**America in the Twenty-First Century**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**

1. The value of all federal, state, and local government spending now exceeds \_\_\_\_ of the nation’s total income.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | 4 percent |
| b. | 20 percent |
| c. | 32 percent |
| d. | 40 percent |
| e. | 56 percent |

ANS: D

2. Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and national defense together make up well over \_\_\_\_of all federal spending.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | 15 percent |
| b. | one-fourth |
| c. | one-third |
| d. | one-half |
| e. | 70 percent |

ANS: D

3. James Madison once said, “If men were angels, no \_\_\_\_ would be necessary.”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | government |
| b. | democracy |
| c. | social contract |
| d. | dictatorship |
| e. | war |

ANS: A

4. Resolving conflicts over what society’s priorities should be is the essence of

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | power. |
| b. | authority. |
| c. | politics. |
| d. | capitalism. |
| e. | liberalism. |

ANS: C -4

5. Political scientist Harold Lasswell defined \_\_\_\_as the process of determining “who gets what, when, and how” in a society.”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | plutocracy |
| b. | authority |
| c. | representative democracy |
| d. | political culture |
| e. | politics |

ANS: E REF: 4

6. Political scientist Harold Lasswell defined politics as the process of determining

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | “who should rule, and with what purpose.” |
| b. | “how to win friends and influence people.” |
| c. | “how to wield influence and exercise power” in a society. |
| d. | “who gets what, when, and how” in a society. |
| e. | “who gets to do what to whom” in a society. |

ANS: D REF: 4

7. *Authority* refers to

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | the ability to influence the behavior of others. |
| b. | the ability to resolve social conflict by force. |
| c. | power that stems from coercion. |
| d. | the exercise of power in an illegitimate way. |
| e. | the ability to use power that is collectively recognized by society as legally and morally correct. |

ANS: E REF: 4

8. Which of the following is not considered a public service?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Building and maintaining roads |
| b. | Preserving national parks |
| c. | Establishing welfare programs |
| d. | Building houses |
| e. | Operating public schools |

ANS: D REF: 4-5

9. In a(n) \_\_\_\_, the power and authority of the government are in the hands of a single person.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | constitutional monarchy |
| b. | direct democracy |
| c. | plutocracy |
| d. | autocracy |
| e. | republic |

ANS: D REF: 7

10. The divine right theory

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | held that God gave those of royal birth the unlimited right to govern other men and women. |
| b. | held that even God could be judged by those of royal birth. |
| c. | was used to justify the American presidency. |
| d. | required monarchs to obey the wishes of the people. |
| e. | held that the decisions of governmental rulers were divinely inspired. |

ANS: A REF: 7-8

11. Most modern monarchies are constitutional monarchies in which the monarch shares governmental power with

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | the church. |
| b. | elected lawmakers. |
| c. | the people. |
| d. | representatives of large corporations. |
| e. | a dictator. |

ANS: B REF: 8

12. Most constitutional monarchs today serve

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | merely as ceremonial leaders of their nations. |
| b. | four-year terms. |
| c. | by divine right. |
| d. | unchecked by any other government leaders or a bill of rights. |
| e. | after being elected by parliament. |

ANS: A REF: 8

13. \_\_\_\_has a constitutional monarch.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Germany |
| b. | The United States |
| c. | Canada |
| d. | Cuba |
| e. | The United Kingdom (Britain) |

ANS: E REF: 8

14. Undemocratic systems that are not supported by tradition are called

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | plutocracies. |
| b. | dictatorships. |
| c. | theocracies. |
| d. | republics. |
| e. | aristocracies. |

ANS: B REF: 8

15. A dictatorship can be \_\_\_\_, which means that a leader or group of leaders seeks to control almost all aspects of social and economic life.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | libertarian |
| b. | totalitarian |
| c. | republican |
| d. | liberal |
| e. | conservative |

ANS: B REF: 8

16. Fidel Castro in Cuba and Kim Jong Il in North Korea are contemporary examples of

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | progressives. |
| b. | libertarians. |
| c. | totalitarian dictators. |
| d. | social conservatives. |
| e. | absolute monarchs. |

ANS: C REF: 8

17. The word *democracy* comes from the Greek *demos,* meaning \_\_\_\_, and *kratia,* meaning \_\_\_\_.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | “demonstrate”; “power” |
| b. | “mob”; “rights” |
| c. | “the people”; “rule” |
| d. | “representative”; “Congress” |
| e. | “direct”; “elections” |

