____ of elected officials.
- a. agents c. principals
b. delegates d. experts

ANS: C

DIF: Moderate

TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics

MSC: Remembering

51. What is the dark side of principal-agent relationships?
 - a. Agents are often not rational.
 - b. The principals usually do not know what they are doing.
 - c. Principals often force agents to do things against their will.
 - d. The interests of the agent and the principal may not be well aligned.

ANS: D

DIF: Moderate

TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics

MSC: Understanding

52. Which of these is a principal-agent relationship?
- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| a. client-attorney | c. U.S. ambassador-King of Sweden |
| b. inmate-prison guard | d. horse-jockey |

ANS: A

DIF: Moderate

TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics

MSC: Understanding

53. Which term describes the organizational sacrifices needed to clarify each aspect of a principal-agent relationship and to monitor it to ensure compliance?
- a. tort infractions
 - b. transaction costs
 - c. mediation efforts
 - d. business costs

ANS: B

DIF: Moderate

TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics

MSC: Applying

54. Because individuals involved in the decision-making process often have different goals and preferences, it can be very difficult to orchestrate
- a. policy analysis.
 - b. collective action.
 - c. constituent service.
 - d. committee work.

ANS: B

DIF: Easy

TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics

MSC: Applying

55. Getting everyone to act collectively when the number of parties involved is too large to engage in face-to-face bargaining requires
- excluding potential members of the bargain until negotiations are possible among a small number of principals.
 - adoption of centralized government authority, such as an autocracy or oligarchy.
 - establishing a formal bargaining system.
 - use of random devices to settle differences, such as flipping a coin.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Understanding

56. If two neighbors who share a private hedge on their property line talk to each other and decide to take turns trimming the hedge without signing a written contract, they have most likely engaged in
- trade negotiations.
 - formal bargaining.
 - interest-based negotiations.
 - informal bargaining.

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

57. A small group of congressional party and committee leaders meet in an unmarked room in the U.S. Capitol and make legislative deals while sipping bourbon. This pattern of group decision making is best described as
- deinstitutionalized.
 - democratic.
 - informal bargaining.
 - authoritarian.

ANS: C DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

58. A husband and wife would likely employ formal bargaining when
- dividing household chores.
 - deciding which of their parents to spend Christmas with.
 - choosing a restaurant for dinner.
 - allocating household assets in a divorce settlement.

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

59. Negotiations that are governed by rules are called
- informal bargaining.
 - formal bargaining.
 - jurisdictional conflicts.
 - norms.

ANS: B DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

60. The pooling of resources and coordination of effort and activity by a group of people to achieve common goals is called
- free riding.
 - collective action.
 - informal bargaining.
 - formal bargaining.

ANS: B DIF: Easy TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

61. Free riding tends to undermine
- political will.
 - collective action.

- b. legal authority. d. gatekeeping authority.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

62. Free riding occurs in collective action settings because
- usually some individuals do not have an interest in the public good.
 - the diversity of motives means not everyone wants to achieve the same goal.
 - people do not know what the price of public goods really ought to be.
 - individuals may be able to enjoy the benefit of others' efforts without contributing themselves.

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Understanding

63. A group of people who pool their resources and coordinate their efforts and activities in order to achieve common goals will ordinarily establish some decision-making procedures by which to resolve differences, coordinate activities, and
- punish cheaters.
 - promote flexibility.
 - encourage new initiatives.
 - monitor principals.

