
Answers to Multiple-Choice Questions

ANSWER KEY

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

> Answers and Explanations

1. **D.** Although term limits can sometimes be an issue, the one issue that is continually critiqued in congressional elections is pork barrel spending, by which members of Congress bring projects and programs back to their own districts, sometimes with the use of earmarks in appropriations bills. Predictably, many citizens oppose pork barrel spending in principle but are not upset when their own member of Congress brings projects “home.” The president does have some influence over the annual congressional agenda, but that is not an issue in congressional elections. The franking privilege (which is also not an election issue) allows members of Congress to send mail to constituents without paying postage; members of Congress are thus able to brag about all they have done for free!
2. **D.** Since all of a state’s electoral votes are generally cast as a block, the result is that, in practice, the Electoral College system requires presidential candidates to try to win as many large states as possible. As a result, small states rarely see presidential candidates during the campaign.
3. **A.** The House Judiciary Committee passed articles of impeachment against both Presidents Clinton and Nixon. Richard Nixon resigned before the entire House of Representatives voted on these. Bill Clinton and Andrew Johnson were both impeached by the House of Representatives but acquitted by the Senate. The press sensationalized the impeachment hearings of Bill Clinton, particularly in its coverage of Clinton’s affair with a White House intern. The press was very critical of Richard Nixon throughout his impeachment process.
4. **B.** Presidential impeachment trials in the Senate are presided over by the Chief Justice of the United States. All of the other answer choices accurately describe the vice president’s duties.
5. **E.** The Warren Court was deeply involved in promoting school integration and the rights of prisoners in custody and, as a result, is the most activist of the courts listed. The Supreme Court of John C. Marshall began the principle of judicial review but was not activist; government played a much smaller role in society then than it does today. The Burger Court followed the Warren Court and was much more conservative, limiting the rights of defendants in several cases, although the Burger Court did make the famous *Roe v. Wade* abortion decision in 1973. The Supreme Court of the early New Deal era blocked a number of measures that Franklin Roosevelt attempted to enact during the New Deal, stating that they were unconstitutional. Although it is too early to pass judgment on the present Supreme Court of John Roberts, several of its members persistently call for judicial restraint.
6. **D.** The Court ruled on this case in 1969. *Gitlow v. New York* was a 1925 case in which the Court upheld the conviction of a defendant for advocating the overthrow of the United States government by passing out communist pamphlets. *Brandenburg v. Ohio* was a 1969 ruling in which the Court stated that inflammatory speech cannot be punished unless it is found to cause immediate lawless action. In *Texas v. Johnson* the Court ruled that flag-burning was a form of protected speech under the First Amendment. *Reno v. ACLU* was a 1997 Court ruling that was the first to deal with subject matter found on the Internet; the Court struck down anti-indecency provisions of the Communications Decency Act, stating that they violated free speech provisions of the First Amendment.
7. **A.** While larger states wanted a legislature that would give the bigger states more representatives and the smaller states wanted a legislature in which all states would have equal representation, the Connecticut Compromise established two legislative bodies, the House of Representatives and the Senate.
8. **A.** There is no provision for ever calling for a referendum at the federal level. Referendums commonly take place at the state and local levels. All of the other answer choices correctly describe checks Congress has on the power of the president.

