1. Considering all elections at all levels of government, which of the following best describes electoral behavior in the United States?
   A) Primary elections tend to elicit a higher voter turnout than do general elections.
   B) The majority of the electorate does not vote in most elections.
   C) Voter turnout plays an insignificant role in election outcomes.
   D) Adult citizens under the age of 30 tend to have the highest rate of voter turnout.
   E) Voters with strong party identification vote less regularly than do independents.

2. In which of the following scenarios would a presidential veto most likely be upheld?
   A) The President has the support of the Supreme Court.
   B) The President is in a second term, removed from partisan politics.
   C) The proposed legislation enjoys widespread bipartisan support.
   D) The proposed legislation was originally adopted by a large majority in both houses of Congress.
   E) Two-thirds of the representatives and senators are members of the same party as the President.

Questions 3-4 are based on the table below.

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3. Which of the following statements about voting patterns is best supported by the table?
   A) Women were more likely than men to vote Democratic.
   B) People who were young, White, and from the South were most likely to be Perot supporters.
   C) Voters with low educational attainment were more likely to vote Republican than democratic.
   D) Voters in the South were more likely to vote Democratic than those in other regions.
   E) Nonwhite voters were less likely to support Republican presidential candidates in 1992 than they were in 1980.
4. The data in the table provide clear evidence that
   A) Republicans were increasingly likely to defect from their party’s candidate.
   B) the vote in the Midwest predicted the outcome rather consistently.
   C) the East has become a Republican stronghold.
   D) voters under the age of 30 were more likely than older voters to support the Democratic candidate.
   E) nonwhite voters showed no preference for one party over another.

5. The Tenth Amendment to the Constitution has been interpreted by the Supreme Court to
   A) prevent states from taxing agencies of the federal government.
   B) reserve powers to the states.
   C) restrict the application of judicial review.
   D) allow for the burning of the flag as an expression of protest.
   E) limit the use of the legislative veto.

6. Which of the following statements can be supported from information in the table above?
   
   I. Federal grants to state and local governments have increased substantially in total dollar amount since 1950.
   II. In 1994 the federal government devoted a larger percentage of outlays to grants than in 1980.
   III. Between 1980 and 1990, grants decreased as a percentage of federal outlays.
   IV. In 1994 states were more dependent on federal grants for revenue than in 1990, 1970, or 1960.

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

7. When a lower court decision is appealed to the Supreme Court, which of the following is most likely to occur?
   A) The Supreme Court will reconsider the case, and overturn the lower court decision.
   B) The Supreme Court will reprimand the lower court judge of improperly deciding the case.
   C) The plaintiffs or defendants will file motions for a change of venue.
   D) The case will be retried at the lower court level.
   E) The Supreme Court will not hear the appeal.

8. Which of the following is true of *amicus curiae* briefs?
   A) They are used by interest groups to lobby courts.
   B) They are used exclusively by liberal interest groups.
   C) They are used exclusively by conservative interest groups.
   D) They are now unconstitutional.
   E) They are the means by which a litigant seeks Supreme court review of a lower court decision.
9. The terms "fiscal federalism" and "cooperative federalism" refer to situations in which
   A) the federal government completely dominates state and local governments.
   B) states are forbidden any activity that has not been specifically approved by the Supreme court.
   C) the federal judiciary uses its power of judicial review to ensure congressional dominance over state legislatures.
   D) state, municipal, and local income taxes are pooled by special agreement and redistributed in accordance with individual need.
   E) federal, state, and local governments work together to complete a project, with the federal government providing much of the project funding.

10. Which of the following is a result of the electoral college system?
   A) The winner of the presidency often lacks a majority of the popular vote.
   B) Candidates focus on one-party states in which they can win most of the electoral votes.
   C) The House of Representatives frequently chooses the President from the top three candidates.
   D) Candidates focus on the states with the largest populations.
   E) Campaign spending increases because candidates emphasize television advertising.

11. Which of the following committees of the House of Representatives sets the conditions for debate and amendment of most legislation?

