American Government Institutions and Policies 15th Edition Wilson Test Bank Class: Chapter 1 - The Study of American Government The Study of American Government 1. The financial position of the state and national governments under the Articles of Confederation could be best described as a. sound, strong, and based on a large surplus of revenue. b. sound, strong, but uncertain around the edges. c. uniformly stable at the state level, but the national government struggled with debt. d. stable at the national level with little cause for concern in any of the states. e. growing debt at the national level and several states with financial crises. **ANSWER:** e REFERENCES: The Study of American Government LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1 2. Which of the following expressed sincere concern that ratification of the Constitution would result in "an immense increase in taxes"? a. James Madison b. Alexander Hamilton c. George Washington d. Patrick Henry e. John Jay ANSWER: d REFERENCES: The Study of American Government LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1 3. The federal budget initially proposed for 2016 called for almost ______ trillion dollars in spending. a. 1 b. 2 c. 4 d. 5 e. 7

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ANSWER:

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4. The textbook refers to the authorized author	ne activity by which an issue is ag	gitated or settled as	
ANSWER: REFERENCES: LEARNING OBJECTIV	c Politics and Democracy VES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.	1	
c. serve their fellow hund. get others to do what	he-scenes political meetings.		
ANSWER: REFERENCES: LEARNING OBJECTIV	d Politics and Democracy VES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.	1	
6. The text notes a tenden a. simple; complicated b. public; secret c. social; political d. private; public e. economic; social	cy for issues that once were	to become	
ANSWER: REFERENCES: LEARNING OBJECTIV	d Politics and Democracy VES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.	1	

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- 7. By *authority*, the authors mean the
 - a. right to use power.
 - b. manner in which power is spread.
 - c. use of power for good causes.
 - d. desire to have power.
 - e. desire to give power to others.

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 8. Formal authority refers to a right to exercise power that is derived from a(n)
 - a. official ceremony.
 - b. majority vote.
 - c. consensus.
 - d. popular consensus.
 - e. governmental office.

ANSWER: e

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 9. Today, a primary source of legitimate political authority in the United States is the
 - a. Bill of Rights.
 - b. will of the people.
 - c. U.S. Constitution.
 - d. concept of civil liberty.
 - e. notion of civil rights.

ANSWER: c

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_	on is said to have politicaltate or national constitution.	if he or she acts	in a certain way that is
ANSWER:	a		
REFERENCES:	Politics and Democracy		
LEARNING OBJECTIVES	AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1		
11. The text suggests that in the in some sensea. democraticb. altruisticc. humanitariand. elitiste. aristocratic	United States, no government at a	ny level would be con	nsidered legitimate if it were not
ANSWER:	a		
REFERENCES:	Political Power in America: Five	Views	
LEARNING OBJECTIVES	AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2		
12. At the time of the Constitutea. already waning.b. close to unanimous.c. beyond debate.d. held by the elite only.e. far from unanimous.	onal Convention, the view that a d	emocratic governmen	t was desirable was
ANSWER:	e		
REFERENCES:	Politics and Democracy		
LEARNING OBJECTIVES	· AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1		

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a. Deciding wisely on issues ib. Elites are better at makingc. Representative democracyd. The Capitol Building lacks	ok justify representative democracy? s impractical and unlikely, but deciding on leaders is political decisions. reserves power to important institutions besides the the room for all voters to discuss issues. et to emotional whims by voters.	
ANSWER: REFERENCES: LEARNING OBJECTIVES:	a Politics and Democracy AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1	
	ge Mason ge Mason der Hamilton	
LEARNING OBJECTIVES:		
a. there must be an opportuni b. individuals and parties must c. there needs to be freedom d. voters must perceive that a e. All of these choices are co	ty for genuine competition of leadership. st be free to run for office. of speech and press. meaningful choice exists.	
ANSWER: REFERENCES: LEARNING OBJECTIVES:	e Politics and Democracy AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1	

