

## **Chapter 1: The Political Landscape**

### ***Reading Comprehension Quiz***

#### **Multiple Choice Questions**

- 1) The Preamble to the Constitution begins
  - A) "We the People . . ."
  - B) "Four score and seven years ago . . ."
  - C) "When in the course of human events . . ."
  - D) "In order to form a more perfect Union . . ."
  - E) "These are the times that try men's souls . . ."
  
- 2) Which of the following did NOT lead to American settlement in the seventeenth century?
  - A) Questioning the divine right of kings
  - B) The split from the Church of England
  - C) Belief in self-government
  - D) Belief in intelligent design
  - E) Hobbes and Locke's social contract theories
  
- 3) A social contract theory of government was proposed by
  - A) Plato and Aristotle.
  - B) Aquinas and Luther.
  - C) Newton and the separatists.
  - D) Locke and Hobbes.
  - E) Plato and Luther.
  
- 4) Locke's *Second Treatise on Civil Government* sets out a theory of
  - A) the divine rights of kings.
  - B) aristocracy.
  - C) democracy.
  - D) republicanism.
  - E) natural rights.
  
- 5) Indirect democracy is based on
  - A) consensus.
  - B) unanimity.
  - C) the system of government used in ancient Greece.
  - D) representation.
  - E) "mob rule."

- 6) Republics are
- A) representative democracies.
  - B) direct democracies.
  - C) a hallmark of unitary governments.
  - D) frequently found in totalitarian regimes.
  - E) another name for states.
- 7) In an oligarchy, rule is by
- A) the many.
  - B) the few.
  - C) one person.
  - D) all people.
  - E) people who own property.
- 8) A doctrine that society should be governed by certain ethical principles that are part of nature and can be understood by reason is called
- A) ethical law.
  - B) contract law.
  - C) natural law.
  - D) Newton's law.
  - E) constitutional law.
- 9) Who was the major author of the Declaration of Independence?
- A) George Washington
  - B) James Madison
  - C) Thomas Jefferson
  - D) Benjamin Franklin
  - E) Alexander Hamilton
- 10) According to the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution, which of the following is NOT an example of a function of American government?
- A) Promoting the general welfare
  - B) Securing the blessings of liberty
  - C) Ensuring the pursuit of happiness
  - D) Establishing justice
  - E) Insuring domestic tranquility
- 11) The fastest growing segment of the U.S. population is
- A) Asians.
  - B) African Americans.
  - C) Muslims.
  - D) Caucasians.
  - E) Hispanics.

12) The coherent set or system of values and beliefs that shape the thinking of individuals and how they view the world, as well as their beliefs about the purpose and scope of government, is known as

- A) political theory.
- B) political ideology.
- C) sociology.
- D) political culture.
- E) political psychology.

13) All of the following are among the functions that political scientists attribute to ideologies EXCEPT

- A) explanation
- B) evaluation
- C) orientation
- D) discrimination
- E) political programs

14) Conservatives generally believe that

- A) government should guarantee individual rights.
- B) activist governments are often necessary.
- C) government should provide only for defense and little else.
- D) there should be less government intervention in economic affairs.
- E) government should be abolished.

15) Politics, as defined in the text, is

- A) way too corrupt to attract any good men or women to run for office.
- B) impossible without government.
- C) the study of "who gets what, when, and how."
- D) the province of only the wealthy.
- E) irrelevant to the modern world.

### **True/False Questions**

- 1) Commerce was the most common initial reason for settlement in North America.
- 2) John Locke wrote *Leviathan*, in which he advocated for a strong central government.
- 3) Jean-Jacques Rousseau believed a social contract would provide absolute equality.

- 4) Natural law is a doctrine that argues that society should be governed by certain ethical principles.
  
- 5) The key functions of American government are found in both the Declaration of Independence and the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution.
  
- 6) African Americans are growing at the quickest rate of all ethnic or racial groups.
  
- 7) The typical modern American family is easy to describe.
  
- 8) According to Isaiah Berlin, science and technology contributed significantly to the political environment of the twentieth century.
  
- 9) Political labels are highly correlated with party identification.
  
- 10) According to a 2010 poll, over half of Americans believed that country is headed in the wrong direction.

## **Chapter 1: The Political Landscape**

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#### **Multiple Choice Questions**

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- A) "We the People . . ."
  - B) "Four score and seven years ago . . ."
  - C) "When in the course of human events . . ."
  - D) "In order to form a more perfect Union . . ."
  - E) "These are the times that try men's souls . . ."

Answer: A

Reference: LO 1.1, pgs. 4-7

Skill: Understanding

- 2) Which of the following did NOT lead to American settlement in the seventeenth century?
- A) Questioning the divine right of kings
  - B) The split from the Church of England
  - C) Belief in self-government
  - D) Belief in intelligent design
  - E) Hobbes and Locke's social contract theories

Answer: D

Reference: LO 1.1, pgs. 4-7

Skill: Understanding

- 3) A social contract theory of government was proposed by
- A) Plato and Aristotle.
  - B) Aquinas and Luther.
  - C) Newton and the separatists.
  - D) Locke and Hobbes.
  - E) Plato and Luther.

