

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

1. 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.
2. What is an ongoing organization that performs certain functions for society?
 - a. A filibuster
 - b. Cloture
 - c. An institution
 - d. Politics
 - e. A quorum
3. What 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
4. Gareth, a first-grade teacher, finds three of his students fighting over the few toys laying in the play area. Gareth intervenes and decides which student gets to play with which toy and in what order. In resolving the conflict among his students, what process is Gareth exhibiting?
 - a. Centralization
 - b. Electioneering
 - c. Authority
 - d. Appeasement
 - e. Politics
5. 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.
6. Gun control has been a controversial issue in the United States, and gun control advocates have traditionally opposed an individual's right to bear arms. In 2010, the United States Supreme Court affirmed that the Second Amendment to the Constitution grants individuals the right to bear arms, and this decision was met with little resistance from gun control advocates. In this case, which authority did the court use to make their decision?
 - a. Manage foreign relations
 - b. Resolve a conflict
 - c. Provide a public service
 - d. Defend the nation

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

- e. Protect the American culture
- 7. What function is a government performing 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
- 8. What is true of both national defense and domestic law enforcement?
 - a. Both are available only for people in need.
 - b. Both are examples of services enjoyed exclusively by the rich.
 - c. Both are responsibilities of the state government and not the national government.
 - d. Both are examples of services provided equally to all citizens.
 - e. Both are based on the divine right theory.
- 9. 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
- 10. Which of the following statements is true?
 - a. Providing a source of income to people whose ability to work is limited by a 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.
- 11. To whom does the Constitution of the United States give exclusive power to deal with foreign nations?
 - a. The Republicans
 - b. Individuals
 - c. The Democrats
 - d. The Supreme Court
 - e. The national government
- 12. When did defending the nation and its culture against future acts of aggression become 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.

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

13. 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 authority
 - e. An individual has to acquire the consent of the people to assume power.
14. 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.
15. In the context of monarchy, challenging which theory was not only regarded as treason against the government but also as a sin against God?
- a. The Athenian model of direct democracy
 - b. The divine command theory
 - c. The divine right theory
 - d. The social contract theory
 - e. The theory of theological voluntarism
16. In a nation, people are ruled by a Queen. Her ancestors have ruled the country for centuries. The Queen has the sole right to make all decisions concerning the lives of her people and her country's wellbeing. This nation is an example of what type of government system?
- a. absolute monarchy
 - b. dictatorship
 - c. constitutional monarchy
 - d. direct democracy
 - e. representative democracy
17. What is true 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
18. What is true of absolute monarchs that is not true of constitutional monarchs?
- a. They share governmental power with elected lawmakers
 - b. They hold complete and unlimited power.
 - c. They are elected by a country's citizens.
 - d. They are limited by a constitution or bill of rights.

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

- e. The power is unlimited.
19. Which country is an example of a constitutional monarchy?
- a. North Korea
 - b. Spain
 - c. India
 - d. The U.S.
 - e. China
20. Which type of government is a form of autocracy?
- a. Dictatorship
 - b. Democracy
 - c. Socialism
 - d. Communism
 - e. Marxism
21. What is the term used for undemocratic systems that are not supported by tradition?
- a. Monarchies
 - b. Kingships
 - c. Theocracies
 - d. Plutocracies
 - e. Dictatorships
22. In which system of government does a leader or group of leaders seek 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
23. What type of government does Joseph Stalin's rule in the Soviet Union demonstrate?
- a. Totalitarian dictatorship
 - b. Monarchy
 - c. Theocracy
 - d. Representative democracy
 - e. Oligarchy
24. 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.

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

25. What type of government is present in a country where all citizens participate in the governing assembly and vote on all major issues?
- Totalitarian dictatorship
 - Direct democracy
 - Autocracy
 - Monarchy
 - Aristocracy
26. Why did the founders of the United States opt for representative democracy instead of the Athenian model of direct democracy?
- They believed that citizen participation was unnecessary in governance.
 - They preferred a republic headed by a king or queen.
 - They were against a government based on the consent of the governed.
 - They thought that the rights of the minority would be ignored.
 - They opined that the masses would not be able to decide what would be right for themselves.
27. Which of the following would happen if a referendum were to take place in the United States?
- The people would let their elected officials make decisions on their behalf.
 - A question would be placed on the ballot by gathering signatures.
 - The legislature would send a ballot proposal to the voters.
 - A question would be placed on the ballot by action of the legislature.
 - An elected official would be removed before his or her term of office comes to an end.
28. Which of the following is true of a representative democracy?
- The people themselves directly make political decisions
 - A king or queen is considered the head of state
 - The will of the majority is expressed by elected representatives
 - A leader seeks to control almost all aspects of social and economic life
 - The government rules according to religious precepts
29. What system of government is a republic?
- Representative democracy
 - Direct democracy
 - Autocracy
 - Plutocracy
 - Monarchy
30. Which of the following is a difference between a presidential democracy and a parliamentary democracy?
- Unlike a presidential democracy, there is no separate law-enforcing branch in a parliamentary democracy.
 - Unlike a presidential democracy, there is no separate lawmaking branch in a parliamentary democracy.
 - Unlike a presidential democracy, the lawmaking and law-enforcing branches of government are united in a parliamentary democracy.
 - Unlike a presidential democracy, the prime minister is separate from the legislative body in a parliamentary democracy.