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- 16. How did Aristotle define democracy?
 - a. Rule of the few
 - b. Rule of the one
 - c. Rule of the powerful
 - d. Rule of the many
 - e. Rule of the intelligent

ANSWER: d

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 17. The term participatory democracy applies most accurately to which of the following societies?
 - a. Greece in the fourth century B.C.
 - b. Modern China
 - c. The United States since 1787
 - d. The Soviet Union between 1917 and 1990
 - e. The southeastern United States before the Civil War

ANSWER: a

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 18. The Greek city-state, or polis, extended the right to vote to everyone EXCEPT
 - a. slaves.
 - b. women.
 - c. minors.
 - d. those without property.
 - e. All of these choices are correct.

ANSWER:

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- 19. In our political system, Aristotle's ideal of direct democracy has been *most* closely approximated by the
 - a. AFL-CIO.
 - b. U.S. House of Representatives.
 - c. New England town meeting.
 - d. Constitutional Convention.
 - e. southeastern United States before the Civil War.

ANSWER: c

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 20. In this type of political meeting, the adult citizens of a community gather in a common area to vote directly on all major issues and expenditures of the town.
 - a. A meeting of the Board of Alderman
 - b. A meeting of City Council
 - c. A New England town meeting
 - d. A meeting of the general assembly
 - e. A meeting of the forum

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 21. Democracy was defined as the competitive struggle for people's votes by
 - a. Joseph Stalin.
 - b. Joseph Schumpeter.
 - c. Max Weber.
 - d. Karl Marx.
 - e. Søren Kierkegaard.

ANSWER: b

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22. Representative democracy al a. media campaigns.b. quadrennial elections.c. nonpartisan elections.d. reciprocal elections.e. competitive elections.	lows individuals to gain p	political power through	
ANSWER:	e		
REFERENCES:	Politics and Democracy	7	
LEARNING OBJECTIVES:	AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - Lo	01.1	
23. Representative democracy is a. limited b. aristocratic c. economic d. authoritarian e. elite	s sometimes disapprovin	gly referred to as the	_ theory of democracy.
ANSWER:	e		
REFERENCES:	Politics and Democracy	7	
LEARNING OBJECTIVES:	AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - L	01.1	
24. Direct democracy is impract a. citizens do not have enoug b. citizens do not have enoug c. citizens lack the energy to d. citizens lack the interest to e. All of these choices are considerable.	h time. h information or policy e participate the required a be so involved in politica prrect.	amount.	
REFERENCES:	e Politics and Democracy	1	

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- 25. The Framers' concerns about direct democracy are well illustrated by the fact that the Constitution
 - a. uses the word democracy only once, in the Preamble.
 - b. uses the word *democracy* only in reference to Congress.
 - c. does not feature the word democracy at all.
 - d. uses only the word democratic.
 - e. frequently uses the word *democracy*, but never in reference to the enumeration of a formal power.

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 26. When the Framers of the Constitution wrote "republican form of government," they were referring to
 - a. direct democracy.
 - b. democratic centralism.
 - c. mob rule.
 - d. town meetings.
 - e. representative democracy.

ANSWER: e

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 27. All of the following are requirements for representative democracy EXCEPT
 - a. there must be opportunity for genuine leadership competition.
 - b. individuals and parties must be able to run for office.
 - c. voters must perceive that a meaningful choice exists.
 - d. political resources must be distributed in a roughly equal manner.
 - e. communication through the press, meetings, and the internet or speech must be free.

ANSWER: d

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- 28. One distinctive feature of many European democracies is that very few offices are
 - a. independent.
 - b. effective.
 - c. elective.
 - d. active.
 - e. efficient.

ANSWER: c

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 29. A modern example of direct democracy would be citizens
 - a. electing local boards to make decisions.
 - b. running for political office.
 - c. affected by some program participating in its formulation.
 - d. writing elected officials to express opinions on policy.
 - e. working for politicians.

