
Answers to Multiple-Choice Questions

ANSWER KEY

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|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. D | 16. C | 31. B | 46. E |
| 2. B | 17. A | 32. A | 47. B |
| 3. A | 18. D | 33. A | 48. E |
| 4. E | 19. C | 34. C | 49. A |
| 5. C | 20. A | 35. C | 50. E |
| 6. C | 21. A | 36. D | 51. D |
| 7. B | 22. B | 37. E | 52. C |
| 8. C | 23. C | 38. B | 53. C |
| 9. D | 24. E | 39. C | 54. B |
| 10. C | 25. A | 40. A | 55. B |
| 11. A | 26. D | 41. A | 56. E |
| 12. C | 27. C | 42. A | 57. D |
| 13. E | 28. B | 43. D | 58. E |
| 14. B | 29. C | 44. C | 59. E |
| 15. B | 30. E | 45. B | 60. A |

> Answers and Explanations

- D.** In *Texas v. Johnson* the Supreme Court stated that burning the U.S. flag was a form of symbolic speech protected under the First Amendment.
- B.** Richard Neustadt stated that a president's power comes from the ability to persuade others to do what he or she wants.
- A.** The first African American appointed to the Supreme Court was Thurgood Marshall, appointed by Lyndon Johnson. John Marshall (B) was the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Oliver Wendell Holmes (D) and William O. Douglas (E) were Supreme Court justices. Clarence Thomas (C) currently serves as a justice on the Supreme Court.
- E.** Members of the House of Representatives are elected every two years.
- C.** Religious qualifications for voting were eliminated in the early years of the nineteenth century. Gender disqualifications (A) were eliminated in 1920 with the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment. Poll taxes in federal elections (B) were eliminated in 1964 with the passage of the Twenty-Fourth Amendment. Race disqualifications (D) were eliminated in 1870 with the passage of the Fifteenth Amendment. Literary tests (E) were eliminated in the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
- C.** If the president nominates a vice president because of a vacancy in the office, the Twenty-Fifth Amendment calls for both houses of Congress to approve the nomination.
- B.** Interest groups do not nominate candidates for office. Answer choices C, D, and E describe the activities of political parties. Neither interest groups nor political parties attempt to influence only the president (A).
- C.** Article I, which establishes the legislative branch, gives Congress the power to tax. Article II (B) establishes the executive branch, while Article III (A) establishes the judicial branch. Article IV (E) deals with relationships among the states, while Article VI (D) establishes the supremacy of the Constitution.
- D.** Congress was involved in the policy adoption step, in which government adopts a plan of action, including the passage of legislation, to solve a problem. Agenda setting (A) is the recognition of an issue as a problem that must be addressed. Policy formulation (B) involves finding ways to solve the problem. Policy implementation (E) is the execution of the plan of action by the appropriate agencies, while policy evaluation (C) is the analysis of policy and its impact upon the problem.
- C.** The Full Faith and Credit Clause is found in Article IV of the Constitution, which addresses the relationship among the states.
- A.** The Fourth Amendment protects against unreasonable searches and seizures. The Tenth Amendment (B) speaks of the powers reserved to the states or to the people. The Fifth Amendment (C) deals with criminal proceedings and due process. The Ninth Amendment (D) addresses rights retained by the people, while the Second Amendment (E) guarantees the right to bear arms.
- C.** Frequently during off-year elections the party of the president may lose seats in Congress, changing the base of power. Off-year elections do not force the president to resign (A), nor does the political power of Congress increase (B). The Constitution changes only by amendment (D). In any congressional election, only one-third of the Senate is elected (E).
- E.** Executive agreements do not require Senate approval (B). They are pacts between the president and the head of state of a foreign country and are binding on the parties who make the agreement (A). They do not require the consent of the Supreme Court (D), nor do they remove governmental authority from Congress (C).
- B.** A *writ of certiorari* (cert) is an order from the Supreme Court requesting that a lower court send up its records on a particular case.
- B.** Political culture is the set of basic beliefs and values about government that is shared by most

citizens. The divine right theory was the traditional European belief that monarchs ruled by direct authority from God. By the time in which the Constitution was written, the divine right theory had been challenged by Enlightenment philosophy (A), which included a belief in natural rights (D) ensured by limited government (E). The Founding Fathers embraced traditional democratic theory (C), or the concept that government depends on the consent of the governed.

