

The American Political Landscape

- 1) Which of these settlements was established for religious reasons?
 - A) Jamestown
 - B) Plymouth
 - C) New Amsterdam
 - D) New York
 - E) Georgia

- 2) The House of Burgesses was
 - A) created in 1615.
 - B) the Governor's board of advisors.
 - C) the first representative assembly in North America.
 - D) the lawmaking body for the Massachusetts Bay Colony.
 - E) created by the Governor of Virginia.

- 3) Hobbes would most likely argue for which of the following forms of government?
 - A) Totalitarianism
 - B) Republicanism
 - C) Aristocracy
 - D) Democracy
 - E) Anarchy

- 4) A direct democracy is a system
 - A) in which an elite makes decisions for the society.
 - B) in which representatives meet to discuss policy and make decisions.
 - C) in which the masses have certain rights, but decisions are made by a council.
 - D) in which all members of the polity meet to discuss policy and make decisions.
 - E) that was used by a majority of the colonies.

- 5) According to Aristotle's classifications of government, rule by a few whose interests are served by the public is
 - A) an aristocracy.
 - B) a dictatorship.
 - C) a democracy.
 - D) a monarchy.
 - E) an oligarchy.

- 6) Which of the following does NOT describe democracy?
 - A. It exists in a direct form in the federal government of United States.
 - B. It can be both direct and indirect.
 - C. It is one of Aristotle's classifications of government.
 - D. It is similar to a polity in terms of who governs.
 - E. It is the most common form of government in the world.

7) American political culture embodies many key concepts including

- I. absolute personal liberty.
- II. political equality.
- III. majority rule.
- IV. individualism.

- A) I
- B) I and II
- C) II and III
- D) I, II, and III
- E) II, III, and IV

8) The idea that governments draw legitimacy and power from the governed is referred to as

- A) majority rule.
- B) direct democracy.
- C) capitalism.
- D) popular consent.
- E) popular control. 13

9) The American emphasis on the importance of the individual is rooted in the principle of

- A) popular consent.
- B) political equality.
- C) majority rule.
- D) indirect democracy.
- E) political culture.

10) The Framers agreed that the new nation had to be founded on notions of

- A) religious tolerance.
- B) religious faith.
- C) racial tolerance.
- D) racial freedom.
- E) religious freedom.

11) In general, the U.S. population is

- I. mostly under the age of thirty.
- II. getting older.
- III. becoming less diverse.
- IV. less affected by immigration than in earlier years.

- A) I only
- B) II only
- C) III only
- D) II and IV
- E) III and II

12) Based on the average age of the state's population, which issue would you expect to be least important to voters in Florida?

- A) Social Security
- B) Medicare benefits for the elderly
- C) Regulation of nursing homes
- D) Public education
- E) Prescription drug costs

13) According to the definition in the text, political ideologies are sets of beliefs that

- I. shape the thinking of individuals and how they view the world.
- II. are affected only by historical forces.
- III. affect how people deal with relations between men and women.
- IV. have little to do with feelings of nationalism.

- A) I only
- B) II and III
- C) II and IV
- D) I and III
- E) I, II, and IV

14) Which of the following public policies would social conservatives be most likely to support?

- A) Overturning *Roe v. Wade*
- B) Decreasing defense spending
- C) Prohibiting any references to God or religion on money or government buildings
- D) Universal healthcare provided by the government
- E) Regulating the banking and financial sectors

15) Social conservatives, who now form a large part of the base of the Republican Party, often are also members of

- A) religious organizations.
- B) programs seeking to expand welfare programs.
- C) groups seeking to keep government out of Americans' private lives.
- D) groups seeking to enhance marriage by allowing domestic partnerships.
- E) pro-choice groups.

16) Liberals

- A) believe individuals should look to churches and other social services organizations instead of the government for assistance.
- B) are comfortable with the social status quo.
- C) generally favor government intervention to promote equality.
- D) seek to end costly welfare programs.
- E) are more likely to vote Republican than Democratic.

17) Liberals often favor

I. spending on social programs.

II. more lenient enforcement of laws such as the USA Patriot Act.

III. increased involvement of churches as the first line of defense for the poor.

IV. affirmative action programs to help make up for economic injustices.

A) II only

B) I, II, and IV

C) I, III, and IV

D) II, III and IV

E) I, II, III, and IV

18) Moderates

A) are most aligned with the views of Rush Limbaugh and Ann Coulter.

B) comprise over half of the U.S. population.