ANSWER: c

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 30. Democracy in the United States is distinguished from many European democracies by the fact that in the United States,
 - a. many more offices are elective.
 - b. more campaign money comes from public sources.
 - c. more people participate in the electoral process.
 - d. the government plays a more active role in elections.
 - e. the government frequently changes hands.

ANSWER:

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- 31. Current advocates of economic elite-driven political power argue
 - a. for a revolution by laborers to replace business owners.
 - b. that the economic elite are only one of many powerful interest groups.
 - c. that unelected bureaucrats actually make all political decisions.
 - d. for spreading political resources across the nation to encourage political pluralism.
 - e. that class matters less than the power the rich hold through multinational corporations.

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2

- 32. In a referendum, citizens express their opinions about issues by means of
 - a. letters.
 - b. the ballot.
 - c. town meetings.
 - d. petitions.
 - e. Both letters and petitions are true.

ANSWER: b

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 33. In power elite view, which leaders control politics?
 - a. Top military officials
 - b. Labor union leaders
 - c. Mass media executives
 - d. The heads of special-interest groups
 - e. All of these choices are correct.

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

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- 34. The author cites the early presidential administrations, the Civil War, and the New Deal as examples of struggles over
 - a. what constitutes legitimate authority.
 - b. who shall govern.
 - c. who gets what, when, and how.
 - d. when progress is possible.
 - e. how power is accumulated.

ANSWER: a

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2

- 35. Elite theory is NOT based on the following premise.
 - a. Majoritarian politics is not always controlling.
 - b. When majoritarian politics is not controlling, policy is likely to be shaped by those who go to the trouble to be active participants in politics.
 - c. In general, the number of active participants in politics will be small (relative to the total number of potential participants).
 - d. Despite their small numbers, those who are active participants in politics generally reflect the types of people in the general population and the viewpoints of most citizens.
 - e. The actual distribution of power, even in a democracy, will depend importantly on the composition of the political elites.

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2

- 36. Karl Marx is associated with the view that elites reflect a(n)
 - a. dominant social class.
 - b. group of business, military, labor-union, and elected officials.
 - c. array of appointed bureaucrats.
 - d. large number of organized interests.
 - e. flexible alliance of religious and cultural leaders.

ANSWER: a

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

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		ed "", until a
ANSWER:	b	
REFERENCES:	Political Power in America: Five Views	
LEARNING OBJECTIVES	S: AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2	
a. C. Wright Mills b. Karl Marx c. David B. Truman d. Max Weber e. Samuel P. Huntington	_ argued that American democracy is dominated by a small	l "power elite."
ANSWER:	a	
REFERENCES:	Political Power in America: Five Views	
LEARNING OBJECTIVES	S: AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2	
39. The bureaucratic view of p witha. Karl Marx.b. C. Wright Mills.c. Max Weber.d. David B. Truman.e. Robert Dahl.	olitical elites, which argues that appointed officials dominate	e government, is associated
ANSWER:	c	
REFERENCES:	Political Power in America: Five Views	
LEARNING OBJECTIVES	S: AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2	

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- 40. Samuel P. Huntington argued that morally impassioned elites made most important changes EXCEPT
 - a. during periods of great social change.
 - b. for decisions made by political parties.
 - c. during normal, business as usual periods.
 - d. for decisions by religious leaders.
 - e. during wars.

ANSWER: c

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2

- 41. Most people holding national political office are
 - a. middle class.
 - b. middle age.
 - c. males.
 - d. Protestant.
 - e. All of these choices are correct.

ANSWER: e

REFERENCES: Who Governs? To What Ends? LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.3 - LO1.3

- 42. The pluralist view of power focuses on a(an)
 - a. dominant social class.
 - b. group of business, military, labor-union, and elected officials.
 - c. array of appointed bureaucrats.
 - d. large number of governmental interests and organized interests.
 - e. flexible alliance of religious and cultural leaders.

