

3. *Liberalism*

Multiple Choice

1. Liberals have historically favored which of the following?

- A. a planned economy
- B. the minimal state
- C. religious toleration
- D. all of the above
- E. none of the above

Answer: C

2. That government should not forbid “capitalist acts between consenting adults” (R. Nozick) is the view taken by

- A. welfare-state liberals.
- B. libertarians.
- C. classical conservatives.
- D. neoconservatives.
- E. none of the above.

Answer: B

3. John Stuart Mill’s “one very simple principle” is the

- A. greatest happiness of the greatest number principle.
- B. principle of: from each according to his ability, to each according to his need.
- C. principle of fair play.
- D. principle that what touches all should be decided by all.
- E. none of the above is correct.

Answer: E

4. Which thinker employs the expression and the image of the “invisible hand”?

- A. John Locke
- B. Adam Smith
- C. Karl Marx
- D. Thomas Hobbes
- E. none of the above

Answer: B

5. Who among the following favored tax-supported “public works,” or what we would now call “infrastructure”?

- A. Karl Marx
- B. John Locke
- C. Adam Smith
- D. Thomas Hobbes
- E. none of the above

Answer: C

6. Which of the following falls under the heading of “public works”?

- A. bridges
- B. roads
- C. canals
- D. all of the above
- E. none of the above

Answer: D

7. According to Adam Smith, which of the following falls under the heading of “moral sentiments”?

- A. compassion
- B. pity
- C. benevolence

- D. all of the above
- E. none of the above

Answer: D

8. Adam Smith was an early critic of

- A. self-interest.
- B. mercantilism.
- C. rationalism.
- D. hedonism.
- E. utilitarianism.

Answer: B

9. Who among the following uses the phrase “the greatest happiness of the greatest number”?

- A. Jeremy Bentham
- B. John Locke
- C. Thomas Hobbes
- D. all of the above
- E. none of the above

Answer: A

10. The political theory or philosophy that advocates promoting “the greatest happiness of the greatest number” is:

- A. Libertarianism.
- B. Utilitarianism.
- C. Marxism.
- D. Conservatism.
- E. none of the above.

Answer: B

11. Who among the following advocate the protectionist theory of democracy?

- A. Jeremy Bentham
- B. John Stuart Mill
- C. James Mill
- D. both A and B
- E. both A and C

Answer: E

12. Who formulated the Harm Principle?

- A. James Mill
- B. John Stuart Mill
- C. Jeremy Bentham
- D. C. D. Harm
- E. none of the above

Answer: B

13. Who created the first welfare state?

- A. John Stuart Mill
- B. Karl Marx
- C. Otto von Bismarck
- D. G.W.F. Hegel
- E. none of the above

Answer: C

14. What was the ideological affiliation of the creator of the first welfare state?

- A. liberal
- B. socialist
- C. communist

- D. conservative
- E. none of the above

Answer: D

15. Jeremy Bentham called his philosophy

- A. egalitarianism.
- B. libertarianism.
- C. utilitarianism.
- D. unitarianism.
- E. none of the above.

Answer: C

16. In *Anarchy, State, and Utopia*, Robert Nozick argues that

- A. “victimless crimes” should be illegal because they are “capitalist acts between consenting adults.”
- B. no one truly deserves his or her talents, abilities, or status in society.
- C. the only legitimate state or government is “the minimal state.”
- D. religion is simply superstition that prevents people from seeing things as they really are.
- E. society can be democratic only when wealth is shared equally by everyone.

Answer: C

17. Welfare liberals usually support which of the following policies in order to promote equal opportunity?

- A. affirmative action
- B. differential worth
- C. comparable compensation
- D. desert-based discrimination
- E. compensatory retribution

Answer: A

18. Social Darwinists believe that

- A. no government can effectively rule people of two different races.
- B. government should be nothing more than a “night watchman state.”
- C. society has a responsibility to care for the weak and disabled.
- D. government promotes social progress when it helps the weak.
- E. both B and D are correct.

Answer: B

19. The Declaration of Independence can be considered a liberal document because it

- A. requires government to follow the principle of utility.
- B. requires government to follow the harm principle.
- C. openly attacks the principle of religious conformity.
- D. openly rejects the principle of aristocratic privilege.
- E. insists that government must protect the rights of individuals.

Answer: E

20. The Protestant Reformation prepared the way for liberalism by

- A. convincing Protestants that they needed to reform.
- B. encouraging people to value individual conscience rather than conformity.
- C. attacking the Roman Church’s emphasis on ascribed status.
- D. teaching that salvation comes from doing good deeds and helping others.
- E. openly calling for toleration of religious differences.

