

Chapter 2: Police History

Multiple-Choice & True/False Questions

1. The only two states that had a state police force by 1900 were
 - a. Michigan and New York.
 - b. New York and Delaware.
 - c. Boston and Virginia.
 - d. Texas and Massachusetts.
2. This group of citizens patrolled at night looking for fires and other problems.
 - a. Nightwatch.
 - b. Posse comitatus.
 - c. Thief catcher.
 - d. Constables.
3. Which of the following statements is true of urban-dispersion theory?
 - a. The police were created to control mob violence.
 - b. The police were created in response to a need for a new type of police because of increased criminal activity.
 - c. The police were created as a result of economic exploitation.
 - d. The police were created because other cities had them and not because of a real need.
4. Why was the 1920s to the 1960s probably the most significant period in the development of policing in the United States?
 - a. Policing became more political.
 - b. The foundations for the professionalization of law enforcement were established.
 - c. August Vollmer started a police school.
 - d. None of the above.
5. The FBI was created to take over some of the duties of what agency?
 - a. The Secret Service.
 - b. The U.S. Marshals.
 - c. The Postal Inspectors.
 - d. The Revenue Cutter Service.
6. By the 1960s, all states had some form of _____.
 - a. Crime lab.
 - b. Fail-proof safeguard for racial profiling.
 - c. State police.
 - d. None of the above.
7. What was the name of the first detective unit created in England?
 - a. Posse Comitatus.
 - b. Peelers.
 - c. Bertillon System.

- d. Bow Street Runners.
8. Which of the following statements is true of the disorder-control theory?
- a. The police were created to control mob violence.
 - b. The police were created in response to a need for a new type of police because of increases in criminal activity.
 - c. The police were created as a result of economic exploitation.
 - d. The police were created because other cities had them and because of a real need.
9. The reform era was arguably the most significant period in the development of policing in the United States because _____.
- a. It allowed local jurisdictions to exert political influence.
 - b. It established the foundations for the professionalization of policing.
 - c. It established the importance of crime control.
 - d. Both b and c.
10. According to advocates of the reform model, what is the primary purpose of the police?
- a. Service.
 - b. Order maintenance.
 - c. Crime-fighting.
 - d. None of the above.
11. Reform efforts began to be questioned during the 1960s as a result of _____.
- a. Urban riots.
 - b. The civil rights movement.
 - c. Perceptions of an increasing crime rate.
 - d. All of the above.
12. Which of the following is true of policing during the political era?
- a. A geographically decentralized organizational structure.
 - b. Close and personal relationship to citizens.
 - c. The police derived their authority from powerful local politicians.
 - d. All of the above are true.
13. The history of policing in the United States most often focuses exclusively on the history of policing in the northern territories, which overlooks what areas of historical importance?
- a. Policing in the Midwest.
 - b. Slave patrols.
 - c. Policing on the western frontier.
 - d. Both b and c.
14. What is the word, from Spanish origin, that means “watchman” or “guard?”
- a. Posse comitatus.
 - b. Vigilante.
 - c. Frankpledge.
 - d. Ranger.

15. What is defined as an attempt to improve police behavior and performance by adopting a code of ethics and improving selection, training, and management of police departments?
 - a. Professionalization.
 - b. Socialization.
 - c. Order maintenance.
 - d. None of the above.
16. Which of the following is **NOT** a principle of the Metropolitan Police Act of 1829?
 - a. The police must be under government control.
 - b. Police with a good appearance will be more respected by the public.
 - c. The public should be informed about the extent and nature of crime.
 - d. The police should have at least a high school education.
17. To explain the development of police departments, this theory suggest that increases in criminal activity created a climate of fear and a need for a new type of police:
 - a. Disorder-control theory.
 - b. Crime-control theory.
 - c. Class-control theory.
 - d. Urban-dispersion theory.
18. Which of the following is considered a prominent spokesman for police reform?
 - a. August Vollmer.
 - b. J. Edgar Hoover.
 - c. O. W. Wilson.
 - d. All of the above.
19. Under the frankpledge system, what was the name of the group called out to pursue fleeing felons?
 - a. Bobbies.
 - b. Bow Street Runners.
 - c. Field Marshals.
 - d. Posse comitatus.
20. What federal agency is responsible for investigating counterfeiting?
 - a. U.S. Secret Service.
 - b. FBI.
 - c. Postal Inspectors.
 - d. U.S. Marshals.
21. Vigilante movements were the most common in the American South during the nineteenth century.
22. The reform model of policing preceded the political model.