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

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43. The view that morally impass a. Karl Marx.b. Max Weber.c. Samuel P. Huntington.d. Robert Dahl.e. David B. Truman.	sioned elites drive important political changes is associ	iated with
	c Political Power in America: Five Views AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2	
a. the self-interest of individualb. economic self-interest mayc. organizational self-interestd. political preferences can be position.	rerest in the positions that people take on important issuals is usually a complete guide to their actions. To be important but is usually not the only guide to people trather than economic self-interest is usually the best greater than economic self-interest in the economic self-interest is usually the economic self-interest is usually the economic self-interest	ple's actions. guide to people's actions. nomic or organizational
ANSWER: REFERENCES: LEARNING OBJECTIVES:	b Who Governs? To What Ends? AGIP.WILS.17.1.3 - LO1.3	
45. In 1935, of American f a. 1 percent b. 4 percent c. 80 percent d. 90 percent e. 96 percent	amilies paid no federal income tax.	
ANSWER: REFERENCES:	e Who Governs? To What Ends?	

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- 46. Today, most people holding national political office are all of the following EXCEPT
 - a. upper-class.
 - b. males.
 - c. white.
 - d. middle-class.
 - e. Protestants

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: Who Governs? To What Ends? LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.3 - LO1.3

- 47. Of the following, which one affects the political agenda?
 - a. Shared political values
 - b. The weight of custom and tradition
 - c. The impact of events
 - d. Changes in the way political elites think
 - e. All of these choices are correct.

ANSWER: e

REFERENCES: Who Governs? To What Ends? LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.3 - LO1.3

- 48. Which of the following statements is INCORRECT?
 - a. During the 1920s, it was widely assumed that the federal government would play a small role in our lives.
 - b. From the 1930s to the 1970s, it was generally believed that the federal government should try to solve social and economic problems.
 - c. Interest group politics often produces decisions about which the public is uniformed.
 - d. No simple theory of politics is likely to explain both the growth and cutback of federal power.
 - e. In the 21st Century are about whether the Federal Government has the power to create programs, not how to make programs sustainable over time.

ANSWER: e

REFERENCES: Who Governs? To What Ends? LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.3 - LO1.3

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- 49. What effect does the national media most likely have on the political agenda?
 - a. Publicize issues by giving them most attention
 - b. Influence politicians into voting a particular way
 - c. Produce stories that force politicians to act
 - d. The size and power demands action
 - e. None of these choices is correct.

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: Who Governs? To What Ends? LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.3 - LO1.3

- 50. When the cost and benefits of a policy are widely distributed, they are
 - a. limited to a relatively small number of citizens.
 - b. spread over many, most, or even all citizens.
 - c. enjoyed by only one demographic.
 - d. limited to one geographic region.
 - e. spread over a number of states.

ANSWER: b

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

- 51. When the cost and benefits of a policy are narrowly concentrated, they are
 - a. limited to a relatively small number of citizens.
 - b. spread over many, most, or even all citizens.
 - c. enjoyed by many demographics.
 - d. limited a geographic region.
 - e. spread over a number of states.

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

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- 52. A policy in which almost everybody benefits and almost everybody pays is
 - a. interest group politics.
 - b. majoritarian politics.
 - c. client politics.
 - d. entrepreneurial politics.
 - e. logrolling politics.

ANSWER: b

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

- 53. Under what circumstances would majoritarian politics normally NOT be effective?
 - a. When a political leader feels sharply constrained by what most people want
 - b. When an issue is sufficiently important to command the attention of most citizens
 - c. When an issue is too complicated or technical for most citizens to understand
 - d. When an issue is sufficiently feasible so that what citizens want done can in fact be done
 - e. All of these choices are correct.