16. C. Proposed reforms of the electoral college include the district plan, proportional plan, national bonus plan, and direct popular election. In the district plan, two electors would be chosen at large from each state, while the other electors would be chosen within the state's congressional districts. Under the proportional plan, each presidential candidate would receive a share of the electoral vote proportional to the state's popular vote. The national bonus plan keeps the basic structure of the electoral college, but awards an additional 102 electoral votes to the winner of the popular vote. Direct popular election is the concept of abolishing the electoral college.
17. A. Political action committees are extensions of interest groups that raise money for political candidates and campaigns.
18. D. In most modern presidential elections, the winner of the popular vote also wins the majority of the electoral vote. Usually only candidates of major parties receive electoral votes (A). Most modern elections center around a variety of issues (C), but seldom result in realignment of the major parties (B). Elections involve the active participation of political parties (E).
19. C. The power of the media, especially television, is best illustrated by the Kennedy-Nixon campaign in 1960, when a presidential debate was televised for the first time. Television coverage of the debates is credited as one of the factors in Kennedy's victory over Nixon. Television continued to play a major role in the coverage of future presidential campaigns (A, D, E). The role of the media in the Truman-Dewey campaign (B) is best noted by faulty polling methods that incorrectly predicted Dewey as the winner of the election.
20. A. An important result of *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819) was to establish the supremacy of the federal government over the states (E). *McCulloch* upheld the implied powers of Congress to create a Bank of the United States (B). Judicial review (C) was established in *Marbury v. Madison*. Dual federalism (D) views the national and state governments each remaining supreme within their own sphere of influence.
21. A. The conference committee occurs latest in this list of steps in the passage of a bill through Congress. Conference committees are organized when the House and the Senate pass a bill in different forms. The steps in the passage of a bill are B, C, E, D, and A.
22. B. The presidential coattail effect refers to the phenomenon whereby voters support members of the president's party running for other offices, because of the president's popularity.
23. C. Justices to the Supreme Court are appointed for life terms, during good behavior, and can be removed only through impeachment and conviction of the charges against them (B). They are nominated by the president and confirmed by the Senate (A). Although the president tends to choose justices who reflect his or her own political ideology, he or she does not always nominate a candidate from the president's party (E). Congress sets the salaries and benefits of Supreme Court justices (D).
24. E. Both the mobility of the electorate and lack of political efficacy are reasons for low voter turnout. Political efficacy is the belief that a person can influence politics and public policymaking. Dissatisfaction with the status quo tends to produce a higher voter turnout. If candidates or parties show distinct differences in their programs or ideologies, voters tend to feel that their vote is more significant.
25. A. Congress creates executive departments, including those at the cabinet level.
26. D. The House of Representatives sitting as one large committee is the Committee of the Whole. A standing committee (C) is a permanent committee of the House or Senate. A quorum (B) is the number of members who must be present for business to take place. The full house

(A) and the Committee at Large (E) are not types of House committees.