23. Advocates of the reform model of policing felt that the primary purpose of the police should be service.
24. J. Edgar Hoover was one of the most prominent spokesmen in favor of the political model.
25. August Vollmer is often called the father of modern police administration.
26. One of the earliest forms of policing, kin policing, was highly formal and characterized by legally binding rules.
27. According to the Peelian principles of policing, the police must be free from governmental control.
28. Highway patrol generally has broader law enforcement powers than do state police.
29. Despite the vast knowledge about the history of policing, no theories have been proposed to explain the development of police departments.
30. The U.S. Secret Service provides security for the federal courts.
31. The Peelian model of policing emphasized apprehension more than prevention.
32. In the southern colonies of the United States, slave patrols represented the first form of modern policing, existing as early as the mid-1700s.
33. Prior to 1900, only Texas and Massachusetts had formed a state police force.
34. One of the responsibilities of modern sheriff includes providing security for the court system.
35. The Progressive Era called for more authority for public officials and honesty and efficiency in government.
36. The political era of policing was characterized by numerous reforms that essentially ended the influence of politics on law enforcement.
37. Prior to the Civil War, there were eight types of federal law enforcement activities.
38. The Great Depression of the 1930s actually made police reform easier.
39. The disorder-control theory explains the development of police in terms of the need to suppress mob violence.
40. Local police have a clear role in fighting terrorism.

Multiple-Choice & True/False Answers

1. d
2. a
3. d
4. b
5. a
6. c
7. d
8. a
9. d
10. c
11. d
12. d
13. d
14. b
15. a
16. d
17. b
18. d
19. d
20. a

21. False
22. False
23. False
24. False
25. True
26. False
27. False
28. False
29. False
30. False
31. False
32. True
33. True
34. True
35. True
36. False
37. False
38. True
39. True
40. False

Essay Questions

1. Describe the differences between contemporary policing and the earliest forms of policing.
2. Between 1920 and the mid-1960s, many police departments changed dramatically in the United States. This change was the result of three events. List and discuss those three events.
3. Explain the minority perspective on the history of policing.
4. The authors listed four theories to explain the development of police departments in the United States. List and explain those four theories.
5. How did the Progressive Era help change policing from a political orientation to the legalistic approach?

Matching Questions

1. Class-control theory
 2. Frankpledge system
 3. Disorder-control theory
 4. Professionalization
 5. Reform model
 6. Wickersham Commission
 7. Crime-control theory
 8. Political model
 9. Nightwatch
 10. Urban-dispersion theory
- A. Maintains that increases in criminal activity resulted in a perceived need for a new type of police.
 - B. Professional or bureaucratic model.
 - C. Explains development of police departments as a result of other cities having them, rather than the result of a real need.
 - D. Oriented to special interests.
 - E. Explains development of the police as a result of class-based economic exploitation.
 - F. Explains development in terms of the need to suppress mob violence.
 - G. Investigated police corruption.
 - H. An attempt to improve police behavior and performance by adopting a code of ethics and improving selection, training, and management of police.
 - I. A group of citizens who patrolled at night looking for fires and other problems.
 - J. Based on an organization of tithings.

Matching Answers

1. E
2. J
3. F

4. H
5. B
6. G
7. A
8. D
9. I
10. C