**Questions for Readings 54, 56, 57 (Chapter 9 - Interest groups)**

*Reading #54 Alexis de Tocqueville: Democracy in America*

1. What do Americans have to rely on to resist the evils of life
2. What does observe about children’s games?
3. The author compares “an association” to what other kind of freedom? (What helps spread ideas in America?)
4. What are the three forms of association in America
5. What is the danger of “freedom of association”?
6. What is the freedom of association inalienable to?

*Reading #56 Anthony Nownes: Interest Groups in American Politics*

1. Was Tocqueville correct about the importance of associations?
2. What happened on the *Deepwater Horizon*?
3. Who made money off the event? How?
4. Define ubiquity.
5. How do Americans view lobbyists? God or bad? Why?
6. What is ironic about the way Americans view interest groups?
7. Why do we study interest groups?
8. Do lobbyists provide information to government officials or do they “suck up” to the politicians”?
9. Briefly describe the “teapot dome Affair”?
10. Do most lobbyists engage in bribery?
11. Why does the “lobbying profession have such a bad reputation?”
12. What is the number one job of a lobbyist in Washington DC?
13. What is the most popular gift a lobbyist gives to a legislator?
14. What is the estimated number of “professional lobbyists operating in states and localities across the United States”? (Why such a range?)
15. There are two types of employed professional lobbyists (Association and contract)? Explain the difference?
16. What does the average lobbyist make for a salary?
17. What is the most prominent profession where lobbyists come from?
18. Do interest groups always get what they want through lobbying?

*Doc #57 Citizens United: Jack Fruchtman/Justice Kennedy/Justice Stevens*

1. What was the vote in the decision on *Citizens United*? What does that tell us about the decision?
2. When were corporate contributions in federal elections first prohibited in the US and how?
3. When and how was that law upheld in terms of “corporate funding of campaign advertisements?”
4. What decisions did the *Citizens United* case overturn?
5. According t the court (Kennedy) what protects the right of corporations, unions, and organizations to engage in political speech?
6. According to the court, what is the result when speech is limited by the government?
7. According to the court, what would have happened to the film *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington* under the decision in *Austin v MI Chamber of Commerce*?
8. What are the two main arguments of the dissent?