

Chapter 1: Introduction

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. As measured by gross domestic product (GDP), California's economy _____.
 - A. is the largest in the world
 - B. is not much different than an average U.S. state
 - C. ranks among the 10 largest countries in the world
 - D. ranks among the 10 smallest countries in the world
2. "A process through which people with differing goals and values try to manage their conflicts by working together to allocate values for society" is a definition of _____.
 - A. communism
 - B. politics
 - C. political culture
 - D. hybrid democracy
3. The definition of a "hybrid democracy" is _____.
 - A. a citizenry whose rights are guaranteed by both a national and a state constitution
 - B. a state that was once a territory but was admitted to the union without a waiting period
 - C. a state with a combination of representative and direct democracy
 - D. a Progressive state where electric and alternative fuel vehicles are most popular
4. Which of these best expresses a critical difference between politics at the state and federal levels?
 - A. Direct democracy is not a feature of the federal political system.
 - B. Direct democracy exists in every state, but not in the federal political system.
 - C. Representatives at the federal levels tend to respond to the most organized and well-funded members of society, whereas state representatives do not favor these groups.
 - D. Choice, political culture, institutions, collective action, rules, and history are concepts that explain state politics only, not federal politics.
5. Approximately how many people in California are foreign-born?
 - A. 1 out of 2 (50%)
 - B. 1 in 4 (25%)
 - C. 1 in 10 (10%)
 - D. 1 out of 100 (1%)
6. According to the book, _____ (is/are) at the heart of politics.
 - A. choices
 - B. the constitution
 - C. representatives

D. incentives and disincentives

7. One of the features that defines California's political culture is _____.

- A. social and economic conservatism
- B. strong political party affiliation and a healthy and competitive two-party system
- C. strong trust in state government; government is seen as a positive force
- D. fondness for political reform, and general dislike of politicians

8. What is the main function of a political institution?

- A. To provide a deliberative forum for elected representatives.
- B. To provide politicians a physical space, such as a building, in which to conduct their business.
- C. To enable citizens to bypass elected representatives and exercise self-governance.
- D. To facilitate compromises that lead to acceptable solutions or alternatives.

Ans: D

9. A "norm" is _____.

- A. a formal statute prescribing how individuals should behave
- B. an unwritten rule that guides acceptable or expected behavior, and is enforced through daily interactions
- C. a goal that political actors are trying to achieve
- D. a court ruling about the state lawmakers

Ans: B

10. Which of these is an example of collective action?

- A. neighbors form an association to watch for potential criminal activity in their area
- B. mayors and city council members from several cities agree to fund a new bus route
- C. county residents vote down a proposed tax increase
- D. all of these

11. The largest city in California is _____.

- A. San Francisco
- B. Los Angeles
- C. Fresno
- D. San Diego

12. How many representatives represent California in Congress?

- A. 21 U.S. House representatives plus 2 senators
- B. 33 U.S. House representatives plus 2 senators
- C. 53 U.S. House representatives plus 2 senators
- D. 74 U.S. House representatives plus 2 senators

13. How many counties are contained within California?

- A. 5
- B. 21
- C. 39

D. 58

14. How long has California been a U.S. state?

- A. about 50 years
- B. about 100 years
- C. more than 150 years
- D. more than 200 years

15. Where is California's capital, where state elected officials conduct most of their legislative and executive business?

- A. Sacramento
- B. San Francisco
- C. Los Angeles
- D. Eureka

16. The capital of California is _____.

- A. San Francisco
- B. San Diego
- C. Los Angeles
- D. Sacramento

17. What is the approximate total population of California?

- A. 5 million
- B. 10 million
- C. 20 million
- D. 40 million

True/False

1. One reason for California's "crazy quilt" of governing institutions, rules, and processes is that citizens can bypass the legislature by using the initiative process.
2. A high percentage of Californians (one of every four persons) is foreign-born.
3. California has about the same percentage of non-Hispanic Whites as the rest of the United States.
4. As recently as 1970, the California state legislature was generally considered one of the best in the nation.
5. Compared to New York, another large state, California has a lower percentage of foreign-born residents.
6. Because California is such a large state, fluctuations in the global or national economies have almost no effect on the state's economy.

7. The size of the criminal population in California exceeds that of every other state.
8. When a drought ends, the public policy consequences of that drought also end.
9. The Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta estuary is a critical source of drinking water for Southern Californians.
10. California considers itself a “sanctuary” for undocumented immigrants because state officials, including law enforcement, are generally prohibited from cooperating with federal law enforcement agents in deporting nonviolent undocumented immigrants.
11. As a “sanctuary” state, California laws cannot be used to prosecute undocumented persons for crimes committed in the state.

Short Answer

1. The capital of California is _____.

Ans: Sacramento

2. To understand politics, it is also important to understand the rules, because rules create _____.

3. Six fundamental concepts for understanding politics include choice, political culture, institutions, rules, history, and _____ (working together for mutual benefit).

Essay

1. Define the term “politics.”

2. Explain what a political institution is, and provide an example.

3. Provide an example of a political institution in California.

4. With respect to politics, why do rules matter?

Ans: Varies. Rules define who has power and how they may legitimately use it. Rules

5. What are some of the conditions that make governing California difficult and possibly “exceptional?”

6. Weather events have political dimensions. Describe how changes in the climate create problems and issues that require a response from California governing officials.

7. What principles are important for understanding California politics?

8. Briefly describe how California’s official policies counteract or defy the Trump administration in the areas of immigration policy and/or environmental policy.

9. How does California define itself as a “sanctuary state?”
of nonviolent undocumented persons.