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Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following is true of a representative democracy?
   a. The people themselves directly make political decisions.
   b. A king or queen is considered the head of state.
   c. The will of the majority is expressed by elected representatives.
   d. A leader seeks to control almost all aspects of social and economic life.
   e. The government rules according to religious precepts.

2. The Constitution of the United States gives _____ exclusive power over relations with foreign nations.
   a. the Republicans
   b. individuals
   c. the Democrats
   d. the Supreme Court
   e. the national government

3. Which of the following statements is true of direct democracy?
   a. A high degree of citizen participation is required in government.
   b. Direct democracy presently exists in most countries in the world.
   c. The will of the majority is expressed through representatives elected by the people.
   d. A direct democracy is always headed by a monarch.
   e. The head of the state seeks to control almost all aspects of social and economic life.

4. Which of the following statements is true of public services?
   a. Providing a source of income to people whose ability to work is limited by a notable disability is a public service.
   b. The enforcement of law by the government is not regarded as a public service.
   c. Protection from economic recessions is excluded from the scope of public services.
   d. Maintaining the defense network is not as expensive as maintaining the other public services.
   e. An adjudication on a contentious issue by a court of law is a public service.

5. Which of the following is one of the views held by James Madison?
   a. People are ideally good.
   b. People need some form of government.
   c. Monarchy is the best form of government.
   d. A society should be ruled by religious leaders.
   e. Dictatorship is the best form of government.

6. The Magna Carta:
   a. abolished trial by jury.
   b. forced the nobles to obtain the king's approval of any taxes they imposed.
   c. formed the basis of the future constitutional government for England.
   d. gave the English monarch virtually unrestricted powers.
   e. rendered due process of law unnecessary for taking a free man's life.
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7. In the context of original American political ideology, conservatives:
   a. wished to establish new policies and practices.
   b. wanted to be free from traditional constraints.
   c. believed that government interference in business enterprises is necessary.
   d. wished to keep traditional social and political habits.
   e. supported same-sex marriages.

8. National defense and domestic law enforcement:
   a. are available only for people in need.
   b. are examples of services enjoyed exclusively by the rich.
   c. are responsibilities of the state government and not the national government.
   d. are examples of services provided equally to all citizens.
   e. are based on the divine right theory.

9. In the context of functions of government, which of the following is true of power?
   a. Its exercise is always recognized as socially moral and is protected by law.
   b. It involves getting someone to do something that he or she would not otherwise do.
   c. It necessarily involves the use of force.
   d. It implies legal action.
   e. Its exercise is universally illegal.

10. The term theocracy is best defined as:
    a. a government that rules according to religious precepts.
    b. a government in which the rich have disproportionate influence.
    c. a government run by members of old, noble families.
    d. a government in which political decisions are made directly by the people themselves.
    e. a government in which the power and authority are in the hands of a single person.

11. Life expectancy in the United States is expected to increase significantly in the future. This would imply that:
    a. the distribution of the national income among generations will become more difficult.
    b. there will be fewer retired people collecting Social Security and private pensions.
    c. the number of working adults will be much higher than retirees.
    d. the number of individuals eligible for Medicare will decrease.
    e. the contribution of older people toward the national income will increase.

12. A(n)__________ is a form of government based on the principle that the powers of government should be clearly restricted either through a written document or through wide public understanding.
    a. limited government
    b. totalitarian dictatorship
    c. monarchy
    d. autocracy
    e. aristocracy

13. Which of the following is true of the Magna Carta?
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a. It served as the first draft of America's written Constitution.
b. It established the principle of representative government.
c. It gave unrestricted power to monarchs.
d. It served the private interests of the English monarch rather than public interests.
e. It forced the king to obtain the nobles' approval of any taxes he imposed on them.

14. _____ is a form of autocracy.
   a. Dictatorship
   b. Democracy
   c. Anarchy
   d. Communism
   e. Marxism

15. One of the outgrowths of the civil rights movement of the 1960s was an emphasis on _____, the belief that the American society should maintain and protect its diversity by laws.
   a. socialism
   b. progressivism
   c. capitalism
   d. multiculturalism
   e. abolitionism

16. The Declaration of Independence:
   a. included the political values of limited government.
   b. is the speech presented by the first president of the United States.
   c. is a treaty between the founding Americans and the British colonists.
   d. outlined the value of partiality under the law.
   e. established the principle of government without the consent of the governed.

