

AP US Government and Politics--Unit 2 AP Exam Study Guide

Chs. 11, 12, 13: Public Opinion, Political Socialization, Political Parties, Elections, Voting

Directions: Answer the following questions in preparation for your diagnostic quiz on _____. Any answer that does not immediately come to mind should be researched, and written in your journal or notebook.

1. Describe the potential shortcomings of public opinion polling.
2. Explain how public opinion affects politics.
3. How did the two-party system develop? Identify the general ideological differences between Democrats and Republicans.
4. Explain how various groups (like men vs. women, African Americans vs. whites) tend to identify with the two major political parties.
5. Explain why voter turnout seems lower than it should be in America. Evaluate possible solutions.

Identifications

Define and explain the importance (related to US Government) of each of the following:

bandwagon effect	Party identification
candidate-centered politics	Party platform
caucus (two definitions)	Party realignment
Christian Coalition	Plurality win
critical election	Political culture
crossover voting	political efficacy
dealignment	political elite
Demographics	political ideology
Dis(en)franchisement	political machine
equality of opportunity	political party
equality of outcome	poll tax
electoral college	Populist
electorate	Primary election
exit polls	Progressive
Fifteenth Amendment	Proportional representation
frontloading	Public opinion polls
focus groups	push polls
general election	random sample
grandfather clause	socio-economic status (SES)
incumbent	split vs straight ticket voting
Libertarian	straw poll
literacy test	superdelegates
margin of error	think tank
midterm elections	Twenty-sixth Amendment (1971)
Motor-Voter Law (1993)	Twenty-third Amendment (1961)
National Political Conventions	Voting Rights Act (1965)
Nineteenth Amendment (1920)	winner-take-all system