ANS: C REF: 8

18. The founders of the United States believed that direct democracy

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | would require too many elections. |
| b. | might lead to voter apathy. |
| c. | would deteriorate into mob rule. |
| d. | might cost too much to operate. |
| e. | would too often promote the rights and opinions of people in the minority over those in the majority. |

ANS: C REF: 9

19. In a representative democracy,

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | the people participate directly in government decision making. |
| b. | rulers acquire power through inheritance. |
| c. | Republicans have more power than Democrats. |
| d. | the will of the majority is expressed through smaller groups of individuals elected by the people to act on their behalf. |
| e. | the wealthy exercise ruling power. |

ANS: D REF: 9

20. In a(n) \_\_\_\_, the will of the majority is expressed through groups of individuals elected by the people to act as their representatives.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | aristocracy |
| b. | theocracy |
| c. | monarchy |
| d. | autocracy |
| e. | representative democracy |

ANS: E REF: 9

21. The system of government in the United States is best described as a(n)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | parliamentary democracy. |
| b. | direct democracy. |
| c. | autocracy. |
| d. | presidential democracy. |
| e. | aristocracy. |

ANS: D REF: 9

22. A republic is essentially a(n)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | autocracy. |
| b. | aristocracy. |
| c. | theocracy. |
| d. | representative democracy. |
| e. | monarchy. |

ANS: D REF: 9

23. In a presidential democracy, the lawmaking and law-enforcing branches of government

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | are separate but equal. |
| b. | overlap. |
| c. | are both located in parliament. |
| d. | are both located in Congress |
| e. | are both located in the executive branch. |

ANS: A REF: 9

24. Today, Britain is a(n)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | absolute monarchy. |
| b. | direct democracy. |
| c. | republic. |
| d. | plutocracy. |
| e. | parliamentary democracy. |

ANS: E REF: 9

25. The term \_\_\_\_ describes a government run by members of old, noble families.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | *plutocracy* |
| b. | *representative democracy* |
| c. | *theocracy* |
| d. | *autocracy* |
| e. | *aristocracy* |

ANS: E REF: 9

26. In Greek, the term *aristocracy* meant

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | “rule by the few.” |
| b. | “rule by the many.” |
| c. | “rule by the wealthy.” |
| d. | “rule by the best.” |
| e. | “God rules.” |

ANS: D REF: 9

27. In a(n) \_\_\_\_, there is no separation of church and state; rather, the government rules according to religious precepts.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | plutocracy |
| b. | direct democracy |
| c. | theocracy |
| d. | aristocracy |
| e. | representative democracy |

ANS: C REF: 9

28. Which of the following countries is an example of a theocracy?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Cuba |
| b. | Germany |
| c. | Iran |
| d. | China |
| e. | Greece |

ANS: C

29. The system of government in Iran is best described as a(n)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | absolute monarchy. |
| b. | aristocracy. |
| c. | plutocracy. |
| d. | theocracy. |
| e. | constitutional monarchy. |

ANS: D

30. In writing the U.S. Constitution, the framers incorporated two basic principles of government that had evolved in England: representative government and

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | limited government. |
| b. | separation of powers. |
| c. | libertarianism. |
| d. | conservatism. |
| e. | capitalism. |

ANS: A

31. The Magna Carta (1215) clearly established the principle of

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | theocracy. |
| b. | a right to privacy. |
| c. | totalitarianism. |
| d. | limited government. |
| e. | divine right. |

ANS: D

32. The Magna Carta (1215)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | abolished trial by jury. |
| b. | forced the nobles to obtain the king’s approval of any taxes they imposed. |
| c. | signaled the end of the monarch’s absolute power. |
| d. | gave the English monarch virtually unrestricted powers. |
| e. | abolished due process of law as a protection of life, liberty, or property. |

ANS: C

33. Which of the following was *not* a provision in the English Bill of Rights (1689)?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The king could not interfere with parliamentary elections. |
| b. | The king or queen had to have Parliament’s approval to levy taxes. |
| c. | The king had to rule with the consent of the people’s representatives in Parliament. |
| d. | The queen could interfere with parliamentary elections. |
| e. | The king or queen had to have Parliament’s approval to maintain an army. |