27. **C.** Minor parties have not been very successful in electing candidates to office. No president and only a few members of Congress have been elected from minor parties. Major parties have frequently adopted the ideas of third parties into their platform (A, B). Many minor parties are ideological, or based upon a set of social, political, or economic beliefs (D). Minor parties often tend to focus on a single public policy matter such as abolition, abortion, or prohibition (E).
28. **B.** Floor whips check on party members and assist the floor leader in gathering the votes necessary to pass or defeat a bill. The minority floor leader (A) is the major spokesperson for the minority party and organizes opposition to the majority party. The Speaker of the House (C) is the presiding officer of the House. The president pro tempore is the presiding officer of the Senate in the absence of the vice president (D). Committee chairpersons (E) set agendas, assign members to subcommittees, and decide whether the committee will hold public hearings.
29. **C.** The solicitor general represents the U.S. government before the Supreme Court.
30. **E.** The Twenty-Fifth Amendment calls for a method to deal with presidential succession and disability.
31. **B.** A decline in the ability of political parties to mobilize voters is a reason for the decline in voter turnout. The expansion, not a decrease, in the size of the electorate often results in a lower percentage of voter turnout. (A) For example, after the increase in the size of the electorate caused by the ratification of the Twenty-Sixth Amendment, the low turnout of new voters between the ages of 18 and 21 decreased the percentage of voter turnout. The few states that have same-day registration have shown an increase in voter turnout (C). In recent years, party loyalty has tended to decrease (E). There are no penalties for nonvoting (D).
32. **A.** Because the terms of the members of the House of Representatives last only two years, the incumbency effect benefits members of the House of Representatives more than it benefits the members of the Senate.
33. **A.** Because education is a key factor in voter participation, the high school dropout would probably be the least likely to vote. Those with higher incomes and persons involved in the professions or business are more likely to vote (B, C). Union members and persons who actively participate in their religion are also more likely to vote (D, E).
34. **C.** The president's issuance of an executive order to carry out a policy is an example of the executive powers of the presidency. An example of the president's legislative powers is the veto power (A). The president's diplomatic powers include issuing executive agreements (B). Granting reprieves and pardons is a judicial power of the presidency (D). Providing for domestic order is one of the president's military powers (E).
35. **C.** The success of the civil rights movement after 1950 was aided by the movement's shift to the courts. The Fourteenth Amendment, ratified in 1868, defined citizenship and the rights of citizens (B). The number of African Americans in public office did not increase significantly until the 1970s (D). Interest groups such as the NAACP continue to promote the goals of the civil rights movement (E).
36. **D.** The goal of the National Organization for Women is to protect women's rights through the passage of legislation.
37. **E.** Under federalism the national and state governments each have certain authority over the same territory and people. A constitution outlines the powers and prohibitions pertaining to each level of government.
38. **B.** *Gideon v. Wainwright* provided for attorney rights in state cases. This case was used by the Supreme Court to apply the Sixth Amendment to the states through the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Choice A refers to *Miranda v. Arizona*. The Sixth Amendment guarantees the right of the accused to be confronted by witnesses against them (C) and prohibits double jeopardy (E). Several Court

cases, including *Terry v. Ohio*, place limits on the constitutional guarantee of protection against unreasonable search and seizure (D).

39. C. Bills held up in committee may be forced out of committee by members of the House of Representatives so that the whole house may debate the bill. A joint resolution (A) is a proposal for action that is issued by both the House and Senate acting together; it has the force of law when passed. A cloture petition (D) is a request for a Senate vote to limit or end floor debate.
40. A. One sign of party dealignment may be “divided government,” with one party controlling the executive branch and the other party controlling one or both houses of Congress.
41. A. Changing the tenure of judges is not a check on the power of the federal courts by Congress. Tenure for federal judges is established by the Constitution. The remaining answer choices represent checks on the power of the judicial branch.
42. A. The War Powers Resolution requires the president to inform Congress within 48 hours of any commitment of U.S. troops abroad.
43. D. In *Wesberry v. Sanders* the Court ruled that the apportionment of representative seats in Congress must be as equal as possible. *Marbury v. Madison* established the power of judicial review (A). *McCulloch v. Maryland* established the supremacy of the national government (B). *Mapp v. Ohio* applied the exclusionary rule to state courts (C). *Miranda v. Arizona* requires that anyone arrested for a crime be advised of the right to counsel and the right to remain silent (E).
44. C. A docket is a list of cases to be heard by the court.
45. B. A political liberal tends to believe in active governmental involvement to promote individual welfare. The remaining answer choices describe a political conservative.
46. E. The Constitution of the United States was written as a direct result of the failure of the Articles of Confederation to provide adequate direction for the Union. The Annapolis Convention (D) failed to reach a decision regarding the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation. The Second Continental Congress (B) was the government that oversaw the conduct of the American Revolution. The writing of the Articles of Confederation was a direct result of the American Revolution (A). The state governments were stronger than the national government under the Articles (C).
47. B. A single-member district allows for the election of only one winner to represent the voters. At-large voting (C) involves an election in which candidates for office compete throughout the district or state as a whole. The one-person one-vote system (D) is the concept that each legislative district within a state should contain the same number of eligible voters to assure equal representation based on population. Gerrymandering (E) is the redrawing of legislative districts to give an advantage to a political party or group.
48. E. As part of the Executive Office of the President, the National Security Council is composed of the president’s key foreign and military advisors. The Department of Homeland Security (D) is a department with cabinet status. It is in charge of the prevention of terrorist attacks within the United States. Another cabinet-level department, the Department of State (A), advises the president on foreign policy. The CIA (B) gathers secret information essential to national defense. The FBI (C) defends the United States against terrorism and enforces U.S. criminal laws.
49. A. Two presidents, Andrew Johnson and Bill Clinton, were impeached by the House of Representatives; neither was convicted by the Senate. Richard Nixon resigned prior to a vote on impeachment charges by the House of Representatives; therefore, he was not impeached.
50. E. The Seventeenth Amendment provided for the direct election of senators. The Twelfth Amendment (A) changed the method of voting in the electoral college. The Sixteenth Amendment (B) established a federal income tax. The Twentieth Amendment (C) set the terms of office of the president and members of Congress, while the