Answer: D

Reference: LO 1.2, pgs. 7-11

Learning Level: Understanding

4) Locke's *Second Treatise on Civil Government* sets out a theory of

- A) the divine rights of kings.
- B) aristocracy.
- C) democracy.
- D) republicanism.
- E) natural rights.

Answer: E

Reference: LO 1.2, pgs. 7-11

Skill: Understanding

5) Indirect democracy is based on

- A) consensus.
- B) unanimity.
- C) the system of government used in ancient Greece.
- D) representation.
- E) "mob rule."

Answer: D

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Skill: Understanding

6) Republics are

- A) representative democracies.
- B) direct democracies.
- C) a hallmark of unitary governments.
- D) frequently found in totalitarian regimes.
- E) another name for states.

Answer: A

Reference: LO 1.2, pgs. 7-11

Skill: Understanding

7) In an oligarchy, rule is by

- A) the many.
- B) the few.
- C) one person.
- D) all people.
- E) people who own property.

Answer: B

Reference: LO 1.2, pgs. 7-11

Skill: Understanding

8) A doctrine that society should be governed by certain ethical principles that are part of nature and can be understood by reason is called

- A) ethical law.
- B) contract law.
- C) natural law.
- D) Newton's law.
- E) constitutional law.

Answer: C

Reference: LO 1.3, pgs. 11-13

Skill: Understanding

9) Who was the major author of the Declaration of Independence?

- A) George Washington
- B) James Madison
- C) Thomas Jefferson
- D) Benjamin Franklin
- E) Alexander Hamilton

Answer: C

Reference: LO 1.3, pgs. 11-13

Skill: Understanding

10) According to the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution, which of the following is NOT an example of a function of American government?

- A) Promoting the general welfare
- B) Securing the blessings of liberty
- C) Ensuring the pursuit of happiness
- D) Establishing justice
- E) Insuring domestic tranquility

Answer: C

Reference: LO 1.4, pgs. 13-14

Skill: Understanding

11) The fastest growing segment of the U.S. population is

- A) Asians.
- B) African Americans.
- C) Muslims.
- D) Caucasians.
- E) Hispanics.

Answer: E

Reference: LO 1.5, pgs. 15-20

Skill: Understanding

12) The coherent set or system of values and beliefs that shape the thinking of individuals and how they view the world, as well as their beliefs about the purpose and scope of government, is known as

- A) political theory.
- B) political ideology.
- C) sociology.
- D) political culture.
- E) political psychology.

Answer: B

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Understanding

13) All of the following are among the functions that political scientists attribute to ideologies EXCEPT

- A) explanation
- B) evaluation
- C) orientation
- D) discrimination
- E) political programs

Answer: D

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs.20-22

Skill: Understanding

14) Conservatives generally believe that

- A) government should guarantee individual rights.
- B) activist governments are often necessary.
- C) government should provide only for defense and little else.
- D) there should be less government intervention in economic affairs.
- E) government should be abolished.

Answer: D

Reference: 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Understanding

15) Politics, as defined in the text, is

- A) way too corrupt to attract any good men or women to run for office.
- B) impossible without government.
- C) the study of "who gets what, when, and how."
- D) the province of only the wealthy.
- E) irrelevant to the modern world.

Answer: C

Reference: 1.7, pgs. 22-25

Skill: Understanding

## True/False Questions

1) Commerce was the most common initial reason for settlement in North America.

Answer: TRUE

Reference: LO 1.1, pgs. 4-7

Skill: Understanding

2) John Locke wrote *Leviathan*, in which he advocated for a strong central government.

Answer: FALSE

Reference: LO 1.2, pgs. 7-11

Skill: Understanding

3) Jean-Jacques Rousseau believed a social contract would provide absolute equality.

Answer: TRUE

Reference: LO 1.2, pgs. 7-11

Skill: Understanding

4) Natural law is a doctrine that argues that society should be governed by certain ethical principles.

Answer: TRUE

Reference: LO 1.3, pgs. 11-13

Skill: Understanding

5) The key functions of American government are found in both the Declaration of Independence and the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution.

Answer: FALSE

Reference: LO 1.4, pgs. 13-14

Skill: Understanding

6) African Americans are growing at the quickest rate of all ethnic or racial groups.

Answer: FALSE

Reference: LO 1.5, pgs. 15-20

Skill: Understanding

7) The typical modern American family is easy to describe.

Answer: FALSE

Reference: LO 1.5, pgs. 15-20

Skill: Understanding

8) According to Isaiah Berlin, science and technology contributed significantly to the political environment of the twentieth century.

Answer: TRUE

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Understanding

9) Political labels are highly correlated with party identification.

Answer: TRUE

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Understanding

10) According to a 2010 poll, over half of Americans believed that the country is headed in the wrong direction.

Answer: TRUE

Reference: LO 1.7, pgs. 22-25

Skill: Understanding