12. Of the following, which has been used most to expand the power of the national government?
   A) The commerce clause of the Constitution    D) The First Amendment
   B) The habeas corpus clause of the Constitution    E) The Fifth Amendment
   C) The bill of attainder clause of the Constitution

13. Which of the following statements best describes the organization of the two major political parties in the United States?
   A) Parties have no organization except at the national level.
   B) Parties are centrally organized to provide a smooth transition from one national campaign to the next.
   C) Parties are organized much like a large corporation, in that decisions flow from national to state and local levels.
   D) Local and state parties have virtually no power in the party system.
   E) Separate and largely independent party organizations exist at national, state, and local levels.

14. Following the Civil War, the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution was designed to overturn the
   A) Dred Scott decision    D) Civil Rights Act of 1866
   B) Plessy v. Ferguson ruling    E) Slaughterhouse cases
   C) Emancipation Proclamation
15. Which of the following best illustrates the point being made in the cartoon above?
   A) The influence of presidents on the Supreme Court is limited because the Senate often rejects their nominees.
   B) The terms of Supreme Court justices should be reduced from their current forty years.
   C) Presidents can have an influence on public policy far beyond their terms of office.
   D) The opinions of Supreme Court justices remain very similar over long periods of time.
   E) Supreme Court justices seldom issue dissenting opinions.

16. The table best supports which of the following statements about party identification and voting behavior?
   A) There is no consistent relationship between party identification and voting behavior.
   B) People with weak party identification tend to vote for opposing party candidates.
   C) Independent-leaning Democrats are unreliable voters for the Democratic party.
   D) People who most resist party identification tend to vote for Republican candidates.
   E) People with strong Democratic party identification tend to vote for the democratic party.
17. The table best supports which of the following statements about the two elections for which data are provided?
   A) The 1988 and 1990 elections were clear victories for the Democratic party.
   B) Republican voters exhibited greater party discipline in 1990 than they did in 1988.
   C) Independent-leaning Republicans were the Republicans least likely to cross party lines.
   D) Pure Independents were less likely to vote for the Democratic presidential candidate in 1988 than for democratic House candidates in 1990.
   E) Weak Democrats were the group most likely to vote for Republican candidates.

18. In recent presidential administrations, the principal staff for the President has been made up of members of the
   A) White House Office
   B) cabinet
   C) Congress

19. The procedure for formally amending the United States Constitution best illustrates which of the following?
   A) The dominance of the national government over the state governments
   B) The dominance of the state governments over the national government
   C) The Founding Fathers’ desire to facilitate rapid constitutional revisions
   D) The Supreme Court’s power to review constitutional amendments
   E) The federal structure of the United States government

20. Which of the following best explains why delegates to both the Republican and Democratic Conventions in 1996 were
   much more likely to have college and postgraduate degrees than was the rest of the voting population?
   A) College education increases the likelihood of holding liberal political positions.
   B) College education increases the likelihood of holding conservative political positions.
   C) Political activism increases with education levels.
   D) Education allows people to have more time to attend conventions.
   E) Some states required delegates to hold college degrees.

21. Congressional district boundaries are usually redrawn every ten years by the
   A) Bureau of the Census
   B) State legislatures
   C) President

22. The franking privilege refers to the
   A) Federal Reserve Board’s control over interest rates.
   B) practice of permitting senators to review lists of judicial nominees.
   C) practice whereby legislators with the most seniority select the committees on which they want to serve.
   D) right of the chair to control the schedule of his or her congressional committee.
   E) right of members of Congress to send mail to their constituents at the government’s expense.

23. Which of the following took place after presidential candidates Truman in 1948, Nixon in 1968, and Clinton in 1992 won
   only pluralities of the popular vote?
   A) The election was formally decided in the House of Representatives.
   B) The election was formally decided in the Senate.
   C) The winning candidate took office after receiving less than 50% of the popular votes cast.
   D) The electoral college votes cast by independents were critical in determining the winner.
   E) The results of the popular vote necessitated a runoff.