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

- 54. A city council representative faces an important vote on how much, if any, money to spend on a new school. The representative relies on a poll of her constituents to make a decision. This is in keeping with the form of politics known as
 - a. participatory politics.
 - b. majoritarian politics.
 - c. pluralist politics.
 - d. elitist politics.
 - e. reciprocal politics.

ANSWER: b

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

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55. A policy in which one smalla. interest group politics.b. majoritarian politics.c. client politics.d. entrepreneurial politics.e. logrolling politics.	group benefits and another small group pays is
ANSWER:	a
REFERENCES:	The Politics of Different Issues
LEARNING OBJECTIVES:	AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4
56 politics is a politic a. Interest group b. Majoritarian c. Client d. Entrepreneurial e. Logrolling	icy in which one small group benefits and almost everybody pays.
ANSWER:	c
REFERENCES:	The Politics of Different Issues
LEARNING OBJECTIVES:	AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4
a. Interest group b. Majoritarian c. Client d. Entrepreneurial e. Logrolling	icy in which almost everybody benefits and a small group pays.
ANSWER:	d
REFERENCES:	The Politics of Different Issues
LEARNING OBJECTIVES:	AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

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- 58. Pork-barrel legislation is an example of this type of politics.
 - a. Interest group politics
 - b. Majoritarian politics
 - c. Client politics
 - d. Entrepreneurial politics
 - e. None of these choices is correct.

ANSWER:

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

- 59. Which of the following statements about political power, or "who governs?" is *most* accurate?
 - a. The key to understanding power is to understand the monetary costs of different political decisions.
 - b. Political power can usually be inferred by knowing what laws are on the books.
 - c. Political power can usually be inferred by knowing what administrative actions have been taken.
 - d. Power cannot be realized without institutional arrangements.
 - e. Most power derives from psychological and social factors such as friendship, loyalty, and prestige.

ANSWER: e

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

- 60. The trouble with trying to infer the distribution of political power from examining the laws on the books is that
 - a. laws may be enacted in a great variety of circumstances.
 - b. laws are made to be broken.
 - c. legislative codes may be so obscure as to defy anyone's comprehension.
 - d. many congressional enactments never get recorded at all.
 - e. the judicial branch is rarely independent from the legislative branch.

ANSWER: a

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

- 61. Under the Articles of Confederation, the state governments paid very little of the monies requisitioned by the federal government.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: The Study of American Government

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- 62. The interest on the national debt will be well over \$300 billion a year by 2025.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: The Study of American Government

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 63. Political power is the ability to influence who rules and how rulers behave.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 64. Increasingly, matters once thought to be private are becoming objects of governmental action.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 65. Young Americans are closer to being "political dropouts" than they are to being "engaged citizens."
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 66. Many young Americans regularly read newspapers.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: False

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- 67. One can have political power even if one does not possess formal authority.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 68. None of the Founders was particularly concerned about the government being too democratic.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: False

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 69. In the Greek city-state, only property holders were allowed to be citizens.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 70. A modern example of the Aristotelian ideal of the rule of the many is a New England town meeting.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 71. Representative democracy is sometimes referred to as the "elitist theory of democracy."
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

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- 72. Representative democracy requires that most public officials be elected.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: False

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

- 73. Marx argued that governments were basically dominated by business owners.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2

- 74. The power elite view argues that American democracy is controlled by elected officeholders.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: False

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2

- 75. Max Weber argued that the modern state is controlled by appointed bureaucrats.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2

- 76. Pluralists see power as being widely distributed throughout society.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

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- 77. During the early 1930s, very few American families paid income tax.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: Who Governs? To What Ends? LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.3 - LO1.3

- 78. At one time, it was unconstitutional for the federal government to levy income tax.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: Who Governs? To What Ends? LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.3 - LO1.3

- 79. Log-rolling is when a legislator supports a proposal favored by another in return for support of his or hers.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: True

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

- 80. Safety requirements for automobiles are an example of client politics.
 - a. True
 - b. False

ANSWER: False

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

81. Explain what power involves and differentiate it from authority.

ANSWER: Power is the ability of one person to get another to act in accordance with the first

person's intentions. Power may be obvious, or subtle, and varies from time to time and from country to country. It may be found in all human relationships. Power is a key

feature of the struggles throughout much of American history.

