

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**

1. Organizations that maintain a monopoly of violence over a given territory are called
  - a. nations.
  - b. states.
  - c. governments.
  - d. regimes.

ANS: B            DIF: Easy            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

2. Marjorie believes that private property and capitalism create inequality, but she also places a high value on individual political freedom. Her ideology is called
  - a. liberalism.
  - b. fascism.
  - c. anarchism.
  - d. communism.

ANS: C            DIF: Moderate            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

3. Which of the following units of government most often represents the population at large in lawmaking?
  - a. lower house of a bicameral legislature
  - b. upper house of a bicameral legislature
  - c. judiciary
  - d. executive

ANS: A            DIF: Moderate            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

4. Which of the following statements about semi-presidential systems is accurate?
  - a. It is strongly tied to the proportional representation electoral system.
  - b. Primary executive authority resides with the prime minister.
  - c. Presidents in this system are typically more powerful than the prime ministers.
  - d. Presidents in this system must be approved by the legislature.

ANS: C            DIF: Moderate            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Understanding

5. States that divide power between the central state and regional or local authorities are called
  - a. unitary.
  - b. federal.
  - c. devolved.
  - d. democratic.

ANS: B            DIF: Easy            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

6. Political scientists use which term to describe the norms and rules regarding individual freedoms and

collective equality, the locus of power, and the use of that power?

- a. political regime
- b. constitution
- c. government
- d. federal regime

ANS: A            DIF: Easy            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

7. Which of the following statements about parliamentary systems is accurate?
- a. It is more difficult to remove a head of state from power in a parliamentary system than in a presidential system.
  - b. Heads of government (prime ministers) are usually elected from within the legislature.
  - c. Political deadlocks cannot be overcome through new elections or the election of a new prime minister.
  - d. They are typically more stable than presidential systems.

ANS: B            DIF: Moderate            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Understanding

8. The symbol of the people, their formal representative both nationally and internationally that embodies and articulates the goals of the regime, is the
- a. ambassador.
  - b. head of government.
  - c. head of state.
  - d. legislature.

ANS: C            DIF: Easy            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

9. Courts with the power to decide questions that do not arise from legal cases, sometimes even before legislation has been enacted, have the power of
- a. abstract review.
  - b. judicial review.
  - c. due process.
  - d. constitutional veto.

ANS: A            DIF: Easy            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

10. When an executive head of government is elected from within the legislature, we usually refer to the legislative-executive system as
- a. presidential.
  - b. parliamentary.
  - c. semi-presidential.
  - d. authoritarian.

ANS: B            DIF: Moderate            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

11. Social democracy as a political ideology is a sort of hybrid of what two other political ideologies?
- a. communism and liberalism

- b. liberalism and conservatism
- c. anarchism and communism
- d. liberalism and radicalism

ANS: A            DIF: Moderate            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

12. Which of the following describes electoral systems in which voters cast their ballots for a list of party candidates and the percentage of the votes a party receives in a district determines how many of that district's seats it wins?
- a. single-member districts
  - b. plurality systems
  - c. first past the post
  - d. proportional representation

ANS: D            DIF: Moderate            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

13. The apartheid regime in South Africa was an example of a democratic but \_\_\_\_\_ regime, a regime that retains the basic structures of democracy but does not protect civil liberties.
- a. illiberal
  - b. liberal
  - c. authoritarian
  - d. populist

ANS: A            DIF: Moderate            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

14. Regimes featuring a strong official ideology that seeks to transform fundamental aspects of the state, society, and economy through force and popular mobilization are called
- a. authoritarian.
  - b. populist.
  - c. illiberal.
  - d. totalitarian.

ANS: D            DIF: Moderate            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

15. The act of a local nonprofit organization advocating for better schools is an example of which of the following?
- a. civil society
  - b. co-optation
  - c. clientelism
  - d. patron-client relations

ANS: A            DIF: Moderate            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Understanding

16. Which of the following statements about mixed electoral systems is accurate?
- a. Voters are allowed to vote in either a multimember district or a single-member district but not both.
  - b. Candidates in single-member districts are elected on the basis of a plurality.
  - c. Voters cast votes for party and prime minister.

d. Candidates in multimember districts are chosen through plurality vote.

ANS: B            DIF: Difficult            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Understanding

17. Citizens' level of trust in government, their knowledge about politics, and their perceived ability to influence political outcomes are all aspects of
- political culture.
  - civil society.
  - legitimacy.
  - national identity.

ANS: A            DIF: Easy            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

18. In which of the following ways do multimember districts differ from single-member districts?
- Multimember districts are considered a less democratic method of representation.
  - Multimember districts are more likely to favor two dominant political parties.
  - Multimember districts are less well-suited to proportional representation systems.
  - Multimember districts are more likely to grant small political parties seats in the legislature.

ANS: D            DIF: Difficult            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Applying

19. Which of the following represents an argument for the superiority of the PR (proportional representation) electoral model over the SMD (single-member district) model?
- Multimember districts waste fewer votes.
  - Multimember districts produce more centrist legislative majorities.
  - Multimember districts help voters connect more directly with their representatives.
  - Multimember districts reduce the likelihood of small parties or fringe parties with radical platforms.

