Chapter 13: The Bureaucracy

Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following statements is true of the bureaucracy of the federal government?
   a. The bureaucracy of the federal government is part of the executive branch.
   b. The head of the bureaucracy of the federal government reports to Congress.
   c. In the federal government, the head of the bureaucracy is the vice president of the United States.
   d. The concept of a bureaucracy is confined to the federal government.
   e. In the bureaucracy of the federal government, people are hired to work in different branches irrespective of their area of expertise.

2. _____ appoints the heads of the executive departments within the executive branch of the federal government.
   a. The chief justice
   b. The Senate
   c. The president
   d. The vice president
   e. Congress

3. In a bureaucracy, _____.
   a. each person can concentrate on her or his area of knowledge and expertise
   b. there are no hierarchical structures
   c. the power to act resides in the person rather than in the position
   d. there are no standard operating procedures
   e. people are hired through elections

4. Identify a social program that is available only to low-income individuals.
   a. Social Security
   b. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
   c. Medicare
   d. The public health insurance option
   e. Unemployment compensation

5. Which of the following statements is true of government employment during the presidency of Ronald Reagan?
   a. Government employment has been unstable since 1980, when Reagan was elected president.
   b. During Reagan's first four years in office, government employment rose sharply.
   d. The inclusion of revenue sharing during Reagan's presidency led to a drop in government employment.
   e. The decrease in government employment during Reagan's presidency was primarily at the local level.

6. Each cabinet department consists of the department's top administrators plus a number of _____.
   a. plaintiffs
   b. interest groups
   c. marshals
   d. subagencies
   e. bailiffs
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7. Which of the following best describes adjudication?
   a. The act of rendering a judicial decision
   b. The process of formulating new regulations
   c. The application of technical skills to jobs without taking political issues into consideration
   d. The formation of alliances among legislators, bureaucrats, and interest groups
   e. The reporting of gross governmental inefficiency

8. Which of the following statements is true of the Department of Health and Human Services?
   a. It was one of the departments created by the federal government in 1789.
   b. It is an independent regulatory agency of the federal government.
   c. One of its principal duties is to enforce pure food and drug laws.
   d. One of its subagencies is the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.
   e. It develops and rehabilitates urban communities.

9. Which of the following statements is true of an iron triangle?
   a. An iron triangle is a three-way alliance among the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the president.
   b. An iron triangle helps in understanding the federal bureaucracy's role in policymaking.
   c. An iron triangle is established in only certain parts of the bureaucracy of the federal government.
   d. An iron triangle relationship applies to all policy domains.
   e. An iron triangle is made up of people with differing policy concerns.

10. An administrative agency rule that carries the same weight as a statute enacted by a legislature is known as_________.
    a. an administrative regulation
    b. a merit system
    c. a legislative rule
    d. enabling legislation
    e. an executive order

11. A principal duty of the Department of Justice is to:
    a. give legal advice to the president.
    b. handle attacks and natural disasters.
    c. supervise Native American affairs.
    d. conduct national census.
    e. prevent terrorist attacks within the United States.

12. Identify a true statement about government employment.
    a. Today, more Americans are employed by the manufacturing sector of the U.S. economy than by government.
    b. All in all, the three levels of government employ more than 50 percent of the civilian labor force.
    c. Most growth in government employment from 1959 to 2016 has been at the state and local levels.
    d. Government employment has been more stable since 1959, when D. Eisenhower was elected president.
    e. Government employment increased during President Ronald Reagan's first four years in office.

13. Why was the General Services Administration created as an independent executive agency in 1949?
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a. To promote the interests of small businesses
b. To conduct covert operations outside the United States
c. To manage the government's Social Security programs
d. To serve specific parts of the government
e. To provide services and office space for most federal agencies

14. Which of the following social programs is paid out to all qualifying persons, regardless of income?
   a. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
   b. Medicaid
   c. Medicare
   d. The Children's Health Insurance Program
   e. Food stamps

15. Which of the following explains why the federal government bureaucracy exists?
   a. Bureaucrats work in different branches of the government irrespective of their area of expertise.
   b. Congress, over time, has delegated certain tasks to specialists.
   c. In a bureaucracy, the power to act resides in the person rather than in the position.
   d. In a bureaucracy, people are hired on the basis of their work experience instead of merit.
   e. In a bureaucracy, different operating procedures are followed depending on circumstances.

16. Which of the following is a principal duty of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission?
   a. To regulate the nation's stock exchanges
   b. To protect employees' rights to join unions
   c. To examine claims of discrimination
   d. To prevent unfair trade practices
   e. To prevent the formation of business monopolies

17. Heads of the executive departments of the federal government are confirmed by _____.
   a. the chief justice
   b. the Senate
   c. the president
   d. the vice president
   e. the United States Congress

18. Which of the following makes up the highest percentage of the federal government's revenues as of 2016?
   a. Individual income tax and taxes that are collected along with it
   b. Corporate income tax
   c. Income from the Social Security and Medicare trust funds
   d. Funds obtained through borrowing
   e. Sales tax and property tax

19. The Office of Personnel Management is responsible for:
   a. recommending potential government workers to relevant agencies.
   b. determining policy on interest rates.
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c. promoting the interests of small businesses.
d. gathering and analyzing political and military information about foreign countries.
e. undertaking programs aimed at reducing air and water pollution.