9. **C.** Immigration policy, which involves the admission into the United States of individuals from other nations, is controlled by the federal government. All of the other powers listed are reserved for the states.
10. **D.** Liberals would argue that changes in society should take place within the system; radicals would say that it may be necessary to go outside of the system to create real change. A moderate would be less likely to be an advocate of fundamental changes in government involvement. A conservative is unlikely to support greater government involvement in individual welfare.
11. **D.** Those polled were chosen from automobile registrations and telephone directories, so this was not a representative sample. Many supporters of Franklin Roosevelt did not have cars or telephones.
12. **C.** There is no formal "date of expiration" for Supreme Court cases. All of the other answer choices are accurate statements that help explain why only a small percentage of cases are actually considered by the Supreme Court. The "Rule of Four" refers to the requirement that four of the nine Supreme Court justices need to agree that a case should be heard by the Supreme Court; if at least four justices do not agree to hear the case, the case is not considered by the Court.
13. **E.** The size of the cabinet has steadily expanded as more executive departments have been created. The Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Homeland Security were the most recent two executive departments created. The Department of Agriculture was formed in 1889, the Department of Commerce was created in 1903, the Department of Labor was formed in 1913, and the Department of Health and Human Services (originally called the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare) was formed in 1953. The Department of Education was split off from that department in 1979. The Veterans Administration (VA) was turned into a cabinet-level Department of Veterans Affairs in 1989. The Department of Homeland Security was created in 2002 in response to the September 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.
14. **E.** A filibuster is used by a member or members of the Senate to delay action on a bill they oppose that is expected to be approved by the body as a whole.
15. **B.** As commander in chief, the president can use the military to enforce U.S. laws and maintain order. Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy used the military to enforce federal court orders relating to civil rights in the South. The federal government, including the president, does not have the legal ability to directly intervene in the affairs of state government; thus, the federal government has no ability to call for the impeachment of state officials, appoint new governors, disband state legislatures, or direct state courts to make any specific rulings.
16. **B.** The selection of committee chairpersons in Congress is not related to the population of their states; chairpersons are still chosen largely by seniority, although other factors are beginning to play a part too. A decline in population might cause a state to lose representatives in the House of Representatives; with fewer representatives, the "political pull" of the state can be expected to decline as well. Thus, a drop in population can be expected to lead to a decline in federal funding for that state and a lower possibility that anyone from that state would develop into a national presidential or vice-presidential candidate.
17. **A.** There is nothing about protecting private property in the preamble to the U.S. Constitution. All of the other answer choices are specifically included in the preamble.
18. **D.** The pluralist theory holds that vigorous competition among interest groups to achieve their goals necessitates a government of compromise and a continual reevaluation of priorities. Response (A) represents the elite theory of government, and answer choice (B) is representative of the theory of hyperpluralism. Response (C) reflects the bureaucratic theory of government, while response (E) represents traditional democratic theory.
19. **A.** Franklin Roosevelt was elected to office four times, although he died early in his fourth term.

20. **D.** The Twenty-Second Amendment limited presidential terms of office to two.
21. **B.** Enlightenment thinkers wrote about the natural rights of persons and believed the power of government should be limited; the idea that people “need firm control” is inconsistent with most Enlightenment thought. The idea of the “social contract” was emphasized by Rousseau, the concept of branches of government was discussed by Montesquieu, and the belief that citizens have the right to rebel against a government that doesn’t protect their rights was espoused by John Locke.
22. **B.** The possibility that federalism may create a duplication of offices and function is a disadvantage of the system. All of the other responses are definite advantages of the federalist system.
23. **E.** The 1819 ruling in *McCulloch v. Maryland* established the implied powers of the national government; the authority of the federal government to act, the Court ruled, could come from the Necessary and Proper Clause of the Constitution. *Gibbons v. Ogden* was an 1824 Court decision giving the power to regulate interstate commerce to Congress. *Mapp v. Ohio* was a 1961 decision stating that evidence found during “unreasonable searches and seizures” could not be used against a defendant. *Betts v. Brady* was a 1942 decision that stated the government didn’t have to provide a lawyer in a state trial to a defendant who couldn’t afford one (this was later overturned). *Escobedo v. Illinois* was a 1964 decision stating that suspects have a right to an attorney during interrogation.
24. **C.** What the official platforms of political parties state has little influence on anyone, including on candidates running for office from that political party; there are many cases of candidates repudiating parts of the platform of their own party during the campaign. The other answer choices all list factors that often influence the political opinions and identities of Americans.
25. **A.** The Republican Party completely dominated politics at the national level during this era. Democrat Grover Cleveland was elected president in the elections of 1884 and 1892 but the presidential elections of 1872, 1876, 1880, 1888, 1896, 1900, 1904, and 1908 were all won by Republican presidential candidates.
26. **A.** The New Deal coalition, which held together from the 1930s all the way through the 1980s, generally did not include farmers from the Midwest; as a result, many supported Republican candidates. Factory workers, urban blacks, and Catholics were all part of the Roosevelt coalition (many Catholics strongly identified with the Democratic party at least since 1928 when the Democrats nominated Al Smith, a Catholic, as their presidential candidate). Women were part of this coalition; many identified with First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. In addition, Franklin Roosevelt named a woman, Frances Perkins, as Secretary of Labor. Many commentators said this coalition was finally and officially defeated in the 1994 congressional elections, when the Republicans gained control of the House of Representatives for the first time since 1954.
27. **C.** Theodore Roosevelt received more votes in this election than did Republican William Howard Taft; Roosevelt carried six states, while Taft carried only two. In the 1992 election Ross Perot received nearly 19% of the total votes but no electoral votes. In the 1948 election the States’ Rights Party of Strom Thurmond won only 2.4% of the total votes in the United States but carried four southern states and received 39 electoral votes. In 1968 George Wallace received 13.5% of the total vote and won five southern states for a total of 46 electoral votes. Eugene Debs ran for president five times; the highest vote total he and the Socialist Party ever received was in 1920, when the party gathered 6.4% of the popular vote (at the time of the election Debs was in jail for having spoken out against American entry into World War I). No third-party candidate other than Roosevelt in 1912 ever came in higher than third place in a presidential election.
28. **B.** More Americans have registered as Democrats than Republicans, but few are calling this “unfair.” And while more Americans (especially young voters) are registering as Democrats, this