ANS: D

34. Which of the following best describes a social contract?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | The set of ideas, values, and attitudes about government and the political process held by a community or a nation |
| b. | The freedom of individuals to believe, act, and express themselves as they choose so long as doing so does not infringe on the rights of other individuals in the society |
| c. | A voluntary agreement among individuals to create a government and to give that government adequate power to secure the mutual protection and welfare of all individuals |
| d. | A concept that holds, at a minimum, that all people are entitled to equal protection under the law |
| e. | An economic system based on the private ownership of wealth-producing property, free markets, and freedom of contract |

ANS: C

35. Natural rights are

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | created in a social contract. |
| b. | established by parliaments. |
| c. | granted in constitutional provisions. |
| d. | inherent within every man, woman, and child. |
| e. | bestowed by the ruling elite. |

ANS: D

36. The philosopher John Locke argued that people are born with natural rights to

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. |
| b. | prosperity, privacy, and freedom. |
| c. | life, liberty, and property. |
| d. | freedom, property, and safety. |
| e. | life, liberty, and privacy. |

ANS: C

37. The philosopher John Locke theorized that the purpose of government was to protect

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | natural rights. |
| b. | political culture. |
| c. | equality. |
| d. | capitalism. |
| e. | multiculturalism. |

ANS: A

38. Which of the following is a fundamental principle on which American democracy is based?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Equality in voting |
| b. | Individual privacy |
| c. | Economic equality |
| d. | Minority rule |
| e. | Freedom of contract |

ANS: A

39. Because of the goal of \_\_\_\_, Article I, Section 9, of the Constitution prohibits the government from granting titles of nobility.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | liberty |
| b. | equality |
| c. | multiculturalism |
| d. | freedom |
| e. | property |

ANS: B

40. For Americans, \_\_\_\_ and the pursuit of happiness are closely related.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | liberty |
| b. | equality |
| c. | privacy |
| d. | property |
| e. | justice |

ANS: D

41. Capitalism is

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | a set of political beliefs that include the advocacy of active government. |
| b. | a concept that holds, at a minimum, that all people are entitled to equal protection under the law. |
| c. | a set of beliefs that include a limited role for the national government in helping individuals and in the economic affairs of the nation. |
| d. | an economic system based on the private ownership of wealth-producing property, free markets, and freedom of contract. |
| e. | the freedom of individuals to believe, act, and express themselves as they choose, so long as doing so does not infringe on the rights of other individuals in the society. |

ANS: D

42. \_\_\_\_ is/are the preeminent capitalist institution.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Home ownership |
| b. | The stock market |
| c. | Congress |
| d. | Public schools |
| e. | The privately owned corporation |

ANS: E

43. \_\_\_\_is the belief that the many cultures that make up American society should remain distinct and be protected by our laws.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Socialism |
| b. | Multiculturalism |
| c. | Progressivism |
| d. | Liberalism |
| e. | Libertarianism |

ANS: B

44. For the nation as a whole, non-Hispanic whites will be in the minority before the year

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | 2015. |
| b. | 2025. |
| c. | 2032. |
| d. | 2044. |
| e. | 2050. |

ANS: E

45. When it comes to ideology, Americans are often placed in two broad political camps:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | *socialists and conservatives.* |
| b. | progressives and liberals. |
| c. | conservatives and libertarians. |
| d. | liberals and conservatives. |
| e. | liberals and socialists. |

ANS: D

46. \_\_\_\_ is best defined as a set of beliefs that include a limited role for the national government in helping individuals in the economic affairs of the nation, and supporting traditional values and lifestyles.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Capitalism |
| b. | Conservatism |
| c. | Progressivism |
| d. | Liberalism |
| e. | Socialism |

ANS: B

47. The conservative movement emerged as a major force in \_\_\_\_, when Arizona Senator Barry Goldwater won the Republican presidential nomination.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | 1920 |
| b. | 1932 |
| c. | 1964 |
| d. | 1972 |
| e. | 1980 |

ANS: C

48. The conservative movement emerged as a major force in 1964, when \_\_\_\_ won the Republican presidential nomination on a relatively radical platform.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Herbert Hoover |
| b. | Barry Goldwater |
| c. | Richard Nixon |
| d. | Gerald Ford |
| e. | Ronald Reagan |