20. The nonmilitary government employees are part of the _____.
   a. iron triangle
   b. whistleblowers' association
   c. political plum
   d. covert operation
   e. civil service

21. Which of the following statements is true of the organization of the federal government?
   a. A government corporation is a major structure of the legislative branch of the federal government.
   b. An independent executive agency of the federal government is located within a cabinet department.
   c. The judicial branch of the federal government consists of a number of bureaucracies that provide services to
      the president directly.
   d. Each type of structure of the executive branch of the federal government has its own internal workings.
   e. An executive agency and a regulatory agency of the federal government have the same relationship to the
      president.

22. Which of the following is a principal duty of the Department of the Treasury?
   a. To grant patents and trademarks
   b. To mint coins and print paper currency
   c. To oversee resale of mortgages
   d. To finance improvements in mass transit
   e. To supervise Native American affairs

23. Which of the following statements is true of the Department of Justice?
   a. It handles attacks and natural disasters.
   b. It conducts national census.
   c. It supervises Native American affairs.
   d. It protects citizens abroad.
   e. It supervises federal prisons.

24. The executive departments are:
   a. businesses owned by the federal government.
   b. federal bureaucratic organizations that have a single function.
   c. stockholder-owned government-sponsored enterprises.
   d. organizations responsible for a specific type of public policy.
   e. the major service organizations of the federal government.

25. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is a(n)__________.
   a. independent executive agency
   b. independent regulatory agency
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c. subagency of the Treasury Department
d. government corporation
e. U.S. Senate committee

26. In the federal government, the president of the United States:
   a. does not report to anyone.
b. reports to the Supreme Court.
c. selects the head of the executive branch.
d. reports to Congress.
e. remains in office for ten years.

27. The three corners of the iron triangle in policymaking are:
   a. the national, the state, and the local levels of government.
b. the media, the public, and the political parties.
c. Congress, the president, and the courts.
d. legislators, bureaucrats, and interest groups.
e. the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the president.

28. Which of the following is a structure of the executive branch of the federal government?
   a. Private corporations
   b. Independent regulatory agencies
c. Autonomous advisory councils
d. State courts
e. Federal courts

29. In a government, a__________is a government employee who carries out the policies of elected government officials.
   a. covert agent
   b. plaintiff
c. bailiff
d. bureaucrat
e. lobbyist

30. Identify a department of the federal government that existed in 1789.
   a. The Department of Commerce
   b. The Department of the Interior
c. The Department of Justice
d. The Department of the Treasury
e. The Department of Education

31. A federal agency that engages primarily in commercial activities, produces revenues, and requires greater flexibility than most agencies is known as a(n) _____.
   a. executive department
   b. government corporation
c. national board of review
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d. independent regulatory agency
e. stockholder-owned enterprise

32. Which of the following is a principal duty of the Department of Housing and Urban Development?
   a. To oversee resale of mortgages
   b. To administer programs for highways, railroads, and aviation
   c. To promote the interests of workers
   d. To finance improvements in mass transit
   e. To supervise federally owned lands and parks

33. In the context of the federal civil service, the _____ recruits, interviews, and tests potential government workers and determines who should be hired.
   a. Office of Special Counsel
   b. Department of Labor
   c. Office of Personnel Management
   d. Department of the Interior
   e. Department of Veterans Affairs

34. The_______was one of the three departments of the federal government that existed in 1789.
   a. Department of State
   b. Department of Labor
   c. Department of Justice
   d. Department of Commerce
   e. Department of Homeland Security

35. Which of the following is a principal duty of the Department of the Interior?
   a. To give legal advice to the president
   b. To operate federal hydroelectric power facilities
   c. To provide assistance to farmers and ranchers
   d. To conduct national census
   e. To coordinate federal programs and policies for education

36. Identify a true statement about rulemaking.
   a. Rulemaking involves the evaluation and adoption of an existing regulation.
   b. A regulatory agency can make rules whenever it wishes.
   c. A regulatory agency can base its rules on discretion.
   d. The power of rulemaking is conferred on a regulatory agency by the president in the agency's enabling legislation.
   e. A regulatory agency must follow process requirements set forth in the Administrative Procedure Act of 1946.