- fact is not considered a reason for a decline in the influence of political parties—including the Democratic Party—in our political system. All of the other four choices are factors that commentators often point to as reasons for predicting a decline in the power and influence of political parties in the United States.
29. **C.** There was some controversy concerning open primaries during the 2008 election season. Critics claimed that in the 2008 primary season Republicans took advantage of the open primary system in several states by intentionally “crossing over” and voting for the Democratic candidate they perceived to be weaker; the intent of this was to help the cause of the Republican candidate in the general election.
 30. **E.** This was one of the goals of many supporters of the Progressive movement. Six-year terms for senators, staggered elections, and the age requirement to be a senator were not changed by the Seventeenth Amendment. There has never been a federal requirement that Senate candidates be chosen by a party primary, although today nearly all are.
 31. **B.** Redrawing the boundaries of a congressional district in a way to favor one political party or group is called gerrymandering. Several examples of gerrymandered districts have to be seen to be believed. There are also countless examples of districts being reapportioned fairly without being gerrymandered. For examples and further discussion of gerrymandering, go to www.mscd.edu/~eas/Goedecke/GEG1220/1220session6/Gerrymandering.ppt or www.fraudfactor.com/ffgerrymander.html.
 32. **D.** Traditionally, committee chairmanships have been awarded on the basis of seniority. Seniority is simply how long someone has served in the House or the Senate; those who have served the longest have become the chairs (if a member of the House becomes a Senator his/her seniority is lost). Today, however, when assigning committee chairmanships, House and Senate leadership also look at other factors, such as the ability to lead and knowledge of the matters that the committee deals with.
 33. **E.** After a president (or his/her representatives) has negotiated a treaty, it must be ratified by the Senate before it takes effect. Ratification requires that the Senate approve the treaty by a two-thirds majority. The most famous example of a treaty NOT ratified by the Senate was the treaty negotiated by Woodrow Wilson ending World War I.
 34. **A.** Vice President Richard Cheney vigorously argued that the power of the presidency had been weakened since the time of Watergate and that to fight the War on Terror a presidency with much stronger powers was needed.
 35. **C.** Both Roosevelt and Obama felt that the federal government had to play a major role in overcoming the economic crises the nation faced when they assumed office rather than letting market forces alone dictate the nation’s economic future. Neither denied the importance of economic growth at the state level, but both saw the necessity of the federal government “jump-starting” the economic growth of the country. Business leaders were consulted by the Roosevelt administration; however, the Obama administration, at least initially, was hesitant to work too closely with CEOs of companies that had lost millions and were being blamed by some for the economic crisis. Both Roosevelt and Obama appeared to be very comfortable in the role of president.
 36. **D.** The Hatch Act prohibited federal government employees from using their government position to benefit a particular candidate or political party and from taking part in partisan political activities while on duty or while wearing an official uniform. The Hatch Act also made it illegal for government employees to belong to an organization that advocated the overthrow of our system of government, a provision that was used to threaten alleged Communists with loss of their federal jobs but was never used to imprison government officials.
 37. **D.** Iron triangles are formed between interest groups and members of the executive and legislative branches of government. Because of common goals, all elements of the iron triangle may work together to help each other achieve their goals.

For example, a staffer from the executive branch may seek out members of the environmental lobby for ideas when crafting environmental legislation to send on to Congress; those same lobbyists might work with members of Congress to fine-tune the details of the legislation and to gain congressional support for it; congressional and executive branch staffers might work together on compromise legislation that could be supported by both branches.

