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Introducing Government in America

▣ Multiple-Choice Questions

1. What are the institutions that make public policy decisions for a society collectively known as?
 - a. political culture
 - b. the courts
 - c. government
 - d. Congress

Consider This: Congress is one of the institutions that make public policy decisions that influence how we live.

Answer: c

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.1.1

Topic: Government

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Identify the key functions of government and explain why they matter.

Page Reference: 7

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. How does government usually protect its national sovereignty?
 - a. by maintaining armed forces
 - b. by maintaining schools, libraries, hospitals, and highways

Consider This: Providing goods and services is an essential function of government, but it does not protect national sovereignty.

 - c. by collecting taxes
 - d. by politically socializing the young

Answer: a

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.1.2

Topic: Government

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Identify the key functions of government and explain why they matter.

Page Reference: 7

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. What determines whom we select as our governmental leaders and what policies these leaders pursue?

a. the media

Consider This: The media focuses on the who of this term, usually the candidates, voters, and parties.

b. public opinion

c. politics

d. public policy

Answer: c

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.2.3

Topic: Politics

Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Define politics in the context of democratic government.

Page Reference: 8

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. The ways in which people get involved in politics make up their political _____.

a. ideology

b. participation

c. party

Consider This: Individual citizens get involved in politics because they understand that public policy choices made by governments affect them in significant ways and joining a party is just one way to get involved.

d. opinions

Answer: b

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.2.4

Topic: Politics

Learning Objective: LO 1.2: Define politics in the context of democratic government.

Page Reference: 9

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

5. How does our government respond to the priorities of its people?

a. through linkage institutions

Consider This: While linkage institutions are channels through which people's concerns reach policymakers, these institutions on their own do not address the priorities of the people because they do not create policy.

b. through political science

c. through political tolerance

d. through a policymaking system

Answer: d

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.3.5

Topic: The Policymaking System

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Assess how citizens can have an impact on public policy and how policies can impact people.

Page Reference: 10

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

6. What best describes a linkage institution?

a. a channel through which people's concerns become part of the political agenda

b. a location to express a political opinion

Consider This: Linkage institutions provide avenues for political participation and transmit Americans' preferences to policymakers.

c. the formation of a special interest group

d. an environment where one learns about the political process

Answer: a

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.3.6

Topic: The Policymaking System

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Assess how citizens can have an impact on public policy and how policies can impact people.

Page Reference: 10

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

7. What makes up the government's policy agenda?

a. all of the issues that candidates talk about on the campaign trail

Consider This: Candidates are likely to campaign only on the issues that voters care about, but these issues may not be of national concern and so they may not appear on the policy agenda.

b. the issues that attract the serious attention of public officials and other political actors

- c. the issues that are asked about on public opinion polls
- d. the issues that concern single-issue interest groups

Answer: b

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.3.7

Topic: The Policymaking System

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Assess how citizens can have an impact on public policy and how policies can impact people.

Page Reference: 11

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

8. What are policy impacts?

- a. issues that attract serious attention of public officials

Consider This: Translating people's desires into effective public policy is the goal of public officials, and analyzing the impact the policy has had determines whether the policy is effective.

- b. government institutions that are charged with taking action on political issues
- c. the effects that a policy has on people and on society's problems
- d. systems of selecting policymakers and of organizing government so that policy represents and responds to the public's preferences

Answer: c

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.3.8

Topic: The Policymaking System

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Assess how citizens can have an impact on public policy and how policies can impact people.

Page Reference: 12

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. What is democracy?

- a. a system that ensures freedom, justice, and peace to all citizens

Consider This: The term democracy is often used alongside other terms like freedom, justice, and peace because citizens are involved in forming the government.

- b. a system that perpetuates the status quo and upholds the values of the party in power
- c. a system that selects policymakers and organizes government so that policy represents and responds to the public's preferences
- d. a system that grants a status of privilege to the most active and informed voters

Answer: c

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.9

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

Page Reference: 12

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

10. What most closely exemplifies equality in voting?

a. inclusion

Consider This: The government must extend rights of citizenship to all people subject to its laws. Voting is one of these rights.

b. freedom of speech and of the press

c. one person, one vote

d. universal citizenship

Answer: c

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.10

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

Page Reference: 13

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

11. The _____ principle is that, in a democracy, policies should reflect the will of more than half of the voters.

a. enlightened rule

b. pluralism

Consider This: Pluralism emphasizes that all groups with shared interests have a voice in policymaking with no single group dominating.

c. representation

d. majority rule

Answer: d

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.11

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

Page Reference: 13

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

12. What is the theory that argues that group competition results in a rough approximation of the public interest in public policy?

a. pluralism

b. elitism

Consider This: This theory emphasizes that an upper-class elite holds power and makes policy.

c. balance-of-power theory

d. elite-and-class theory

Answer: a

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.12

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

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Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

13. Which theory contends that American society is divided along class lines?

a. pluralism

b. policy gridlock

Consider This: The diversity of the American people is reflected in the diversity of the interests represented in the political system. When interests conflict and no majority exists, policy gridlock occurs.