17. A key element in conservative thinking is the belief that the______.
   a. government should avoid laws that endorse or impose traditional religious values
   b. distribution of economic benefits that exists in the absence of government involvement is optimum
   c. government should not interfere in issues of private morality and behavior
   d. distribution of social benefits is most effective when government schemes favor minorities
   e. government should redistribute wealth among citizens equally

18. _____ is an example of a constitutional monarchy.
   a. North Korea
   b. Spain
   c. India
   d. The U.S.
   e. China

19. _____ is a voluntary agreement among individuals to create a government and to give that government adequate power to secure the mutual protection and welfare of all individuals.
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20. A government is performing the function of _____ when it maintains city roads.
   a. managing foreign relations
   b. providing public services
   c. resolving conflicts
   d. defending the nation
   e. maintaining law and order

21. Unlike constitutional monarchs, absolute monarchs:
   a. share governmental power with elected lawmakers.
   b. hold complete and unlimited power.
   c. are elected by a country's citizens.
   d. are limited by a constitution or a bill of rights.
   e. serve merely as ceremonial leaders of their nations.

22. _____ is defined as disagreements among people in a society over what the society's priorities should be.
   a. Activism
   b. Progressivism
   c. Social conflict
   d. Contract dispute
   e. Social security

23. Which of the following is a fundamental principle on which American democracy is based?
   a. Equal protection of the law
   b. Minority rule and majority rights
   c. Presidential dictatorship
   d. Unlimited freedom
   e. Divine right

24. In a constitutional monarchy, _____.
   a. the monarch's power is not supported by tradition
   b. the monarch holds complete and unlimited power
   c. the monarch's power is limited by government leaders
   d. the monarch is elected by the citizens of a country through elections
   e. the monarch has the authority to make changes in the constitution

25. Which of the following statements is true of an autocracy?
   a. The government consists of elected representatives.
   b. Authority lies in the hands of a single person.
c. Authority is gained solely by traditional means.
d. The people have ultimate political authority.
e. An individual has to acquire the consent of the people to assume power.

26. Which of the following statements is true about liberalism?
   a. Liberals advocate adherence to traditional family values.
   b. Liberals strongly oppose the separation of church and state.
   c. Liberals think that the government should support laws that impose traditional religious values.
   d. Liberals commonly accuse conservatives of valuing "big government" for its own sake.
   e. Liberals support the protection of minority rights of all kinds.

27. Undemocratic systems that are not supported by tradition are called _____.
   a. monarchies
   b. kingships
   c. theocracies
   d. plutocracies
   e. dictatorships

28. Which of the following is true of a monarchy?
   a. The government is a form of democracy.
   b. A monarch's power is not supported by tradition.
   c. A monarch's power is acquired through inheritance.
   d. The government is a form of dictatorship.
   e. A monarch always has unlimited power over the subjects.

29. The English Bill of Rights passed by the English Parliament in 1689 established that the king or queen:
   a. had to conduct and monitor parliamentary elections.
   b. had to have Parliament's approval to maintain an army.
   c. could levy taxes without being answerable to anyone.
   d. could refuse to take the Parliament's suggestions in matters of national concern.
   e. could make changes to the Constitution without the Parliament's consent.

30. A totalitarian dictator__________.
   a. attempts to satisfy the individual needs of a country's citizens
   b. opposes government redistribution of income
   c. seeks to control almost all aspects of social and economic life
   d. acquires power through inheritance
   e. is limited by other branches of government

31. Joseph Stalin's rule in the Soviet Union is an example of a(n) _____.
   a. totalitarian dictatorship
   b. monarchy
   c. theocracy
   d. representative democracy
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e. oligarchy

32. Which of the following best describes the term capitalism?
   a. It is a set of political beliefs that include the advocacy of active government.
   b. It is a concept that holds, at a minimum, that all people are entitled to equal protection under the law.
   c. It is an economic system based on the private ownership of wealth-producing property.
   d. It is a more popular term for the set of political beliefs known as liberalism.
   e. It is an intrinsic property which measures the disregard for material possessions.

33. In the twenty-first century, differences among Americans in interpreting their collectively held values underlie the division between the _____ parties.
   a. Federalist and Anti-Federalist
   b. Socialist and Liberalist
   c. Republican and Democratic
   d. Conservative and Liberalist
   e. Nationalist and Traditionalist

34. The founders of the United States believed that_________ would deteriorate into mob rule.
   a. representative democracy
   b. dictatorship
   c. monarchy
   d. direct democracy
   e. theocracy

35. A(n) _____ is a government system in which a leader or group of leaders seeks to control almost all aspects of social and economic life.
   a. libertarian system
   b. republican system
   c. constitutional democracy
   d. totalitarian dictatorship
   e. egalitarian system

36. Which of the following is an example of a public service provided by the government?
   a. Influencing the morality of individuals
   b. Resolving religious conflicts
   c. Imposing taxes on individuals
   d. Preserving national parks
   e. Choosing religious leaders

37. Why did the founders of the United States opt for representative democracy instead of the Athenian model of direct democracy?
   a. They believed that citizen participation was unnecessary in governance.
   b. They preferred a republic headed by a king or queen.
   c. They were against a government based on the consent of the governed.
d. They thought that the rights of the minority would be ignored.
e. They opined that the masses would not be able to decide what would be right for themselves.