24. Which of the following is generally true of the gerrymandering of congressional districts?
   A) It results in more Democrats being elected to the House.
   B) It results in more Republicans being elected to the House.
   C) It guarantees that all minority parties will be equally represented.
   D) It creates districts that favor one political party over another.
   E) It violates the principle of one-person, one-vote.

25. Which of the following is one of the central concerns of the First Amendment?
   A) The supremacy of the national over the state governments
   B) The right of citizens to bear arms
   C) The division of powers among the three branches of government
   D) The right of citizens to petition the government for redress of grievances
   E) The protection of the rights of those accused of committing a crime
26. The "wall of separation" doctrine refers to the
   A) division between levels of government.
   B) unique powers possessed by each branch of government.
   C) division of church and state.
   D) barrier between legislative chambers.
   E) differentiation of municipal powers from county powers.

27. Lobbyists try to influence legislators mainly through
   A) "wining and dining" legislators.
   B) orchestrating petition drives and letter-writing campaigns.
   C) placing persuasive advertisements in the media.
   D) threatening to help the legislator's opponent in the next election.
   E) providing legislators with information on technical issues.

![Table](image)

28. The table above supports which of the following conclusions?
   I. A plurality of the people has consistently supported the Democrats.
   II. Support for the two major parties increased slightly between 1952 and 1994.
   III. The largest percentage increase in political identification between 1952 and 1994 occurred among independents.
   A) I only B) II only C) III only D) I and II only E) I, II, and III

29. States and localities have the most discretion in establishing policy when federal funding is derived from

![Chart](image)

30. Which of the following best explains the trend depicted in the chart above?
   A) Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka D) The Voting Rights Act of 1965
   B) Imposition of a federal poll tax E) The Civil Rights Act of 1964
   C) Elimination of all-White primary elections
31. Which of the following statements about trends in presidential approval ratings is supported by information presented in the graph above?
   A) President Reagan was the most popular President since 1953.
   B) There is little relationship between military conflicts and presidential approval ratings.
   C) Presidents have tended to become more popular over time.
   D) A President’s popularity tends to fall during his term in office.
   E) President Carter suffered the largest drop in popularity of any President since 1953.

32. In *Miranda v. Arizona*, the United States Supreme Court declared that
   A) illegal aliens have the same right to an education as United States citizens.
   B) evidence seized during an illegal search cannot be used in court.
   C) affirmative actions programs cannot employ numerical quotas.
   D) police must inform criminal suspects of their constitutional rights before questioning suspects after arrest.
   E) the death penalty is constitutional so long as juries are supplied with sentencing guidelines.

33. Which of the following is NOT a presidential role authorized by the Constitution?
   A) To be commander in chief of the armed forces   D) To be chief executive
   B) To lead the political party of the President   E) To present the State of the Union address
   C) To negotiate treaties with foreign nations

34. Which of the following statements about voting behavior in the United States is correct?
   A) College graduates are more likely to vote than are those who have at most a high school diploma.
   B) Voters under the age of 25 are more likely to vote than are those in any other age group.
   C) Registration requirements have no significant effect on voter turnout.
   D) Since 1920, the proportion of women who have voted is approximately the same as the proportion of men who have voted.
   E) During the twentieth century, the proportion of African Americans who voted was approximately the same as the proportion of White Americans who voted.
35. An electoral system based on single-member districts is usually characterized by
A) Strong, centralized political parties and a weak executive.
B) higher rates of voter turnout than are common in other systems.
C) legislative representation of each party in proportion to the number of votes it receives.
D) domination of the legislature by two political parties.
E) ideological rather than mass-based parties.

36. Which of the following is true under the system of checks and balances?
A) The Supreme Court can overrule the President’s policy proposals.
B) The Senate must ratify treaties negotiated by the President before they become law.
C) A bill becomes law when the House and the Senate pass it, and the Supreme Court declares it constitutional.
D) The Supreme Court can remove members of Congress, and Congress can impeach the President.
E) The House of Representatives appoints justices to the Supreme Court and the Senate approves the appointments.