ANS: A DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

64. Your instructor has organized the class into groups of three students each and assigned each group a research project on different aspects of the workings of Congress. Regardless of the individual contributions of each member of the group, all three students of each group will receive the same grade based on the quality of the project. After numerous attempts to organize the group to work on the project, you realize the third student in your group will not participate. Instead, you and the second student get together to finish the project because both of you are very concerned about your final grade in the class. However, you are both angry that the third student is going to benefit from your hard work without contributing. Had the instructor told each group that each student's grade on the project would be based on his or her individual contribution, which problem would the instructor have avoided?
- a normative problem
 - an empirical problem
 - a free-rider problem
 - a principal-agent problem

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

65. Your instructor decides to give the class one very hard exam question. The entire class may work together to answer the question because the instructor just wants the correct answer; she does not care how the class arrives at the answer or who contributes to answering the question. The final answer that is submitted will be graded, and all students will receive the same grade. In one sense, the exam grade is a _____ because all students will benefit and no one can be denied a grade, regardless of their individual contributions to answering the question.
- public good
 - private good
 - retail good
 - wholesale good

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

66. A good that may be enjoyed by anyone, if provided, and that may not be denied to anyone once it has been provided is called a(n)
- public good.
 - private good.
 - externality.
 - universal good.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

67. What is an example of a public good?
- a. clean air
 - b. garbage collection service
 - c. shoes sold at a shoe store
 - d. home-grown vegetables given from one person to another

ANS: A DIF: Easy TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

68. One of the most notorious collective action problems involves the overconsumption of a shared resource and is called the
- a. demise of the surplus.
 - b. candy box phenomenon.
 - c. tragedy of the commons.
 - d. Hawthorne effect.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

69. When each individual seeks to maximize his or her use of the common pool of resources without regard to their degradation or depletion because no one owns them, political scientists speak about a
- a. race to the bottom.
 - b. tragedy of the commons.
 - c. fallacy of collective action.
 - d. cooperative demise.

ANS: B DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

70. The tragedy of the commons suggests that
- a. mutual trust is based on an ongoing process of give and take.
 - b. an ongoing process of give and take is based on mutual trust.
 - c. individual preferences may sometimes clash with collective welfare.
 - d. collective and individual preferences are complementary.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

71. A good example of a tragedy of the commons is
- a. the crash of a commercial airliner.
 - b. gun violence.
 - c. policy paralysis due to lack of clear and relevant information.
 - d. pollution of the earth's atmosphere.

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

72. Each semester, your school budgets for a certain amount of office supplies, including paper to use in the printers available in your school's computer labs. If the supplies run out, the school cannot afford to purchase more until the following semester. Students are allowed to freely access the computer labs and print out their homework or papers for class, and there is no policing of how much each student prints. The school estimates that each student will print about 200 pages per semester. If enough students exceed this limit, the computer labs may run out of paper before the end of the semester; students will then no longer be able to freely print out their assignments for class and will have to make other arrangements to ensure they turn in their work on time. This scenario describes which common problem in politics?

- a. transaction costs
- b. free-rider problem
- c. gatekeeping
- d. tragedy of the commons

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Analyzing

73. A large majority of U.S. citizens has favored mandatory background checks for firearms purchases for several years, but Congress has not enacted this into law. Which principle indicates that preferences (here, citizens' views on gun control) do not automatically translate into policy change but instead are the result of actors working within governing institutions?
- a. rationality principle
 - b. collective action principle
 - c. policy principle
 - d. institution principle

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

74. Even though a majority of the U.S. House and Senate support a bill, it may not become law because of the way chamber rules allocate agenda power. This is an expression of which principle?
- a. history principle
 - b. policy principle
 - c. collective action principle
 - d. rationality principle

ANS: B DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

75. A congressman who enthusiastically supports subsidies for home heating oil but opposes regulation to control its price because his family owns a heating-oil distributorship is basing his policy preferences on
- a. personal interests.
 - b. electoral ambitions.
 - c. environmental interests.
 - d. institutional ambitions.

ANS: A DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

76. A well-known, politically moderate senator has recently introduced very conservative amendments to bills dealing with the economy in order to appeal to more conservative financial donors. In turn, she hopes these donors might contribute to her budding presidential campaign. She is basing her policy decisions on
- a. personal interests.
 - b. electoral ambitions.
 - c. institutional ambitions.
 - d. altruistic interests.