37. President Obama's 2009 _____, which transferred large sums to local governments, helped stabilize government employment through 2010.
   a. revenue-sharing program
   b. stimulus program
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c. Social Security program
d. accreditation program
e. interest-on-debt program

38. Identify a true statement about a bureaucracy.
   a. In a bureaucracy, the power to act resides in the person rather than in the position.
   b. In a bureaucracy, people are hired to work in different branches irrespective of their area of expertise.
   c. A bureaucracy does not have a reporting structure.
   d. The concept of a bureaucracy is not confined to the federal government.
   e. Large organizations do not have a bureaucracy.

39. Increasingly, government agencies have attempted to improve their effectiveness and efficiency by making use of _____.
   a. the traditional media
   b. partisan politics
   c. public relations firms
   d. iron triangles
   e. the Internet

40. The Civil Service Reform Act of 1883 established the principle of government employment on the basis of:
   a. patronage and seniority.
   b. merit through open, competitive examinations.
   c. service to a political party.
   d. campaign contributions.
   e. recommendations by members of Congress.

41. Which of the following statements is true of federal government spending for 2016?
   a. Social Security and Medicare are available only to low-income individuals.
   b. Along with veterans’ benefits, defense spending amounts to about a fifth of the federal budget.
   c. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families accounts for 22 percent of the federal budget.
   d. Medicaid is funded by payroll taxes and paid out to all qualifying persons, regardless of income.
   e. National debt is most likely to decrease in future years.

42. Which of the following is an independent executive agency of the federal government?
   a. The National Railroad Passenger Corporation
   b. The Securities and Exchange Commission
   c. The Federal Communications Commission
   d. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration
   e. The National Labor Relations Board

43. Policy and Supporting Positions is a document that:
   a. publishes the list of federal posts that are filled by appointments by the president after each presidential election.
   b. lists the names of lobbyists who target the executive branch.
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c. identifies the key pieces of legislation that authorize the federal government to act through its agencies.
d. summarizes the parts of the government bureaucracy and explains what each agency does.
e. lists the standard operating procedures to be followed by the federal government in specific circumstances.

44. A key aspect of any bureaucracy is that the power to act resides in the _____.
   a. cultural beliefs of communities  
   b. expertise of a person  
   c. laws passed by the trial courts  
   d. position a person holds  
   e. person holding a title

45. The__________was created by the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 and it oversees promotions, employees' rights, and other employment matters for people working in the federal bureaucracy.
   a. Office of Personnel Management  
   b. National Labor Relations Board  
   c. Merit Systems Protection Board  
   d. General Accounting Office  
   e. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

46. Today the cost of government at all levels accounts for ___ percent of the nation’s gross domestic product (GDP).
   a. eleven  
   b. thirty-six  
   c. fifty  
   d. three  
   e. seventy-eight

47. Which of the following is NOT a form of federal tax collected by the U.S. Government?
   a. Individual income tax  
   b. Corporate income tax  
   c. Income from Social Security  
   d. Capital Gains tax  
   e. Local property tax

48. Which executive department was created by Congress in 2002 to deal with terrorism and other threats?
   a. Department of Energy  
   b. Department of Labor  
   c. Department of the Interior  
   d. Department of Homeland Security  
   e. Department of State

49. The head of the Department of Justice is known as the _____.
   a. Minister of Justice  
   b. Secretary of Justice  
   c. Attorney General
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d. Secretary of Law
e. Justice Whig

50. Which of the following is a principal duty of the Department of Energy?
a. To oversee resale of mortgages
b. To administer programs for highways, railroads, and aviation
c. To promote the interests of environmental interest groups
d. To promote the conservation of energy and resources
e. To supervise federally owned lands and parks

51. U.S. Customs and Border Protection is a subagency within the Department of _____.
a. Homeland Security
b. the Interior
c. Veterans Affairs
d. Justice
e. Defense

52. ______ is defined as a law enacted by a legislature to establish an administrative agency that normally specifies the name, purpose, composition, and powers of the agency being created.
a. An adjudicate
b. A legislative rule
c. Enabling legislation
d. Neutral competency
e. An iron triangle

53. ______ is defined as The application of technical skills to jobs without regard to political issues.
a. An adjudicate
b. A legislative rule
c. Enabling legislation
d. Neutral competency
e. An iron triangle

54. How do interest groups influence the Department of Agriculture?
a. Evaluating and adopting existing regulation
b. Passing legislation through the House and Senate
c. Improving efficiency within the Department
d. Ignoring regulatory bodies
e. Employing lobbyists to influence Congress

55. A _____ is someone who reports to authorities or the press on gross governmental inefficiency, illegal action, or other wrongdoing.
a. lobbyist
b. juror
c. whistleblower
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d. covert agent
e. bailiff

Essay

56. Discuss the laws that were passed to protect whistleblowers.

57. Discuss the formation of the federal civil service.

58. Discuss the requirements for making rules that should be met by regulatory agencies.

59. Describe an independent regulatory agency. List the major independent regulatory agencies.

60. Discuss some of the ways in which the government has attempted to improve efficiency in the bureaucracy.