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

- e. Unlike a presidential democracy, the lawmaking branch is superior to the law-enforcing branch of the government in a parliamentary democracy.
31. In Britain, the prime minister and the cabinet are members of the legislature that both enacts the laws and carries them out. What government system is present in Britain?
- a. A parliamentary democracy
 - b. A presidential democracy
 - c. Direct democracy
 - d. Pure democracy
 - e. An absolute monarchy
32. Which of the following is a basic principle that had evolved in England and 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
33. In the context of the English monarchy, what document 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
34. Which of the following is true of the Magna Carta?
- 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 monarch
 - 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 imposed on them
35. Which of the following is true of the Magna Carta?
- a. It served as the draft of America's written constitution.
 - b. It established the principle of representative government.
 - c. It established the principle of limited government.
 - d. It served the private interests of the English monarchs rather than the public interests.
 - e. It forced the King to gain the nobles' approval for any taxes he imposed on them.
36. What did the Magna Carta do?
- 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

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

- d. Gave the English monarch virtually unrestricted powers
 - e. Rendered due process of law unnecessary for taking a free man's life
37. What did the English Bill of Rights, passed by the English Parliament in 1689, establish that the king or queen could do?
- a. Conduct and monitor parliamentary elections
 - b. Have Parliament's approval to maintain an army
 - c. Raise taxes to maintain an army only with Parliament's approval
 - d. Refuse to take the Parliament's suggestions in matters of national concern
 - e. Make changes to the Constitution without the Parliament's consent
38. What 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?
- a. A social contract
 - b. A political compromise
 - c. A charter
 - d. A liaison
 - e. A merger
39. 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
40. In a country, people are ruled by Queen Sophie. Her ancestors have ruled the country for centuries. The Queen has the sole right to make all decisions concerning the lives of her people and her country's wellbeing. This country has what type of government?
- a. Absolute monarchy
 - b. Dictatorship
 - c. Constitutional monarchy
 - d. Direct democracy
 - e. Representative democracy
41. Zoya was arrested for staging a peaceful protest against animal cruelty in front of an animal-testing research institution. Zoya justified her actions by saying that the Constitution gives her the freedom to speak freely on any topic and issue. To which of the following concepts was Zoya referring?
- a. The right to equality
 - b. The right to property
 - c. The right to liberty
 - d. Capitalism
 - e. Amoralism
42. Which of the following best describes the term capitalism?

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

- 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.
43. Which two parties, present in the twenty-first century, created big differences among Americans in interpreting their collectively held values?
- a. Federalist and Anti-Federalist
 - b. Socialist and Liberalist
 - c. Republican and Democratic
 - d. Conservative and Liberalist
 - e. Nationalist and Traditionalist
44. Which of the following is true of American midterm elections?
- a. Presidential candidates are not on the ballot in these elections.
 - b. Voter turnout is the most in these elections.
 - c. Public opinion polls are not conducted for these elections.
 - d. All seats of the Senate are contested in these elections.
 - e. The electoral college plays an important role in these elections.
45. Which of the following was a consequence of the low voter turnout in the 2014 midterm election?
- a. Congress had the largest number of Republicans since the 1920s.
 - b. The Republicans lost two seats in governors' races.
 - c. Public opinion polls were not conducted.
 - d. The Senate elections were declared invalid by the Supreme Court.
 - e. Many moderate voters became concerned that Democratic threats to popular social programs outweighed Republican fondness for "big government."
46. What is one of the outgrowths of the civil rights movement of the 1960s that was based 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
47. Which of the following is likely to be a consequence of the increasing age of the American population?
- 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.