38. In the context of the English monarchy, the _____ prohibited the taking of a free man’s life, liberty, or property except through due process of law.
   a. Mayflower Compact
   b. Declaration of Independence
   c. Magna Carta
   d. Articles of Confederation
   e. Bill of Rights

39. Which of the following statements is true of libertarians?
   a. They oppose almost all government regulation of the economy.
   b. They chiefly form political alliances with the socialists.
   c. They support government involvement in issues of private morality.
   d. They have tolerance for a strong government.
   e. They support government-sponsored social welfare schemes.

40. A republic is essentially a(n) _____.
   a. representative democracy
   b. direct democracy
   c. autocracy
   d. plutocracy
   e. monarchy

41. ________ is possible only in small communities in which citizens can meet in a chosen place and decide key issues and policies.
   a. Representative democracy
   b. Direct democracy
   c. Monarchy
   d. Dictatorship
   e. Oligarchy

42. Which of the following is a characteristic of conservatives?
   a. They place a high value on the principle of order, on family values, and on patriotism.
   b. They support the protection of minority rights of all kinds.
   c. They strongly favor the separation of church and state.
   d. They support government intervention to improve the welfare of individuals and to protect civil rights.
   e. They have developed a negative opinion about American military initiatives abroad.

43. Defending the nation and its culture against future acts of aggression became more important for the U.S. government:
   a. after the Vietnam War.
   b. with the influx of multicultural immigrants.
   c. after the attacks on the World Trade Center.
d. when President Nixon resigned.

e. after the conclusion of the Cold War.

44. Which of the following is true of the Tea Party movement?
   a. It resists political compromise.
   b. It arose in the 1950s and continues to shape conservative beliefs.
   c. It supports big government.
   d. It supports current taxation policies.
   e. It calls for greater gun control.

45. The basic principle of _____ that had evolved in England was incorporated by the framers of the U.S. Constitution.
   a. ethnocratic government
   b. limited government
   c. theocratic government
   d. aristocratic government
   e. kratocratic government

46. _____ is defined as the ability to legitimately exercise power, such as the power to make and enforce laws.
   a. Activism
   b. Authority
   c. Power
   d. Government
   e. Public Service

47. _____ is defined as the process of resolving conflicts over how society should use its scarce resources and who should receive various benefits, such as public health care and public higher education.
   a. Politics
   b. Authority
   c. Power
   d. Debate
   e. Government

48. _____ is defined as the individuals and institutions that make society’s rules and possess the power and authority to enforce those rules.
   a. Politics
   b. Authority
   c. Power
   d. Debate
   e. Government

49. Which of the following is an example of a service that is provided only to citizens who are in need at a particular time, even though it is paid for by all citizens through taxes?
   a. The Air Force
   b. The Army
c. Social Security Disability Insurance
d. The FBI
e. Environmental protection laws

50. When Tibet was taken over by the People’s Republic of China in the 1950s, the effective result was large-scale cultural destruction. This example represents a consequence of:
   a. Domestic Policy
   b. Failure to defend successfully against a foreign attack
c. Individual negotiation with a foreign nation
d. Effective national defense
e. Environmental protection laws

51. The main idea of democracy is that government exists only by the consent of the people and reflects the will of the _____.
   a. Landholders
   b. Minority
c. President
d. Majority
e. Legislature

52. A _____ is a process in which the voters themselves decide a specific question rather than letting their elected officials resolve the issue.
   a. Natural right
   b. Social contract
c. Representative democracy
d. Vote
e. Ballot proposal

53. When the legislature sends a ballot proposal to the voters, it is known as a(n) _____.
   a. Recall
   b. Social contract
c. Referendum
d. Vote
e. Initiative

54. ______ right are defined as rights that are not bestowed by governments but are inherent within every man, woman, and child by virtue of the fact that he or she is a human being.
   a. Natural
   b. Established
c. Social
d. Democratic
e. Innate

55. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are natural rights outlined in the _____.
   a. Constitution
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b. Magna Carta  
c. Bill of Rights  
d. Declaration of Independence  
e. Divine right theory

**Essay**

56. Discuss the dynamics of the 2012 U.S. elections.

57. In the context of functions of governments, discuss the terms power and authority.

58. In the context of American political culture, explain the significance of the Declaration of Independence.

59. Differentiate between the modern American political ideologies of conservatism and liberalism.

60. Explain the role of the U.S. government in defending the nation and its culture.