· Authority refers to the right to use power.

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The Study of American Government

82. Explain what a democracy is and note some prominent examples of this form of government throughout history.

ANSWER: According to Aristotle's rule of the many: Democracy is where all or most citizens

participate directly in either holding office or making policy. Examples: Ancient Greece

(4th century B.C.); New England town meetings.

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

83. Discuss the differences between participatory democracy and representative democracy.

ANSWER: Participatory or direct democracy is a government in which all or most citizens

participate directly.

· Representative democracy is a government in which leaders obtain authority to make

decisions by winning a competitive struggle.

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy
LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

84. Explain the primary justifications for representative democracy.

ANSWER: Limits of time, information, energy, interest, and expertise make it impractical for the

people to decide on policies. It is not impractical for them to choose between

competing leadership groups.

Democracy can lead to bad decisions, because people often decide large issues on the

basis of fleeting passions and in response to popular demagogues.

REFERENCES: Politics and Democracy

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.1 - LO1.1

85. Identify the requirements for representative democracy to work.

ANSWER: • There must be an opportunity for genuine competition of leadership.

· Individuals and parties must be free to run for office. · There needs to be freedom of speech and press.

· Voters must perceive that a meaningful choice exists.

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86. Identify, and briefly describe, the basic premises of the five viewpoints of political power discussed by the text.

ANSWER: · Class View: Derived from the inspiration of Marx, governments are dominated by

business interests, the "bourgeoisie."

· *Power Elite View:* American democracy is dominated by a few top leaders who do not hold elective office (military officers, labor union leaders, media executives, and so on).

· *Bureaucratic View:* Power is concentrated in the hands of appointed bureaucratic officials who manage the government.

· *Pluralist View:* Power is shared among many institutions and shared so widely, no single group can dominate politics.

· Creedal Passion View: Morally impassioned elites drive important political changes.

REFERENCES: Political Power in America: Five Views

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.2 - LO1.2

87. Identify the four things that affect what is on the political agenda, according to the text.

ANSWER: • Shared political values

· The weight of custom and tradition

· The impact of events such as wars, terrorist attacks, and severe or sustained economic downturns that alters our sense of the proper role of government

· Changes in the way political elites think and talk about politics

REFERENCES: Who Governs? To What Ends? LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.3 - LO1.3

88. Identify the government institutions whose influence on agenda setting has become especially important. Explain.

ANSWER: • The **courts** can make decisions that force the hand of the other branches of

government.

· The **bureaucracy** has acquired significance because it is now a source of political innovation. It has become a source of policy proposals as well as implementers of

those that become law.

· In the 1960s the **Senate** became an incubator for developing new policies and

building national constituencies.

REFERENCES: Who Governs? To What Ends? LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.3 - LO1.3

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Chapter 1 - The Study of American Government

The Study of American Government

89. Politics produces both cost and benefits. Your text discusses four types of politics based on how cost and benefits are distributed. Explain the four types of politics covered in the text.

ANSWER: • Majoritarian politics: A policy in which almost everybody benefits and almost

everybody pays.

• Interest group politics: A policy in which one small group benefits and another small

group pays.

· *Client politics*. A policy in which one small group benefits and almost everybody

pays.

· Entrepreneurial politics: A policy in which almost everybody benefits and a small

group pays the cost.

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4

90. Explain the significance of log-rolling to the legislative process.

ANSWER: A legislator supports a proposal favored by another in return for support of his or hers.

Trading votes in this way attracts the support of members of Congress to form majority

coalitions.

REFERENCES: The Politics of Different Issues LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AGIP.WILS.17.1.4 - LO1.4