37. A major reason why the majority of Supreme Court justices have had political experience prior to appointment to the Court is that
A) justices are expected to act like politicians in their decision-making.
B) Presidents seek to place individuals on the Court whose policy views are similar to their own.
C) the Senate will refuse to confirm any nominee to the Court who is not familiar with the political process.
D) appointment to the Supreme Court is a reward for political party loyalty.
E) the Court is expected to defer to the political branches in making its decisions.

38. The Supreme Court ruled the legislative veto unconstitutional on the grounds that such vetoes
A) were the province of the courts alone.
B) violated the principle of separation of powers.
C) would give the executive branch too much power.
D) would give too much authority to nonelected officials.
E) were an unwarranted infringement on the rights of state governments.

39. The President can do which of the following without seeking the consent of either the House or the Senate?
A) Ratify a treaty
B) Appoint ambassadors
D) Deploy troops
C) Appoint district court judges
E) Declare war

40. Which of the following is true about the line-item veto?
A) It is specifically granted to the President by the Constitution.
B) It is used by many state governors.
C) It is basically the same as a pocket veto.
D) Its use was upheld by the Supreme Court.
E) It would, if instituted, strengthen the power of congressional leaders.

41. In The Federalist No. 10, James Madison argued that factions in a republic are
A) a more serious threat if the republic is large.
B) natural but controllable by institution.
C) not likely to occur if people are honest.
D) prevented by majority rule.
E) prevented by free elections.

42. Which of the following actions by the federal government best illustrates the concept of unfunded mandates?
A) Requiring that polling booths remain open beyond the hours of the workday.
B) Requiring states and municipalities to provide certain services for their citizens without providing resources to pay for those services.
C) Requiring state governments to guarantee short-term bonds issued by large municipalities in their states.
D) Requiring all municipalities to impose a minimum property tax on all residential and business properties.
E) Requiring states and municipalities to privatize many previously publicly funded services.
43. The term "horse-race Journalism" refers to the tendency of the media to
   A) cover Congress by focusing on committee chairs rather than on the work of the committees.
   B) cover campaigns by emphasizing the relative standings of the candidates in the polls rather than the issues they
discuss.
   C) cover politics by concentrating on scandal and corruption rather than on instances of integrity and honorable action.
   D) compete for access to sources rather than to cooperate in gathering news.
   E) compete to be first with major breaking stories rather than trying to present full, accurate accounts of such
   stories.

44. Which of the following is a provision of federal elections laws?
   A) A small fee must be paid by persons voting in federal elections.
   B) On-site registration to vote must be permitted on the day of any federal election.
   C) Electoral districts must be apportioned to equalize the numbers of Democratic and Republican voters wherever a
   historic imbalance exists.
   D) Citizens must be automatically registered to vote on their eighteenth birthday.
   E) In areas with significant populations of linguistic minorities, voting materials must be made available in the preferred
   languages of the population.

45. The largest portion of "uncontrollable spending" in the federal budget is designated for which of the following?
   A) Interest on the national debt
   B) Entitlement spending
   C) Defense spending
   D) Environmental programs
   E) Salaries of federal bureaucrats

46. The Supreme Court established the incorporation doctrine when the Court
   A) interpreted the Fourteenth Amendment as extending most of the requirements of the Bill of Rights to the states as
   well as the federal government.
   B) interpreted the Ninth Amendment as requiring national health and worker-safety standards to protect the
   individual's implied right of personal safety.
   C) stripped the armed forces of their discretionary powers regarding military service for gay men, lesbians, and
   married people.
   D) strengthened local police forces by granting them the power to investigate and prosecute federal offenses.
   E) granted the federal government the power to declare acts of Congress unconstitutional.

47. Of the following, the most important role in the political socialization of children is played by
   A) their peer groups.  B) their places of worship.  C) the family.  D) the media.  E) the school.