ANS: B DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

77. A senator depends on private contributions to fund his reelection campaigns since public campaign financing is not available. Though he is personally concerned about the environmental impact of burning coal, he accepts large campaign contributions from powerful coal companies in his state. This senator also sits on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources committee and uses his position to protect the interests of the coal industry to ensure he receives future campaign contributions. The policies promoted by this senator best reflect which motivations?
- a. ideology
 - b. personal interests
 - c. institutional ambitions
 - d. electoral ambitions

ANS: D DIF: Difficult TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

78. A congressional representative promises a vote and delivers a rousing speech on the House floor supporting a particular legislative measure because the Speaker also supports the measure. The representative hopes that the Speaker will remember this enthusiastic support of a critical measure when the time comes for handing out prestigious committee assignments in the next legislative year. In this instance, the representative is acting in accordance with
- a. personal interests.
 - b. electoral ambitions.
 - c. institutional ambitions.
 - d. altruistic interests.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

79. Which term describes the idea that certain possibilities are made more or less likely because of decisions made in the past?
- a. decisiveness
 - b. logrolling
 - c. historical determinism
 - d. path dependency

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Remembering

80. Which of these is a primary reason that history commonly matters in political life?
- a. Voters can only choose from candidates whose families have previously won elected office.
 - b. American politicians have traditionally lacked the creativity to come up with new policy ideas.
 - c. Rules and procedures have consequences for years, decades, or even centuries.
 - d. Many political documents are written in classic languages like Sanskrit, Latin, and Aramaic.

ANS: C DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Understanding

81. The long-term commitment of Jewish voters to the Democratic Party is an example of
- a. decisiveness.
 - b. logrolling.
 - c. historical determinism.
 - d. path dependency.

ANS: D DIF: Moderate TOP: CH01 - Five Principles of Politics
MSC: Applying

ESSAY

1. What are the five principles for understanding politics, and how does each help us understand political behavior?

ANS:

- (1) Rationality: By understanding political behavior as purpose-driven, we can understand why people do what they do.
- (2) Institution: The foundation of our political system, but ever-evolving. Classic rules include rules for decisiveness, principal-agent delegation, jurisdiction, agenda-setting, and vetoes.
- (3) Collective action: Politics requires people to work together. How do people come to agreements? How do they pay any costs associated with collective goods while discouraging free riding and tragedies of the commons?
- (4) Policy: How do preferences and institutional rules combine to yield policy change?

- (5) History: The present is often heavily influenced by previous choices that are difficult or impossible to reverse.

MSC: Evaluating

2. Why can it be difficult for actors who share a common interest to agree to cooperate?

ANS:

Generally, actors might disagree about how to divide the gains from cooperation and how to allocate any costs required for cooperation. Disagreements about the division of gains may lead to bargaining failures. When cooperation to provide a public good is costly, actors may be tempted to free ride. Finally, communities sharing common-access goods may suffer from a tragedy of the commons.

MSC: Evaluating

3. One implication of the history principle is that many aspects of our political system persist in a form that we would not choose today, such as (perhaps) state parties, the Electoral College system for choosing presidents, current political party coalitions, and equal representation of state in the U.S. Senate. Is it a good or a bad aspect of our political system that many of our modern-day institutions are designed by choices made long ago?

ANS:

Good: Institutional and organizational continuity provide stability in our political system. This may mean there is a fair amount of muddling through, but a stable political system enables citizens to live their lives in peace and security.

Good: Choosing new rules is harder than it looks. There is no guarantee that actors would actually agree on alternative rules or coalitions, nor that new rules or coalitions would do a better job of leading to better policy and electoral outcomes.

Bad: Institutions and coalitions that are historical accidents diminish the legitimacy of the political system.

Bad: Things could be better. Better elections, better policies, better lives.

MSC: Analyzing

4. Governments differ in terms of who rules and what limits exist on governmental power. Describe the main types of ruling structures and of constraints on government.

ANS:

Ruling

- (1) Autocracy: one person.
- (2) Oligarchy: a small group of leaders (wealthy, landowners, military).
- (3) Democracy: broad popular participation in governing and the selection of leaders.