c. balance of power

d. elitism

Answer: d

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.13

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

Page Reference: 16

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

14. Which theory argues that special interest groups have essentially become sovereign, and the government is merely their servant?

a. pluralism

b. hyperpluralism

c. majority rule

Consider This: Majority rule says that the interests of the majority must be represented in government, but the government system is fragmented, making it difficult for the majority to be represented.

d. federalism

Answer: b

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.14

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

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Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

15. What condition occurs when interests conflict and no coalition is strong enough to form a majority and establish policy, yet each may be strong enough to thwart the will of the others?

a. divided government

b. Hyperpluralism

Consider This: Government is weakened because of the plethora of groups.

c. policy gridlock

d. separation of powers

Answer: c

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.15

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

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Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

16. A set of values widely shared within a society is referred to as which of the following?

a. government

b. politics

Consider This: Democracy depends on the people to function, and shared values are essential for effective governance.

c. public policy

d. political culture

Answer: d

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.16

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

Page Reference: 16

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

17. The U.S. preference for _____ economic policies helps to explain why we have a smaller and more limited government than do most other advanced industrialized countries.
- a. laissez-faire
 - b. populist
- Consider This: Populism isn't directly related to economic policies, but it does champion the political legitimacy of the "little people" over the elite.
- c. pluralist
 - d. egalitarian

Answer: a

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.17

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

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Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

18. A law passed by Congress and the adoption of a regulation by an agency are examples of which of the following?
- a. collective action
- Consider This: Congress passes laws and agencies adopt regulations in response to problems or political issues.
- b. red tape
 - c. public policies
 - d. government rule

Answer: c

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.3.18

Topic: The Policymaking System

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Assess how citizens can have an impact on public policy and how policies can impact people.

Page Reference: 11

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Easy

19. What is an example of a collective good?

- a. clean air
- b. medical care
- c. a college education

Consider This: A collective good is a good or service provided by the government that all receive and cannot be denied to anyone person or groups. By this definition, a college education is not a collective good.

- d. food stamps

Answer: a

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.1.19

Topic: Government

Learning Objective: LO 1.1: Identify the key functions of government and explain why they matter.

Page Reference: 7

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

20. The withdrawal of American troops from Iraq resulted from which of the following?

- a. a regulation
- b. a budgetary choice
- c. a congressional statute

Consider This: Congress does have significant foreign and defense policymaking powers but determining troop movement and withdrawal, or say bombing ISIS targets, is usually conducted by the Executive branch.

- d. a presidential action

Answer: d

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.3.20

Topic: The Policymaking System

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Assess how citizens can have an impact on public policy and how policies can impact people.

Page Reference: 11

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

21. What kind of public policy involves the legislative enactment of taxes and expenditures?

- a. budgetary choice
- b. regulation
- c. court decision
- d. congressional statute

Consider This: A congressional statute refers to a law passed by Congress that impacts the public, such as the Affordable Care Act's requirement to obtain health insurance.

Answer: a

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.3.21

Topic: The Policymaking System

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Assess how citizens can have an impact on public policy and how policies can impact people.

Page Reference: 11

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

22. Which principle of traditional democracy theory is violated in circumstances in which the wealthy have influence over the government's policy agenda that far exceeds what would be expected based on their numbers?

- a. citizen control of the agenda
- b. effective participation

Consider This: Effective participation means that citizens have equal means for political participation, but it does not refer to which groups of people the government will most influence the policy agenda.

- c. enlightened understanding
- d. equality in voting

Answer: a

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.22

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

Page Reference: 12

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

23. What is public policy?

- a. all government decisions
- b. the root causes of political culture
- c. the public's political issues

Consider This: Public policies are responses to political issues, actions which address various problems.

d. only legislation enacted by Congress

Answer: a

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.3.23

Topic: The Policymaking System

Learning Objective: LO 1.3: Assess how citizens can have an impact on public policy and how policies can impact people.

Page Reference: 11

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

24. Free speech and a free press are essential to which principle of traditional democratic theory?

a. inclusion

Consider This: Rights such as free speech and free press are necessary for a marketplace of ideas.

b. effective participation

c. enlightened understanding

d. equality in voting

Answer: c

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.24

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

Page Reference: 13

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

25. In the United States, pluralism suggests which of the following?

a. Because most citizens fail to pay attention to serious issues, government has become an elite institution.

b. Congress is stronger and more influential than the presidency.

c. Many groups vie for power with no one group dominating politics.

d. Too many influential groups cripple government's ability to govern.

Consider This: Hyperpluralism suggests that the fragmented nature of our government, with overlapping jurisdictions, finds itself serving too many group interests.

Answer: c

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.25

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

Page Reference: 14

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

26. Who is at the center of all theories of elitism?

- a. big business
- b. Congress
- c. ordinary citizens
- d. political parties

Consider This: While pluralism argues that political parties are available for all to join to influence government, elitism argues that an upper-crust elite pulls the strings of government.

Answer: a

Test Bank Item Title: TB_Q1.4.26

Topic: Democracy in America

Learning Objective: LO 1.4: Identify the key principles of democracy and outline theories regarding how it works in practice and the challenges democracy faces today.

Page Reference: 14

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Difficult