

Interest Groups

Name _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- 1) Robert Putnam laments that Americans are "bowling alone," meaning that _____
A) fewer Americans are joining groups.
B) there has been an explosion of voluntary groups.
C) interest groups fill the void left by declining parties.
D) the Internet has changed the nature of interest groups.
- 2) David Truman's theory explaining why interest groups form, is called _____
A) pluralism.
B) federalism.
C) chaos theory.
D) disturbance theory.
- 3) Robert Salisbury stressed that _____ play(s) a large role in the formation of groups. _____
A) government funding
B) citizens
C) entrepreneurs
D) all of the above
- 4) Business groups, labor unions, trade associations, and other such groups are examples of _____ interest groups. _____
A) single issue
B) multi-issue
C) public
D) economic
- 5) Common Cause, peace groups, environmental organizations, and other such groups are examples of _____ interest groups. _____
A) single issue
B) multi-issue
C) economic
D) public
- 6) The Federal Election Campaign Act made PACs legal in _____
A) 1974.
B) 1970.
C) 1962.
D) 1966.
- 7) A PAC is the political arm of a _____
A) trade association.
B) business.
C) professional group.
D) all of the above
- 8) The Christian Coalition, the National Organization of Women, and other such groups are examples of _____ interest groups. _____
A) multi-issue
B) public
C) single-issue
D) economic
- 9) The National Rifle Association is an example of _____ interest groups. _____
A) an economic
B) a single issue
C) a multi-issue
D) a public
- 10) Multi-issue groups often work to advance their interests at the _____ level. _____
A) state
B) national
C) local
D) all of the above
- 11) Local groups were common in the early years of the country, but the first truly national groups began to emerge in the _____
A) 1830s.
B) 1960s.
C) 1940s.
D) 1890s.

- 12) In order to promote the interests of businesses, the _____ was formed in 1895. 12) _____
 A) National Association of Manufacturers B) Chamber of Commerce
 C) Business Roundtable D) all of the above
- 13) One of the most well-known public interest groups that focuses on good government is called 13) _____
 A) Common Cause
 B) Collective Security.
 C) Americans for Public Decency.
 D) National Association for Clean Government.
- 14) The 1960s and 1970s were characterized by 14) _____
 A) the elimination of most trade and professional associations.
 B) the rise of public interest groups.
 C) an increase in the power of organized labor.
 D) all of the above
- 15) In 1978, a number of conservative groups began to form in response to the successes of a number 15) _____
 of liberal interest groups in shaping and defining the public agenda during the previous
 decade. One such group formed by the Rev. Jerry Falwell and was called the
 A) Family Research Council. B) Christian Coalition.
 C) Moral Majority. D) Common Cause.
- 16) In 1990, the host of a popular television program, The 700 Club, formed a new political group. His 16) _____
 name was
 A) Gary Bauer. B) Pat Robertson. C) Jim Baker. D) Jerry Falwell.
- 17) Which of the following public interest groups has the largest membership? 17) _____
 A) AARP B) Amnesty International
 C) NAACP D) NRA
- 18) In 1955, the AFL-CIO pressured 18) _____
 A) the government on minimum wage. B) businesses to protect concessions.
 C) to improve health benefits. D) all of the above
- 19) The downside of interest groups is that they can 19) _____
 A) advance selfish interests. B) ignore the rights of other groups.
 C) increase the costs of public policies. D) all of the above
- 20) Interest groups play an important role in American politics because they 20) _____
 A) increase public awareness of issues. B) increase representation.
 C) provide an avenue for participation. D) all of the above
- 21) The activities of groups and organizations that seek to influence legislation and persuade political 21) _____
 leaders to support a group's positions is called
 A) lobbying. B) testimony.
 C) political activity. D) patronage.