C) largely support an overhaul of the welfare system.

D) believe that a middle of the road view is the best approach to politics.

E) created the Tea Party movement.

19) Moderates fall to the _____ of the political spectrum.

A) far left

B) left

C) center

D) right

E) far right

20) According to the text, which of the following is an ideology that political scientists generally do not measure?

A) Moderate

B) Liberal

C) Fiscal conservative

D) Social conservative

E) Libertarian

21) Getting married, buying a house with a white picket fence, and having the ability to pay for children's college is one way a person may view what is/are termed the

A) American norms.

B) American dream.

C) American ideals.

D) American standard of living.

E) American illusion.

22) Over time, Americans' expectations of government have generally

- A) increased.
- B) remained the same.
- C) decreased.
- D) been eliminated.
- E) not been measured.

23) Americans' faith in institutions in the United States has

- A) remained stagnant over time.
- B) generally increased.
- C) generally decreased.
- D) decreased for some and increased for others.
- E) fluctuated, depending on the political climate.

24) Americans have the highest levels of trust in

- A) medicine.
- B) Congress.
- C) the executive branch.
- D) business and industry.
- E) the press.

25) National crises

- A) expose weaknesses in government.
- B) rarely necessitate government involvement.
- C) are times of elevated trust in government.
- D) are only occasionally the impetus for political reform.
- E) happen so infrequently as to have little effect on government.

Political Landscape Quiz and Answers

1) Which of these settlements was established for religious reasons?

- A) Jamestown
- B) Maryland
- C) New Amsterdam
- D) New York
- E) Georgia

Answer: B

Reference: LO 1.1, pgs. 4-7

Skill: Understanding

2) The House of Burgesses was

- A) created in 1615.
- B) the Governor's board of advisors.
- C) the first representative assembly in North America.
- D) the lawmaking body for the Massachusetts Bay Colony.
- E) created by the Governor of Virginia.

Answer: C

Reference: LO 1.1, pgs. 4-7

Skill: Understanding

3) Hobbes would most likely argue for which of the following forms of government?

- A) Totalitarianism
- B) Republicanism
- C) Aristocracy
- D) Democracy
- E) Anarchy

Answer: A

Reference: 1.2, pgs. 7-11

Skill: Application

4) A direct democracy is a system

- A) in which an elite makes decisions for the society.
- B) in which representatives meet to discuss policy and make decisions.
- C) in which the masses have certain rights, but decisions are made by a council.
- D) in which all members of the polity meet to discuss policy and make decisions.
- E) that was used by a majority of the colonies.

Answer: D

Reference: LO 1.2, pgs. 7-11

Skill: Understanding

5) According to Aristotle's classifications of government, rule by a few whose interests are served by the public is

- A) an aristocracy.
- B) a dictatorship.
- C) a democracy.
- D) a monarchy.
- E) an oligarchy.

Answer: E

Reference: LO 1.2, pgs. 7-11

Skill: Understanding

6) Which of the following does NOT describe democracy?

- A. It exists in a direct form in the federal government of United States.
- B. It can be both direct and indirect.
- C. It is one of Aristotle's classifications of government.
- D. It is similar to a polity in terms of who governs.
- E. It is the most common form of government in the world.

Answer: A

Reference: LO 1.2, pgs. 7-11

Skill: Analysis

7) American political culture embodies many key concepts including

- I. absolute personal liberty.
- II. political equality.
- III. majority rule.
- IV. individualism.

- A) I
- B) I and II
- C) II and III
- D) I, II, and III
- E) II, III, and IV

Answer: E

Reference: LO 1.3, pgs. 11-13

Skill: Understanding

8) The idea that governments draw legitimacy and power from the governed is referred to as

- A) majority rule.
- B) direct democracy.
- C) capitalism.
- D) popular consent.
- E) popular control.

Answer: D

Reference: LO 1.3, pgs. 11-13

Skill: Understanding

9) The American emphasis on the importance of the individual is rooted in the principle of

- A) popular consent.
- B) political equality.
- C) majority rule.
- D) indirect democracy.
- E) political culture.

Answer: B

Reference: LO 1.3, pgs. 11-13

Skill: Understanding

10) The Framers agreed that the new nation had to be founded on notions of

- A) religious tolerance.
- B) religious faith.
- C) racial tolerance.
- D) racial freedom.
- E) religious freedom.

