

Chapter 05: The United Kingdom

The United Kingdom

1. A term used to accurately describe the development of the British state is
 - a. tumultuous.
 - b. socialistic.
 - c. divided.
 - d. gradual.
 - e. erratic.

2. The Good Friday Agreement helped ease tensions between
 - a. New Labour and Traditional Labour.
 - b. Margaret Thatcher and Tory Party opponents.
 - c. Great Britain and France at the end of the Hundred Years' War.
 - d. Wales, Scotland, and the British Government.
 - e. Protestants and Catholics in Northern Ireland/Ulster.

3. Northern Ireland, part of the United Kingdom, is also known by what name?
 - a. Ulster
 - b. Wales
 - c. Scotland
 - d. Celtic
 - e. Britain

4. Gradualism, when used to describe the creation of the British state, usually means that
 - a. none of the historic events were unexpected.
 - b. people in Britain slowly gained power over other kingdoms and people.
 - c. authority is exercised by the government in moderation.
 - d. state building issues were not as important as economic issues.
 - e. state building issues were dealt with sequentially rather than simultaneously.

5. When comparing the development of democratic society in the United States and Great Britain, one aspect they shared was
 - a. a history free from internal conflict.
 - b. religion played a minor role.
 - c. the regime has received little popular support.
 - d. major crises were largely resolved before the next one came.
 - e. universal suffrage from the earliest days of the government.

6. The divisions between Protestants and Catholics that split Europe did not have the same impact on Britain because
 - a. there were no Catholics living there.
 - b. there were no Protestants living there.
 - c. King Henry VIII established the Church of England.

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- d. the Protestants quickly established military dominance.
 - e. the Pope dominated the British state.
7. The 1701 Act of Settlement was important because it
- a. asserted that the monarchy had to govern according to Parliament laws.
 - b. brokered peace between Protestants and Catholics.
 - c. brought peace to Northern Ireland.
 - d. preserved the total power and authority of the monarchy.
 - e. established the move to colonize North America.
8. The Glorious Revolution of 1688 established that the monarch would, from that point forward, always be Protestant and would
- a. have absolute power to rule the country.
 - b. be accountable to Parliament.
 - c. not have to pay taxes like ordinary citizens.
 - d. have no power at all and would be purely ceremonial.
 - e. always be male.
9. In the United Kingdom, most labor unions' actions are coordinated by
- a. Parliament.
 - b. the Monarchy.
 - c. the Trades Union Congress.
 - d. the Labour Party.
 - e. the Conservative Party.
10. What was the name of the document, issued in 1942, that called for a social insurance program to be created for all citizens, making them eligible for health care, unemployment insurance, pensions, and free university tuition?
- a. The Chamberlain Report
 - b. The Churchill Report
 - c. The Thatcher Report
 - d. The Blair Report
 - e. The Beveridge Report
11. The broad agreement on social policy during the 1950s and 1960s was known as
- a. socialism.
 - b. capitalism.
 - c. the collectivist consensus.
 - d. the individualistic consensus.
 - e. a united front.

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12. The “collectivist consensus” in Britain refers to
 - a. the coalition of left-wing parties that created today’s Labour Party.
 - b. the European socialist movement that inspired British policy in the 1930s.
 - c. a general agreement in the post-World War II decades about the role of government.
 - d. the Keynesian economic theory about government’s role in maintaining economic stability.
 - e. uniform policy-making procedures throughout the British Empire.

13. The party that was in power the longest in the twentieth century was the
 - a. Conservative party.
 - b. Labour party.
 - c. Liberal Democratic party.
 - d. Nationalist party.
 - e. Christian Democratic party.

14. Margaret Thatcher was part of a generation of conservative politicians that
 - a. supported the welfare state.
 - b. wanted Britain to become part of a United States of Europe.
 - c. advocated a more progressive income tax.
 - d. believed the market should play a dominant role in economic policy.
 - e. resisted increases in military spending.