48. The 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that upheld a woman’s right to secure an abortion was based on the right to
   A) privacy implied in the Bill of Rights.
   B) equality guaranteed by the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments.
   C) due process of law enumerated in the Fifth and Sixth amendments.
   D) adequate medical care implied in the Preamble to the Constitution.
   E) life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness enumerated in the Declaration of Independence.

49. Which of the following was the most important effect of replacing the Articles of Confederation with the Constitution
   of 1787?
   A) The protection of free speech
   B) The guarantee of states’ rights
   C) The establishment of direct democracy
   D) The creation of a strong national government
   E) The establishment of judicial review

50. The doctrine of original intent holds that
   A) Supreme Court justices must emphasize independent and original thinking in considering constitutional matters.
   B) the meaning of the Constitution depends on the intention of the framers.
   C) cases selected for review by the Supreme Court must address an original and new concern not previously addressed
   by the Court.
   D) Supreme Court justices should avoid bias by documenting their original impressions of a case.
   E) the Supreme court should review all treaties that after previously established foreign policy.
51. A major difference between the House of Representatives and the Senate is that
   A) filibusters are possible only in the House.
   B) revenue bills must originate in the Senate.
   C) judicial nominations originate in a House committee.
   D) each state has equal representation in the House but not in the Senate.
   E) there is unlimited debate in the Senate but not in the House.

52. Senate confirmation is required for which of the following presidential appointments?
   I. Secretary of state
   II. White House chief of staff
   III. Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
   IV. Attorney general
   A) I only  B) II and III only  C) II and IV only  D) I, III, and IV only  E) I, II, III, and IV

53. All of the following serve as checks on the power of the federal courts EXCEPT:
   A) Federal judges can be impeached.
   B) The voters can oust federal judges in national elections.
   C) Congress can pass a law clarifying "legislative intent."
   D) Presidents, governors, and local executives can refrain from enforcing court rulings.
   E) Congress and the state legislatures can amend the Constitution.

54. To which of the following congressional committees would a proposal to reform the national income-tax system initially be sent?
   A) House Appropriations Committee  D) Senate Budget Committee
   B) House Ways and Means Committee  E) Senate Finance Committee
   C) House Budget Committee

55. Political action committees (PAC's) representing which of the following groups have increased in number most substantially since the mid-1970s?
   A) Labor  B) Business  C) Health-care professionals  D) Veterans' groups  E) Civil rights advocates

56. Since the 1970s, Presidents have made use of executive orders at an increasing rate because executive orders
   A) are noncontroversial measures that can be easily implemented.
   B) are rarely defeated in Congress.
   C) do not need to be passed by Congress.
   D) avoid judicial review.
   E) must be ratified by the Senate rather than by the House.

57. Which of the following is NOT a core value of United States political culture?
   A) Legal equality  D) Freedom of religion
   B) Political equality  E) Freedom of speech
   C) Economic equality

58. The concept of "critical elections" is most closely associated with
   A) the electoral college process.  D) economic recession.
   B) elections during wartime.  E) party realignment.
   C) the nomination process.
59. Which of the following statements is supported by the chart above?
   A) Both Republican Presidents nominated a greater proportion of Latinos to the judiciary than did either Democratic President.
   B) President Carter made more judicial nominations than President Reagan.
   C) The percentage of nominees to the judiciary who were minorities was higher for Republican Presidents than for Democratic Presidents.
   D) The percentage of nominees to the judiciary who were women was higher for Republican Presidents than for Democratic Presidents.
   E) President Reagan nominated the smallest percentage of women to the judiciary.

60. Federal benefits that must be funded by Congress and must be paid to all citizens who meet eligibility criteria are called
   A) discretionary appropriations.
   B) individual entitlements.
   C) tax expenditures.
   D) distributive benefits.
   E) continuing appropriations.
Answer Key

1. B
2. E
3. A
4. B
5. B
6. E
7. E
8. A
9. E
10. D
11. D
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