- 22) The most often used lobbying technique at both the state and national level is 22) _____
 A) filing lawsuits or otherwise engaging in litigation.
 B) endorsing candidates.
 C) testifying at legislative hearings.
 D) engaging in protests.
- 23) Almost all interest group lobbying includes 23) _____
 A) running advertisements. B) contacting government officials.
 C) endorsing candidates. D) working on election campaigns.
- 24) Many of the most effective lobbyists are 24) _____
 A) former members of Congress. B) former White House or Cabinet officers.
 C) former congressional staffers. D) all of the above
- 25) A lobbyist's effectiveness depends on 25) _____
 A) the resources available for bribing members of Congress.
 B) a reputation for honesty and fair play.
 C) giving legislators false and misleading information.
 D) his or her ability to play up legislators' egos.
- 26) A lobbyist's effectiveness depends upon his or her 26) _____
 A) provision of accurate information.
 B) ability to promise the legislator a large number of illegal votes.
 C) ability to promise the legislator large amounts of bribe money.
 D) all of the above
- 27) Lobbying the executive branch has become more important because 27) _____
 A) legislation often originates in the executive branch.
 B) the president can rescind laws.
 C) the scope of the federal government has shrunk since the New Deal.
 D) all of the above
- 28) Interest groups lobby the federal courts through 28) _____
 A) direct contact with judges and justices.
 B) sponsoring lawsuits and filing briefs.
 C) contributions to judicial reelection campaigns.
 D) all of the above
- 29) What is a form of pressure group activity that attempts to influence policy by getting individuals 29) _____
 to contact their representatives directly?
 A) Blitzkrieg lobbying B) Grassroots lobbying
 C) Protest activities D) Triangulating
- 30) Modern grassroots lobbying often involves 30) _____
 A) freedom rides. B) political protests.
 C) the Internet. D) campaign contributions.
- 31) Many interest groups become more directly involved in elections directly through 31) _____
 A) rating candidates and officeholders. B) endorsements.
 C) getting out the vote. D) all of the above

- 32) Get-out-the-vote drives include 32) _____
 A) identifying prospective voters. B) newspaper ads.
 C) radio spots. D) all of the above
- 33) Which of the following is true about PACs? 33) _____
 A) PACs often provide over half of an incumbent member of Congress's campaign funding.
 B) PACs are the organization arm of congressional campaigns.
 C) PACs seldom play a meaningful role in congressional campaigns.
 D) all of the above
- 34) Legally-sanctioned organizations that allow corporations, labor unions, and interest groups to raise money and make contributions to candidates in national elections are called 34) _____
 A) political action committees. B) political interest groups.
 C) federal election committees. D) campaign finance committees.
- 35) The formation, viability, and success of interest groups often depend on 35) _____
 A) pressure. B) clients.
 C) government support. D) leaders.
- 36) One thing that is crucial to the success of all interest groups is/are 36) _____
 A) direct mail. B) political support.
 C) funding. D) PACs.
- 37) Which of the following factors contributes to interest group success? 37) _____
 A) Funding B) A solid membership base.
 C) Leaders D) all of the above
- 38) In which policy arena are we most likely to see transnational interest groups? 38) _____
 A) Campaign finance reform B) Gun control
 C) Grazing policy D) Environmental protection
- 39) E.E. Schattschneider argued that the United States 39) _____
 A) a country where 90% of the population joins at least one interest group.
 B) has an upper-class bias in interest group selection.
 C) is an egalitarian country where interest groups are dominated by "average citizens."
 D) is an individualistic country that works against the formation of viable groups.
- 40) Those who join interest groups tend to 40) _____
 A) be richer. B) have more education.
 C) have more leisure time. D) all of the above

Answer Key

Testname: INTEREST GROUPS

- 1) A
- 2) D
- 3) C
- 4) D
- 5) D
- 6) A
- 7) D
- 8) A
- 9) B
- 10) D
- 11) A
- 12) A
- 13) A
- 14) B
- 15) C
- 16) B
- 17) A
- 18) D
- 19) D
- 20) D
- 21) A
- 22) C
- 23) B
- 24) D
- 25) B
- 26) A
- 27) A
- 28) B
- 29) B
- 30) C
- 31) D
- 32) D
- 33) A
- 34) A
- 35) D
- 36) C
- 37) D
- 38) D
- 39) B
- 40) D