Answer: E

Reference: LO 1.3, pgs. 11-13

Skill: Understanding

11) In general, the U.S. population is

- I. mostly under the age of thirty.
- II. getting older.
- III. becoming less diverse.
- IV. less affected by immigration than in earlier years.

- A) I only
- B) II only
- C) III only
- D) II and IV
- E) III and II

Answer: B

Reference: LO 1.5, pgs. 15-20

Skill: Understanding

12) Based on the average age of the state's population, which issue would you expect to be least important to voters in Florida?

- A) Social Security
- B) Medicare benefits for the elderly
- C) Regulation of nursing homes
- D) Public education
- E) Prescription drug costs

Answer: D

Reference: LO 1.5, pgs. 15-20

Skill: Application

13) According to the definition in the text, political ideologies are sets of beliefs that

- I. shape the thinking of individuals and how they view the world.
- II. are affected only by historical forces.
- III. affect how people deal with relations between men and women.
- IV. have little to do with feelings of nationalism.

- A) I only
- B) II and III
- C) II and IV
- D) I and III
- E) I, II, and IV

Answer: D

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Understanding

14) Which of the following public policies would social conservatives be most likely to support?

- A) Overturning *Roe v. Wade*
- B) Decreasing defense spending
- C) Prohibiting any references to God or religion on money or government buildings
- D) Universal healthcare provided by the government
- E) Regulating the banking and financial sectors

Answer: A

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Application

15) Social conservatives, who now form a large part of the base of the Republican Party, often are also members of

- A) religious organizations.
- B) programs seeking to expand welfare programs.
- C) groups seeking to keep government out of Americans' private lives.
- D) groups seeking to enhance marriage by allowing domestic partnerships.
- E) pro-choice groups.

Answer: A

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Analysis

16) Liberals

- A) believe individuals should look to churches and other social services organizations instead of the government for assistance.
- B) are comfortable with the social status quo.
- C) generally favor government intervention to promote equality.
- D) seek to end costly welfare programs.
- E) are more likely to vote Republican than Democratic.

Answer: C

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Understanding

17) Liberals often favor
I. spending on social programs.
II. more lenient enforcement of laws such as the USA Patriot Act.
III. increased involvement of churches as the first line of defense for the poor.
IV. affirmative action programs to help make up for economic injustices.

- A) II only
- B) I, II, and IV
- C) I, III, and IV
- D) II, III and IV
- E) I, II, III, and IV

Answer: B

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Analysis

18) Moderates

- A) are most aligned with the views of Rush Limbaugh and Ann Coulter.
- B) comprise over half of the U.S. population.
- C) largely support an overhaul of the welfare system.
- D) believe that a temperate view is the best approach to politics.
- E) created the Tea Party movement.

Answer: D

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Understanding

19) Moderates fall to the _____ of the political spectrum.

- A) far left
- B) left
- C) center
- D) right
- E) far right

Answer: C

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Understanding

20) According to the text, which of the following is an ideology that political scientists generally do not measure?

- A) Moderate
- B) Liberal
- C) Fiscal conservative
- D) Social conservative
- E) Libertarian

Answer: E

Reference: LO 1.6, pgs. 20-22

Skill: Understanding

21) Getting married, buying a house with a white picket fence, and having the ability to pay for children's college is one way a person may view what is/are termed the

- A) American norms.
- B) American dream.
- C) American ideals.
- D) American standard of living.
- E) American illusion.

Answer: B

Reference: LO 1.7, pgs. 22-25

Skill: Understanding

22) Over time, Americans' expectations of government have generally

- A) increased.
- B) remained the same.
- C) decreased.
- D) been eliminated.
- E) not been measured.

Answer: A

Reference: LO 1.7, pgs. 22-25

Skill: Understanding

23) Americans' faith in institutions in the United States has

- A) remained stagnant over time.
- B) generally increased.
- C) generally decreased.
- D) decreased for some and increased for others.
- E) fluctuated, depending on the political climate.

Answer: C

Reference: LO 1.7, pgs. 22-25

Skill: Analysis

24) Americans have the highest levels of trust in

- A) medicine.
- B) Congress.
- C) the executive branch.
- D) business and industry.
- E) the press.

Answer: A

Reference: LO 1.7, pgs. 22-25

Skill: Understanding

22) National crises

A) expose weaknesses in government.

B) rarely necessitate government involvement.

C) are times of elevated trust in government.

D) are only occasionally the impetus for political reform.

E) happen so infrequently as to have little effect on government.

Answer: C

Reference: LO 1.7, pgs. 22-25

Skill: Understanding