

Chapter 1 The Political Landscape

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. Politics, some say, is
 - A) way too corrupt to attract any good men or women to run for office.
 - B) often likened to a "male's only" club, even today.
 - C) the study of "who gets what, when, and how."
 - D) the province of only the wealthy.
 - E) irrelevant to the modern world
3. The largest allocation in the federal budget goes to
 - A) discretionary military spending.
 - B) mandatory spending such as Social Security.
 - C) discretionary nonmilitary spending.
 - D) individual member's pet projects for their districts.
 - E) mandatory military spending
4. According to Aristotle's classifications of government, rule by a few whose interests are served by the public is a/an
 - A) aristocracy.
 - B) dictatorship.
 - C) democracy.
 - D) monarchy.
 - E) oligarchy.
5. Democracy
 - A) perfectly describes the American political system at all levels.
 - B) is derived from the Greek word *demos*.
 - C) has both direct and indirect forms.
 - D) was Aristotle's vision of the way people should be governed.
 - E) was opposed by the Framers.
6. 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.
7. Locke's *Second Treatise on Civil Government* set out a theory of
 - A) the divine rights of kings.
 - B) aristocracy.
 - C) democracy.
 - D) natural law.
 - E) natural rights.

8. Hobbes argued that the best protection for the rights of the weak in a polity was
- A) an oligarchy.
 - B) a weak government.
 - C) a single ruler.
 - D) the protection of private property.
 - E) a constitution.
9. 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.
10. Indirect democracy is based on
- A) consensus.
 - B) unanimity.
 - C) the system of government used in ancient Greece.
 - D) representation.
 - E) "mob rule."
11. The term political culture, especially as it refers to American political culture, includes many key concepts including
- I. absolute personal liberty.
 - II. political equality.
 - III. majority rule.
 - IV. civil society.
- A) I
 - B) I and II
 - C) I, III, and IV
 - D) I, II, and III
 - E) II, III, and IV
12. The idea that governments draw legitimacy and power from the governed is often referred to as
- A) majority rule.
 - B) direct democracy.
 - C) capitalism.
 - D) popular consent.
 - E) popular control.
13. The nongovernmental, not-for-profit, independent nature of people and groups who can express their views publicly and engage in open debate about public policy is the definition of
- A) collectivism.
 - B) communism.
 - C) public opinion.
 - D) socialism.
 - E) civil society.
14. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?
- A) George Washington
 - B) James Madison
 - C) Thomas Jefferson
 - D) Benjamin Franklin
 - E) Alexander Hamilton

15. The importance of political equality in the United States is a reflection of the emphasis placed on _____ in the United States.
- A) the individual
 - B) minority rights
 - C) bureaucrats
 - D) majority rights
 - E) capitalism
16. The United States's efforts to assist Afghanistan are primarily intended to
- A) establish totalitarian rule.
 - B) restrict individual freedom in order to ensure security.
 - C) promote socialism.
 - D) build a civil society.
 - E) stop the drug trade.
17. The fastest growing segment of the U.S. population is
- A) Asian.
 - B) Black.
 - C) Muslim.
 - D) White.
 - E) Hispanic.
18. 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
19. Changes in family size, as well as the composition of families, are undergoing dramatic changes. In early 2007, it was announced that for the first time, more women lived alone -51 percent-than had ever before. Since women also live longer, what changes could this produce?
- I. the election of more men
 - II. greater demands on the Social Security and Medicare systems
 - III. governmental policies to help single mothers
 - IV. unlikely this will produce any changes
- A) I and II
 - B) II and III
 - C) IV
 - D) I, II, and III
 - E) I, II, III, and IV
20. 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.

21. 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.
 - E) government should be abolished.
22. Among the policies favored by social conservatives are
- A) efforts to make abortion illegal.
 - B) cuts in defense spending.
 - C) increasing the separation between church and state.
 - D) decreasing government regulation of personal behavior.
 - E) greater government regulation of the economy.
23. 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) I, III, and IV
 - B) II, III and IV
 - C) I, II, III, and IV
 - D) II
 - E) I, II, and IV
24. The authors of the textbook argue that
- A) government is best that governs the least.
 - B) the Constitution is outdated and needs to be revised.
 - C) citizens often have a missing appreciation of the good things government does.
 - D) minority rights should trump majority rights.
 - E) democracy is a seriously flawed system.
25. An aging population
- I. produces costly demands on government.
 - II. tends to vote more.
 - III. is likely not to have favored the Bush administration's plans for Social Security reform.
 - IV. often vote against money for new schools or parks.
- A) I and II
 - B) II and III
 - C) I, II, and IV
 - D) I, II, III, and IV
 - E) I and IV