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

48. In the context of original American political ideology, what do conservatives want?
- a. To establish new policies and practices
 - b. To be free from traditional constraints
 - c. They believe that government interference in business enterprises is necessary.
 - d. To keep traditional social and political habits
 - e. To support same-sex marriages
49. In the context of original American political ideology, what do conservatives want?
- a. They wished to establish new policies and practices.
 - b. They wanted to be free from traditional constraints.
 - c. They believed that government interference in business enterprises is necessary.
 - d. They wished to keep traditional social and political habits.
 - e. They supported same-sex marriages.
50. 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.
51. Melinda complained about the tight regulations being imposed on the gun store owned and run by her family. She feels that individuals and families should be responsible for establishing their own economic status instead of being limited by regulations or dependent on benefits from the government. According to Melinda, the government should only intervene to ensure adherence to traditional religious and family values. With which political ideology does Miranda's views most closely align?
- a. Socialism
 - b. Communism
 - c. Conservatism
 - d. Liberalism
 - e. Libertarianism
52. 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.
53. The government of a country recently passed a law preventing the consumption of alcohol because alcohol consumption conflicts with certain religious beliefs. Roger opposed this law as he is of the opinion that the government should avoid laws that endorse or impose traditional religious values. With which political ideology are Roger's views most closely aligned?
- a. Conservatism
 - b. Archaism

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

- c. Socialism
- d. Liberalism
- e. Communism

54. Which of the following is a difference between liberals and socialists?
- a. Socialists have a stronger commitment to egalitarianism than liberals.
 - b. Unlike liberals, socialists advocate active government intervention to protect civil rights.
 - c. Unlike liberals, socialists oppose government redistribution of income.
 - d. Unlike liberals, socialists have zero tolerance for a strong central government.
 - e. Socialists have stronger adherence to traditional social and religious values than liberals.
55. 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.
56. Which of the following is a difference between libertarians and conservatives?
- a. Unlike conservatives, libertarians support all government regulation of the economy.
 - b. Unlike conservatives, libertarians advocate active government intervention to protect civil rights.
 - c. Unlike conservatives, libertarians oppose government involvement in issues of private morality.
 - d. Unlike conservatives, libertarians support government redistribution of income.
 - e. Unlike conservatives, libertarians oppose the separation of church and state.
57. Which of the following is a similarity between liberals and libertarians?
- a. Both believe that the government should have a limited role in economic affairs.
 - b. Both oppose government involvement in issues of private morality.
 - c. Both advocate active government intervention to improve the welfare of individuals.
 - d. Both support government redistribution of income.
 - e. Both believe that a big government is simply a necessary tool for promoting the common welfare.
58. What term is used to define the ability to influence the behavior of others, usually through the use of force, persuasion, or rewards?
- a. Campaigning
 - b. Democracy
 - c. Republicanism
 - d. Government
 - e. Politics.
59. Where do monarchs usually obtain their power?
- a. By popular vote
 - b. By political appointment
 - c. Through the legislature

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

- d. Through Judicial decree
 - e. Through hereditary birthright.
60. To whom are dictators accountable?
- a. The people
 - b. No one
 - c. The legislature
 - d. The constitution
 - e. The judges
61. Which country has a democratic republic where the people are sovereign?
- a. Great Britain
 - b. North Korea
 - c. China
 - d. Venezuela
 - e. United States
62. What falls to the left of liberalism on the traditional political spectrum?
- a. Great Britain
 - b. Socialism
 - c. Moderates
 - d. Conservatism
 - e. Libertarianism
63. In the context of functions of governments, discuss the terms power and authority.
64. Explain the role of the U.S. government in defending the nation and its culture.
65. In the context of American political culture, explain the significance of the Declaration of Independence.
66. Discuss the dynamics of the 2016 U.S. elections.
67. Differentiate between the modern American political ideologies of conservatism and liberalism.
68. What does a totalitarian dictator do?
- 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. Works with government officials to meet the needs of the people
69. Kim Jong-un, the leader of North Korea, exemplifies which type of ruler?
- a. Totalitarian dictator
 - b. Autocratic ruler
 - c. Constitutional monarch

Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

- d. Parliamentary monarch
- e. Oligarch

70. Which system of government 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. Aristocracy

71. What did the Founders believe would deteriorate into mob rule?

- a. Representative democracy
- b. Dictatorship
- c. Monarchy
- d. Direct democracy
- e. Aristocracy

72. Which form of government is based on the principle that the powers of the 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

73. What is one of the fundamental principles of American democracy?

- a. Minority rule and majority rights
- b. Individual freedom
- c. Government by the wealthy
- d. The divine right theory
- e. Government by inheritance

74. What concept is capitalism based on?

- a. Marxist classless society
- b. Social contract
- c. Public ownership of wealth-producing property
- d. Free markets
- e. Conservative economics

75. Crime statistics since 2014 reveal that the overall crime rates appear to have decreased among minority youth and increased among which group?

- a. Teenage mothers
- b. Middle-age whites

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Chapter 1 - America in the Twenty-First Century

- c. Elderly white women
- d. Elderly black women
- e. Elderly black women