38. **B.** In the Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs administers federal programs and policies relating to Indian reservations and thus plays the most important role in the federal government's handling of Native American affairs.
39. **C.** District courts are the federal trial courts; each state has one, while larger states may have several. Courts of Appeals were established to help lessen the load of the Supreme Court; these courts decide appeals on decisions reached by U.S. district courts and review decisions of federal administrative agencies. In very rare cases (when there is a lawsuit between two states) the Supreme Court can also be a trial court.
40. **C.** For many vocal interest groups in U.S. politics in the 1990s and early 21st century, the debate over Supreme Court nominees was dominated by the single issue of abortion. Thus the position many people (including many senators) took to support or oppose a Supreme Court nominee depended on their perception of whether or not the candidate would support or overturn *Roe v. Wade*. In chemistry, a litmus test is a simple test used to determine whether or not a solution is acidic. The term was applied to politics to refer to the simple test (in this case, whether or not the nominee supports *Roe v. Wade*) that many used to determine if a nominee should become a Supreme Court justice.
41. **C.** *Brown v. Board of Education* was the 1954 Supreme Court decision stating that "separate but equal" school facilities are unconstitutional. Enforcement of this ruling played an important and controversial role in education through the 1960s, the 1970s, and beyond. The other real cases in this response are *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*, a 1978 Supreme Court decision on affirmative action that stated that quota systems for college admission are unconstitutional (although affirmative action as a principle was not), and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, a 1992 decision that upheld the constitutional right to an abortion but which allowed certain possible restrictions of that right.
42. **B.** Thurgood Marshall had been an attorney in many important civil rights cases before he was appointed to the Court. Andrew Young was a former leader of the civil rights movement who later served as ambassador to the United Nations, congressman, and mayor of Atlanta. John Lewis was a former civil rights leader who later became a congressman from Georgia. Clarence Thomas is currently a Supreme Court justice. Charles Diggs was the first African American elected to the House of Representatives from Michigan, serving from 1955–1980.
43. **E.** The Court has been consistent in ruling that either formal or informal school prayer is unconstitutional in public schools.
44. **D.** As a result of this decision, a court may very well rule that the defendant was unlawfully detained if the defendant was not informed of his/her rights. *Terry v. Ohio* was a 1968 ruling stating that a police officer can search a suspect without a warrant if the officer thinks the suspect is committing or is about to commit a crime. *Wolf v. Colorado* was a 1949 ruling (later overturned) stating that illegally obtained evidence can be used, under certain circumstances, in a trial. *Nix v. Williams* was a 1984 decision stating that evidence gathered without a proper warrant can still be used if the authorities would have discovered that evidence anyway. The *United States v. Leon* was a 1984 decision stating that if authorities obtain a search warrant in good faith and the warrant is later proved to be faulty, the evidence recovered as a result of that warrant can be used against a defendant.
45. **A.** *Gideon v. Wainwright*, which overturned a previous ruling, held that the state must provide an attorney for a defendant who cannot afford

- one. *Betts v. Brady* was a 1942 Court decision (later overturned) stating that the state does not have to provide an attorney to a defendant who cannot afford one if the defendant is being prosecuted by that state. *Powell v. Alabama* was a 1932 decision stating that in a capital trial a defendant has the right to an attorney (this decision resulted from the case of the Scottsboro boys). *Escobedo v. Illinois* was a 1964 decision in which the Court stated that a defendant has the right to an attorney when being interrogated. *Furman v. Georgia* was a 1972 decision stating that the arbitrary and inconsistent way that the death penalty was being utilized made the death penalty a form of cruel and unusual punishment and thus unconstitutional (as a result, states had to craft new death penalty laws).
46. **D.** Many conservatives believe that the federal government has taken too much power away from state and local officials and maintain that education should not be controlled by the federal government. While there have been others who have criticized the legislation saying it doesn't go far enough to impose federal control over education, this position is associated with liberals, not conservatives.
 47. **C.** Most historians maintain that the Great Society programs enacted by Lyndon Johnson in the 1960s did much to extend and expand the New Deal programs of Franklin Roosevelt.
 48. **C.** Seldom was the foreign policy of President George W. Bush (2001–2008) criticized for being too concerned with America's image in the eyes of the world; in fact, the Bush administration was often criticized for not giving enough consideration to world opinion when formulating foreign policy. All of the other four responses were frequently heard criticisms of American foreign policy during the Bush administration.
 49. **A.** The other four departments and agencies have a major role in the formulation of American foreign policy, while the United States Information Agency is responsible not for formulating foreign policy, but for informing the world about the United States and American beliefs.
 50. **D.** Using the president's priorities and guidelines, the Office of Management and Budget authors the initial budget proposal that the president presents to Congress. This budget is then vigorously scrutinized by members of Congress and the Congressional Budget Office. The Department of the Treasury and the National Economic Council play no direct role in the creation of the annual budget.
 51. **B.** The first widespread use of televised political advertising occurred with the "I Like Ike" advertisements in the 1952 Eisenhower presidential campaign. The first televised presidential debates took place between John Kennedy and Richard Nixon during the 1960 campaign.
 52. **C.** The Whig Party developed in opposition to the Democratic Party of Andrew Jackson and was a major force in American politics from 1833 to 1856. Three presidents were members of the Whig Party (William Henry Harrison, Zachary Taylor, and Millard Fillmore). The Anti-Masonic Party was a single-issue party that had some influence from 1828 to 1838; in the 1832 presidential election the Anti-Masonic candidate received 7.8% of the popular vote. The Free-Soil Party was an anti-slavery party that was active in the 1848 and 1852 presidential elections, but by 1854 most of its members had joined the Republican Party. The Republican Party was not founded until 1854, long after the era of Jacksonian democracy. The Know-Nothing Party existed from 1845 to 1860; the big issue for Know-Nothings was the fear of Catholic immigration. This party came apart over the issue of slavery.
 53. **C.** The Magna Carta was issued in 1215 and guaranteed British nobles certain rights that the king could not take away. The 1628 Petition of Right extended the protections of the Magna Carta to commoners. *Two Treatises on Civil Government* was a 1689 work by the English political philosopher John Locke in which he emphasized the natural rights of men and the responsibility of governments to protect those rights. The English Bill of Rights was established after the Glorious Revolution and stated that citizens