15. The term “loony left” was used to describe Labour in the 1980s because
 - a. so many of its leaders had received psychological treatment.
 - b. it supported the provision of psychiatric care for free.
 - c. its policies were so radical.
 - d. its campaigns were so inept that it seemed to be committing electoral suicide.
 - e. it was out of power.

16. Who succeeded Margaret Thatcher as prime minister?
 - a. Tony Blair
 - b. David Cameron
 - c. John Major
 - d. Nick Clegg
 - e. Gordon Brown

17. Which of the following was a nickname given to Margaret Thatcher?
 - a. The “iron lady”
 - b. Queen Margaret
 - c. Cleopatra
 - d. Old Blue Eyes

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e. Chief Dalek

18. Which of the following statements best describes British political culture?

- a. The British are deeply divided over religion.
- b. Almost all the British respect the democratic rules of the game.
- c. Most British people favor abolishing the monarchy.
- d. There is strong support for writing a new constitution.
- e. Individuals actively resist powerful leadership.

19. Since the 1960s, what has been the biggest indicator of the decline in British civic culture?

- a. Increasing use of violence by labor union activists
- b. Declining self-identification with Britain, especially by Welsh and Scots
- c. Increasing ideological polarity between the Labour Party and the Conservatives
- d. Increasing calls for reducing the budget of the British monarchy
- e. Declining viewership of British national soccer games

20. Which current British political party has its roots in the English nobility?

- a. The Conservative Party
- b. The Labour Party
- c. The Liberal Democrats
- d. The Social Democrats
- e. The Scottish National Party

21. In recent years, the most difficult policy issues for Britain's Conservative Party to resolve internally have revolved around

- a. education.
- b. privatization.
- c. the European Union.
- d. immigration.
- e. devolution.

22. The 2016 referendum that shook up British politics is commonly referred to as

- a. Europhile.
- b. The FA Cup.
- c. The Eurovision contest.
- d. Brexit.
- e. Good Friday Agreement.

23. The Labour Party's successes in the past twenty years were built in part on Tony Blair's

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- a. reputation as an old-time party boss.
 - b. collaborative leadership model.
 - c. engaging and open image, which he presented in person and on television.
 - d. similarities to Neville Chamberlain.
 - e. appeal to the left-wing of the Labour Party.
24. Blair's New Labour was born out of
- a. consecutive electoral victories.
 - b. the successes of nationalized industries.
 - c. union-business coalitions.
 - d. moderation of unions' socialistic policies.
 - e. widespread disillusionment with the monarchy.
25. What was significant about Clause 4 of the Labour Party original manifesto?
- a. It called for a Marxist revolution.
 - b. It called for an end to England's nationalized health care system.
 - c. It called for an end to government-funded pensions.
 - d. It called for an end to the Anglican Church.
 - e. It called for the nationalization of key British industries.
26. The new party that was formed in 1987 is now known as the
- a. Labour Party.
 - b. Conservative Party.
 - c. Liberal Democratic Party.
 - d. Social Democratic Party.
 - e. Christian Democratic Party.
27. Which type of electoral model does England use?
- a. Proportional representation
 - b. First-past-the-post
 - c. Runoff
 - d. Lottery
 - e. Voice vote
28. Minor parties have traditionally won relatively few seats in the House of Commons because
- a. the electoral system discriminates against them.
 - b. they have poor leaders.
 - c. few people agree with their ideas.
 - d. they cannot raise enough money to run an effective campaign.