ANS: B

49. In 1980, Republican \_\_\_\_became the first “movement conservative” to win the White House.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Barry Goldwater |
| b. | Lyndon Johnson |
| c. | Richard Nixon |
| d. | Ronald Reagan |
| e. | George H.W. Bush |

ANS: D

50. Conservatives

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | value “big government.” |
| b. | strongly favor the separation of church and state. |
| c. | believe that the government has a responsibility to undertake social-welfare programs at the taxpayers’ expense to assist the poor and the disadvantaged. |
| d. | believe that the distribution of social and economic benefits that would exist if government took little or no action would be disastrous. |
| e. | place a high value on the principle of order, on family values, and on patriotism. |

ANS: E

51. Modern liberalism in the United States traces its roots to the administration of

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Andrew Jackson. |
| b. | Woodrow Wilson. |
| c. | Franklin D. Roosevelt. |
| d. | Harry Truman. |
| e. | Bill Clinton. |

ANS: C -16

52. Liberal ideology took its fully modern form in the

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | 1930s, during the administration of Franklin Roosevelt. |
| b. | 1950s, during the administration of Dwight Eisenhower. |
| c. | 1960s, during the administration of Lyndon Johnson. |
| d. | 1990s, during the administration of Bill Clinton. |
| e. | 2000s, during the administration of Barack Obama. |

ANS: C REF: 16

53. Most politicians that might have called themselves \_\_\_\_in the past have labeled their philosophy progressivism instead.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | *socialists* |
| b. | liberals |
| c. | libertarians |
| d. | conservatives |
| e. | Tea Partiers |

ANS: B

54. On the traditional political spectrum, \_\_\_\_ are on the left.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | libertarians and liberals |
| b. | conservatives and socialists |
| c. | progressives and conservatives |
| d. | socialists and libertarians |
| e. | liberals and socialists |

ANS: E

55. People with views that fall in the middle of the traditional political spectrum are generally called

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | moderates. |
| b. | progressives. |
| c. | libertarians. |
| d. | liberals. |
| e. | conservatives. |

ANS: A

56. In much of the world, the main left-of-center party describes itself as

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | conservative. |
| b. | progressive. |
| c. | libertarian. |
| d. | socialist. |
| e. | communist. |

ANS: D

57. \_\_\_\_ oppose almost all government regulation of the economy, and they oppose government involvement in issues of private morality.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Libertarians |
| b. | Socialists |
| c. | Tea Partiers |
| d. | Liberals |
| e. | Conservatives |

ANS: A

58. \_\_\_\_is the belief that government should do as little as possible, not only in the economic sphere, but also in regulating morality and personal behavior.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Conservatism |
| b. | Progressivism |
| c. | Libertarianism |
| d. | Socialism |
| e. | Liberalism |

ANS: C

59. Libertarians believe in

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | economic equality and social liberty. |
| b. | social order and economic equality. |
| c. | socialism. |
| d. | social liberty and economic liberty. |
| e. | social order and economic liberty. |

ANS: D

60. Social conservatives/economic progressives believe in

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | economic equality and social liberty. |
| b. | social order and economic equality. |
| c. | the rejection of political compromise. |
| d. | social liberty and economic liberty. |
| e. | social order and economic liberty. |

ANS: B

**ESSAY**

1. What does government do? Describe three essential purposes of government.

ANS:

Students’ answers may vary.

2. Discuss the different systems of government. Who governs? Who has the power to make the rules and laws that all must obey?

ANS:

Students’ answers may vary.

3. American democracy is based on five fundamental principles. What are they? Why do these principles frequently lie at the heart of America’s political conflicts?

ANS:

Students’ answers may vary.

4. What is political culture? What are the fundamental political values shared by most Americans? Does it matter that individual Americans often interpret the meanings of these values differently?

ANS:

Students’ answers may vary.

5. Discuss the development of modern conservatism. What are the key elements in conservative thinking?

ANS:

Students’ answers may vary.

6. Discuss the development of modern liberalism. What are the key elements in liberal thinking?

ANS:

Students’ answers may vary.

7. Draw the traditional political spectrum and describe the political ideologies you have placed on the spectrum.

ANS:

Students’ answers may vary.

8. Many Americans do not adhere firmly to a particular political ideology. Draw a two-dimensional political classification that illustrates the positions Americans take on economic issues and social matters. Describe the various combinations of views that complicate the relationship between ideology and the American electorate.

ANS:

Students’ answers may vary.