Constraints

- (1) None: totalitarianism.
- (2) Informal: authoritarian.
- (3) Formal: constitutional. Constitutions may contain both substantive limits (identifying some topics as out of bounds) and procedural limits (specifying how power can be wielded).

MSC: Evaluating

5. List and discuss the principles that help explain why government does what it does.

ANS:

- (1) Rationality: All political behavior has a purpose.
- (2) Institution: Institutions structure politics.
- (3) Collective action: All politics is collective action.
- (4) Policy: Political outcomes are the product of individual preferences, institutional procedures, and collective action.
- (5) History: How we got here matters.

MSC: Analyzing

6. Explain the alternatives to constitutional democracy.

ANS:

Ruling

- (1) Autocracy: one person
- (2) Oligarchy: a small group of leaders (wealthy, landowners, military)

Constraints

- (1) None: totalitarianism
- (2) Informal: authoritarian

MSC: Analyzing

7. Discuss the dark side of representative democracy in terms of principal-agent problems and transaction costs.

ANS:

Agents have their own interests that may be adverse to their principal's interests. Elected leaders may seek to amass power and wealth against the wishes of citizens. More subtly, they may act in their own interests when they believe they are not being monitored or when they do not think their constituents (collectively, the "principal") will be able to dislodge them from office even if they try.

MSC: Analyzing

8. According to the *policy principle*, why are enacted public policies often quite different from the ideal policies one might choose if there were no political considerations?

ANS:

- Politicians' individual incentives to gain reelection, advance within a legislature, or run for higher office may motivate them to distort policy choices to favor their own constituents, to please actors inside of Congress who can help their ambitions, or to satisfy organized and financial interests that can aid their careers.
- Institutional structures will also introduce distortions in policy choices. The text is vague on this point—specific examples will come in later chapters—but one example is that the multiple veto players in the lawmaking process may demand concessions to suit their own preferences.

MSC: Understanding

9. How does history help explain modern government?

ANS:

History affects rules and procedures, loyalties and alliances, and historically conditioned points of view.

- Rules and procedures: Examples include the adoption of single-member district with plurality rule, leading to a two-party system.
- Loyalties: The text's example is that Jewish Americans tend to vote for the Democratic Party in part for historical reasons, even if the Republican Party is a better fit for their financial interests and foreign policy views.
- Points of view: Early experiences (Great Depression, World War II, Vietnam War) tend to influence how citizens frame later events.

MSC: Understanding

10. Using examples of real events that have occurred within the past few years, explain how the following five principles of politics can be used to explain political behavior.

ANS:

- (1) Rationality: All political behavior has a purpose.
- (2) Institution: Institutions structure politics.
- (3) Collective action: All politics is collective action.
- (4) Policy: Political outcomes are the product of individual preferences, institutional procedures, and collective action.
- (5) History: How we got here matters.
Obviously, examples will vary widely.

MSC: Applying

11. What kinds of free-rider problems do we encounter in our everyday lives? How does government help solve the free-rider problem?

ANS:

Everyday lives: workers attempting to form a union (in text), roommates trying to keep common areas clean, students in a study group or a group project, etc.

Government help: Government can compel free riders to pay their fair share (e.g., by forcing them to pay taxes and drafting civilians for a war) or by providing selective incentives to those who cooperate.

MSC: Applying

12. Explain the following four features of institutions that structure politics, using specific examples to illustrate each point.

ANS:

- (1) Jurisdiction: Congressional committees; federal agencies have defined roles.
- (2) Agenda power and veto power: Congressional committees and party leaders engage in gatekeeping. The president has veto power.
- (3) Decisiveness: Congress has rules that specify when votes may be taken, the sequence in which votes on amendments occur, and how many supporters determine whether a motion passes or fails.
- (4) Delegation: Delegation is the act of giving authority to some other official or body for their use. Citizens delegate to representatives through voting.

MSC: Analyzing