were entitled to “life, liberty, and the pursuit of property.” *The Social Contract* was a work by the French philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau that emphasized the importance of the “general will” in society.

54. **E.** Shays Rebellion and other acts of unrest convinced many that a new national government had to be created with many more powers than were given to the government under the Articles of Confederation. The powers given to the national government as outlined in the U.S. Constitution were much greater.
55. **C.** While some critics claim that there are few real differences between the Democratic and Republican parties in the United States, in nations with multi-party systems, the parties can vary radically in their core beliefs. The existence of many parties with divergent beliefs gives voters more choices in elections. However, there are many disadvantages to multi-party systems. As responses (A) and (B) suggest, one party seldom emerges victorious and, as a result, coalition governments have to be formed. These coalitions are often volatile and sometimes dissolve very quickly. Thus multi-party elections do not promote stability in government; there are countries with multi-party systems that sometimes have more than one election within a single year!
56. **C.** Literacy tests and poll taxes were used for decades in the South to prevent African Americans from registering to vote.
57. **D.** Most historians agree that Watergate and the Vietnam War created a skepticism toward government that lasted through the 1970s; Ronald Reagan promoted a renewal of patriotism when he ran for office in 1980, but he famously portrayed government as “a problem, not a solution.” None of the other answer choices reflects events or trends that actually happened after the Watergate scandal.
58. **D.** Very few commentators take the position that the media as a whole is too conservative, although many liberal commentators do complain about the power of certain conservative networks and media figures (Fox News, Rush Limbaugh). All of the other answer choices accurately state criticisms of the media often voiced by commentators and politicians.
59. **B.** The ruling in *Texas v. Johnson* shows the importance the Supreme Court places on the concept of free expression as a First Amendment right.
60. **C.** The 1944 *Korematsu v. U.S.* Court decision ruled that Japanese internment was constitutional. This followed the 1943 Court ruling *Hirabayashi v. United States*, in which the Court ruled that curfews specifically aimed at Japanese Americans were constitutional, since the United States was at war with Japan.

› Rubrics for the Free-Response Essay

1. Total Value: 6 points
 - Part (a): $\frac{1}{2}$ point for each new way Americans receive news = 1 point
 - Part (b): $\frac{1}{2}$ point for each “old” way Americans receive news = 1 point
 - Part (c): Discussion of advantages of new ways of receiving news = 2 points
 - Part (d): Discussion of disadvantages of new ways of receiving news = 2 points
2. Total Value: 6 points
 - Part (a): Explanation of Electoral College system = 2 points
 - Part (b): Discussion of the advantages of Electoral College system = 2 points
 - Part (c): Discussion of the disadvantages of Electoral College system = 2 points
3. Total Value: 6 points
 - Part (a): 1 point for each policy area and issues involved = 3 points
 - Part (b): 1 point for identification of policymakers in each policy area = 3 points
4. Total Value: 6 points
 - Part (a): Explanation of principle of judicial activism = 2 points
 - Part (b): Discussion of the benefits of judicial activism = 1 point
 - Part (c): Discussion of the criticisms of judicial activism = 1 point
 - Part (d): Analysis of a specific time period of the Court = 2 points