Answer: B

21. When the French revolutionaries attacked aristocratic privilege, they were attacking a form of

- A. ascribed status.
- B. religious conformity.
- C. political absolutism.

- D. mercantilism.
- E. welfare liberalism.

Answer: A

22. Liberalism began as a reaction against
- A. religious conformity and ascribed status.
 - B. ascribed status and *laissez-faire* economics.
 - C. *laissez-faire* economics and mercantilism.
 - D. mercantilism and religious tolerance.
 - E. both A and C are correct.

Answer: A

23. John Stuart Mill believed that people should be
- A. free to do whatever they want.
 - B. free to do what they want as long as they do not harm or threaten harm to others.
 - C. free to do what they want as long as they do not harm others or themselves.
 - D. protected against the tyranny of the majority.
 - E. both B and D are correct.

Answer: E

24. According to John Locke's idea of the social contract,
- A. all governments deserve the consent of the people they govern.
 - B. the pursuit of happiness is a natural right.
 - C. Catholics and atheists should not be tolerated.
 - D. people consent to establish government to protect their natural rights.
 - E. government must act to promote the prosperity of the people.

Answer: D

25. According to Thomas Hobbes, "a general inclination of all mankind" is
- A. to enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
 - B. to compete for profits in the economic marketplace.
 - C. a belief in the importance of worshiping as each person sees fit.
 - D. a restless desire for power after power that ceases only with death.
 - E. to buy copies of Hobbes's books.

Answer: D

26. According to Jeremy Bentham's utilitarian philosophy, we should
- A. do what we want as long as we don't harm or threaten harm to others.
 - B. allow the government only to protect us from force and fraud.
 - C. establish a common religion to bind together the members of society.
 - D. try to promote the greatest happiness of the greatest number.
 - E. major in political science because it has so much utility.

Answer: D

27. Thomas Paine did NOT
- A. write *Common Sense*.
 - B. believe that people have natural rights.
 - C. argue that government is at best a "necessary evil."
 - D. draft the Constitution of the United States.
 - E. argue that monarchy is incompatible with individual liberty.

Answer: D

28. John Rawls argues in *A Theory of Justice* that
- A. inequalities in wealth and resources are just only when they benefit the least-advantaged people in society.
 - B. "victimless crimes" should be legal because they are "capitalist acts between consenting adults."
 - C. the profit incentive will not be necessary if people are paid what they truly deserve.

- D. what goes around comes around.
- E. both B and C are correct.

Answer: A

29. John Stuart Mill's uneasy acceptance of democracy is seen in his

- A. proposal for plural voting.
- B. warning about the tyranny of the majority.
- C. attack on public education.
- D. defense of mercantilist restrictions on commerce.
- E. both A and B are correct.

Answer: E

30. Adam Smith and other early liberals adopted the idea of *laissez-faire* because they

- A. had no ideas of their own.
- B. thought that economic competition is the best way to achieve prosperity.
- C. wanted the government to promote economic growth by managing the economy.
- D. saw colonies as a danger to the economy of the "mother country."
- E. thought that this was the best way to promote mercantilism.

Answer: B

31. Which of the following events took place in the nineteenth century?

- A. Protestant Reformation
- B. English Civil War
- C. American Revolution
- D. French Revolution
- E. division of liberalism into two competing branches

Answer: E

32. Feudalism is important to the origins of liberalism because

- A. early liberals accepted the feudal idea of achieved status.
- B. most of the early liberals, such as Hobbes and Locke, were serfs.
- C. early liberals shared the feudal concern for individual welfare.
- D. most of the early liberals, such as Locke, controlled many serfs.
- E. early liberals rejected the feudal restraints on individual liberty.

Answer: E

33. In *The Wealth of Nations*, Adam Smith maintains that

- A. mercantilism is the most efficient economic system.
- B. a welfare state ought to be established.
- C. granting monopolies to successful businesses is the best way to promote the wealth of a nation.
- D. the best way to promote the public interest is to let people pursue their private interests.
- E. economic competition usually leads to civil war as people fight for profits.

Answer: D

34. According to John Locke's *Letter Concerning Toleration*,

- A. religion is not a public but a private matter.
- B. everyone has a natural right to worship in any way whatsoever.
- C. government receives its authority directly from God.
- D. the government must tolerate Catholics but not atheists.
- E. both B and C are correct.

Answer: A

35. According to T. H. Green, freedom

- A. is merely the absence of restraint.
- B. includes the power or the ability to develop one's potential.
- C. is something that government can and should promote.