ANS: A            DIF: Difficult            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Analyzing

20. Amnesty International and the International Red Cross are examples of
- intergovernmental organizations.
  - nongovernmental organizations.
  - institutions of global governance.
  - world trade organizations.

ANS: B            DIF: Easy            REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Remembering

21. Edward regularly votes for politicians who promise to do more to alleviate the crushing income inequality in his country. Even though he has enough material wealth to be comfortable, he sees many of his fellow citizens suffering under low wages. He would like his government to step in and regulate the amount of wealth each person has in order to force equality of both income and wealth so that everyone becomes equal. Because this is not a popular view, he understands that the government would have to cease to be democratic in order to enforce this, but he would be willing to sacrifice that to achieve equality. His ideology could be categorized as
- fascism.
  - communism.

- c. liberalism.
- d. anarchism.

ANS: B                    DIF: Moderate                    REF: What Is Comparative Politics?                    MSC: Applying

22. Karen has a business that has grown over the years from a small one to a very profitable, large one. She has amassed a high degree of wealth in a society where most of her fellow citizens are extremely poor—to the point of common homelessness. Additionally, the state she lives under has eliminated all citizen access to government and regularly violates all measures of civil rights and freedoms in the name of securing and building up the state. Karen agrees with both her economic situation and the role that the state plays in the life of her country. How is Karen’s ideology best characterized?
- a. liberalism
  - b. fascism
  - c. social democracy
  - d. anarchism

ANS: B                    DIF: Moderate                    REF: What Is Comparative Politics?                    MSC: Applying

23. Roger views political change as risky and worries that change will only make things worse than the status quo. His political attitude is best characterized as
- a. conservative.
  - b. moderate.
  - c. radical.
  - d. fascist.

ANS: A                    DIF: Moderate                    REF: What Is Comparative Politics?                    MSC: Remembering

24. Steven wants to compare the degree of economic inequality between his country and a wealthy, developed democracy. The measure he uses yields a score of 68 for his country and a score of 12 for the wealthy democracy. What measurement did he most likely use?
- a. GDP
  - b. GDP per capita
  - c. Gini index
  - d. Human Development Index

ANS: C                    DIF: Moderate                    REF: What Is Comparative Politics?                    MSC: Understanding

25. Which of the following two entities are most responsible for formulating and executing policy in a parliamentary system?
- a. parliament and head of state
  - b. prime minister and head of state
  - c. prime minister and president
  - d. prime minister and cabinet

ANS: D                    DIF: Moderate                    REF: What Is Comparative Politics?                    MSC: Remembering

## ESSAY

1. What are the major differences seen among parliamentary, presidential, and semi-presidential systems? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each model?

ANS:

A good answer will note the important differences between the three types; parliamentary—party leader as prime minister, ceremonial head of state, prime minister and cabinet as primary formulators of policy; presidential—combining head of state and head of government, directly elected president, legislative checks on executive authority; and semi-presidential—prime minister and directly elected president sharing executive power. Advantages and disadvantages have to do with potential level of conflict between the legislative and executive branches. Presidential systems are more conflictual and thus more inefficient in policy making whereby parliamentary systems and semi-presidential systems have great harmony between legislative and executive branch and thus more policy-making power.

DIF: Difficult    REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Analyzing

2. Describe the major types of nondemocratic regimes. Discuss how nondemocratic governments use co-optation to support their regimes?

ANS:

A good answer will list several major types of nondemocratic regimes—personal dictatorship, military regime, one-party regime, theocracy, communist, illiberal, and totalitarian. Additionally, a good answer will describe how co-optation—members of public in a beneficial relationship with the state—may take the form of clientelism, corporatism, or rent seeking.

DIF: Moderate    REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Understanding

3. Describe the difference between political attitudes and political ideologies. Where does each ideology fall in its relative levels of freedom and equality?

ANS:

A good answer will note the difference between a political attitude—views about the status quo in a society, and a political ideology—a set of universal political values regarding the goals of politics. Furthermore, a good answer will also indicate knowledge of each ideology's central characteristics and placement on the 2x2 matrix of freedom and equality.

DIF: Difficult    REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Analyzing

4. How are political economies affected by political ideology? How do political scientists employ tools like GDP per capita or the Gini index to measure economies?

ANS:

A good answer will note that all political ideologies specify the appropriate role of the state in the economy (political economy) and therefore may have anything from a very limited to very active role in a state's economic system. Furthermore, a good answer will also specify the several ways in which a state's role in the economy is measured. It may include social expenditures, allocation of public goods, GDP, per capita GDP, PPP, Gini index, and the HDI.

DIF: Difficult    REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Understanding

5. Is globalization eclipsing the state? Discuss both the challenges and opportunities that globalization presents with regard to the domestic politics of states.

ANS:

A good answer will define globalization and note how it presents both a challenge to states—more restrictions on states from international bodies (MNCs, NGOs, IGOs), greater travel and communication unmediated by the state; and an opportunity—greater economic integration (regionally and globally) often benefits states.

DIF: Difficult    REF: What Is Comparative Politics?    MSC: Analyzing