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- e. free television time is not available to them.
29. The Confederation of British Industries (CBI) is most closely associated with which political party?
- a. Labour
 - b. Liberal Democratic
 - c. Social Democratic
 - d. Conservative
 - e. Republican
30. Lobbying in Britain is done primarily
- a. in the summer before the annual party meetings.
 - b. in the pubs, hallways, and lobbies surrounding the House of Commons.
 - c. to influence party leaders and top civil servants.
 - d. by business interest groups.
 - e. through advertising in the public media.
31. The head of the minority party in the House of Commons becomes the leader of the opposition, and in is charge of what is known as the
- a. opposition cabinet.
 - b. shadow cabinet.
 - c. hostile cabinet.
 - d. angry cabinet.
 - e. vocal cabinet.
32. The House of Commons has how many members currently?
- a. 100
 - b. 435
 - c. 650
 - d. 700
 - e. 1000
33. Collective responsibility in practice means that
- a. a majority of the cabinet accepts responsibility for the decisions of the prime minister.
 - b. all cabinet members support all cabinet decisions.
 - c. society is collectively responsible for the health and welfare of all citizens.
 - d. no Member of Parliament (MP) can make individual policy proposals.
 - e. there is no debate in the House of Commons over government policy proposals.
34. An important parliamentary vote is signified by

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- a. an announcement in Norman French.
 - b. a three line whip.
 - c. an advertisement in the *Times* of London.
 - d. a proclamation by the Queen.
 - e. a proclamation by the Speaker of the House of Commons.
35. The majority of the legislative power in the United Kingdom resides with the
- a. Queen.
 - b. House of Lords.
 - c. House of Commons.
 - d. Congress.
 - e. National Assembly.
36. What is the term used to describe British newspapers that are considered quality, non-tabloid papers?
- a. Ragsheets
 - b. Topsheets
 - c. Broadsheets
 - d. Narrowsheets
 - e. Mainsheets
37. The most recent peace agreement to resolve the violent conflict in Ireland is known as the _____ Agreement.
38. In 1215, King John signed the _____, which most scholars believe was the first significant event in the evolution of the British parliamentary system.
39. The year 1707 marks the last time a British monarch failed to give _____ to an act of Parliament.
40. Most unions are part of the _____.
41. The _____ was the 1942 document advocating for a range of social programs including unemployment and health insurance.
42. Thatcher's policy of selling government-owned enterprises was called _____.
43. A _____ is a person who is opposed to further British integration into the European Union.
44. The _____ was a short-lived coalition between the Liberals and the Social Democrats in the 1980s.
45. The primary interest group representing business interests in Britain is the _____.

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46. The title of the British equivalent of the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury is the _____.
47. Great Britain has historically been considered as the model industrialized democracy. Does it still deserve that reputation? Why or why not?
48. Personality has played an increasing role in the British political process and the role of the prime minister. Is this a long-term trend or one based on recent incumbents in the office? Do you consider this a positive development in a democracy? Why or why not?
49. Scotland and Wales are part of Great Britain but have gained greater autonomy in recent years. Do you think this is a positive or negative development? Why? Are these changes leading to the dissolution of the country or the political regime?
50. How did the post-World War II “collectivist consensus” affect the relations between the Labour Party and the Conservative Party in England through the end of the 1970s? Why did the “consensus” end? How has that shaped British politics today?
51. Given its previous degree of world domination, why has Britain been reduced to its current economic condition, where the standard of living is often lower than many other continental European democracies? What factors led to the economic decline?
52. What affect has immigration had on British politics in the years since the end of World War II? What issues have arisen as a result?
53. How has Britain’s relationship with the European Union changed in the past forty years? Do you believe the United Kingdom would be better served to be more closely integrated with Europe or should they leave the EU entirely? Why?
54. What are the three largest parties in the United Kingdom? Who are their major constituent groups? How do their issue positions differ from one another? Which party (parties) is (are) currently in power?
55. What role does the monarchy play in British politics? How has this role evolved over time? How is this different from heads of state in other countries?
56. The Prime Minister of the UK in 2017 was
- Theresa May
 - Tony Blair
 - David Cameron
 - David Beckham
 - Dame Judy Dench

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

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57. The British health care system is known as
- a. The National Health Service
 - b. Socialized medicine
 - c. Blaircare
 - d. Obamacare
 - e. Socialism