- Fourteenth Amendment (D) defined citizenship and the rights of citizens.
51. **D.** The Courts of Appeals are constitutional courts, not legislative courts.
52. **C.** The minimum age for members of the Senate is 30 years.
53. **C.** The leaders of the Federalists and Democratic-Republicans were Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson, respectively.
54. **B.** Senatorial courtesy is not used by the president when appointing justices to the Supreme Court. The other answer choices are factors a president commonly considers when appointing a justice to the Supreme Court.
55. **B.** Congress, not the president, creates cabinet-level departments of the executive branch. The remaining answer choices represent presidential powers.
56. **E.** Powers of the Senate include trying and convicting impeachment cases, electing the vice president if the electoral college fails to determine a winner, and approving presidential appointments and treaties.
57. **D.** The Office of Management and Budget is the executive branch agency responsible for helping the president prepare the annual budget. The Department of the Treasury (B) collects federal revenue, pays federal bills, and mints coins and prints paper money. The Department of Commerce (C) grants patents and trademarks and promotes international trade.
58. **E.** The Supreme Court has both original and appellate jurisdiction.
59. **E.** The most powerful person in the Senate is the majority leader. He or she is also the spokesperson for the majority party in the Senate. The vice president (B, C) serves as president of the Senate, but he or she does not debate and votes only to break a tie. The minority leader (D) organizes opposition to the majority party in the Senate. There is no speaker of the Senate (A).
60. **A.** Political party identification is a major factor that influences whether a person approves or disapproves of a president's job performance.

› Rubrics for the Free-Response Essay

1. Total Value: 6 points
Part (a): 1 point for each correct identification of activities = 3 points
Part (b): 1 point for each correct explanation of activities = 3 points
2. Total Value: 4 points
Part (a): 1 point for correct identification of pattern = 1 point
Part (b): 1 point for correct identification of each factor = 2 points
Part (c): 1 point for correct identification of consequence of trend = 1 point
3. Total Value: 8 points
Part (a): 1 point for correct identification of two strategies = 1 point
1 point for each correct discussion of strategies = 2 points
Part (b): 1 point for correct identification of two strategies = 1 point
1 point for each correct discussion of strategies = 2 points
Part (c): 1 point for each correct identification of methods = 2 points
4. Total Value: 9 points
Part (a): 1 point for each correct discussion of nomination process = 1 point
Part (b): 1 point for each correct identification of a difference = 2 points
1 point for each correct discussion of a difference = 2 points
Part (c): 1 point for each correct identification of recent methods = 2 points
1 point for each correct explanation of recent methods = 2 points

*“Take your time!!
Even though the
test is timed, pace
yourself, especially
on the free-
response essays.”*
—DC, AP student