

Chapter 10

Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following is TRUE about Mexican security?
 - a. El Chapo's success in evading arrest for more than a decade made him a symbol of the weaknesses and shortcomings of the Mexican state.
 - b. Finally capturing El Chapo didn't counter fears that Mexico was in danger of becoming a failed state.
 - c. President Calderon's offensive against Mexican drug cartels gave the confidence Mexican citizens had in his leadership.
 - d. Security authorities are well respected and seen as being effective in Mexico.
2. Mexico's geography has
 - a. facilitated trade with its neighboring countries.
 - b. made the country vulnerable to invasion and foreign occupation.
 - c. made communication and transportation between Mexico's regions difficult.
 - d. facilitated economic development evenly throughout Mexico.
3. The term *mestizo* refers to people who
 - a. are of mixed Spanish, indigenous, and sometimes African descent.
 - b. emigrated from Mexico to America.
 - c. live in Mexico but come from elsewhere in Central America.
 - d. are descended from Mayan Indians.
4. Assembly factories that produce goods for export, often located along the U.S.–Mexican border are called
 - a. ejidatorios.
 - b. maquiladoras.
 - c. centificos.
 - d. fabricars.
5. Local strongmen that exercised more authority than the Mexican national government from 1833-1855 were known as
 - a. generals.
 - b. jefe máximos.
 - c. caudillos
 - d. razas
6. The *Porfiriato* was the period of
 - a. revolution in which General Porfirio gained independence from Spain.
 - b. authoritarian rule by Porfirio Díaz, in which he encouraged foreign investment and economic development.
 - c. civil war, resulting in the separation of the country into northern and southern regions.
 - d. U.S. military occupation of several key cities in Mexico.
7. Which of the following progressive social measures was NOT included in the Mexican Constitution of 1917?
 - a. Minimum wage and an eight-hour workday for workers
 - b. Women's suffrage
 - c. A social security system

Chapter 10

- d. Agrarian reform
8. Plutarco Elías Calles created a political party, the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), to
- a. eliminate the power of the military in Mexican politics.
 - b. establish lasting control over the Mexican political system and create a familial dynasty in Mexico similar to European aristocracies..
 - c. consolidate the power of the Sonoran Dynasty within Mexican politics.
 - d. accommodate the interests of the various power contenders in order to limit political violence and reap greater economic spoils in Mexico.
9. Mexican president Lázaro Cárdenas is best remembered for his redistribution to benefit Mexican peasants. These were called.
- a. haciendas.
 - b. rancheros.
 - c. granjas.
 - d. ejidos.
10. The term *remittances* refers to
- a. funds sent by migrants working abroad to family members in their home countries.
 - b. an integral part in a manufacturing process for automobiles.
 - c. a substantial proportion of government revenues.
 - d. an economic profile of a worker in a specific industry.
11. Which of the following terms refers to a huge patronage machine, characterized by extensive chains of personal relationships based on the exchange of favors?
- a. Patrimonialism
 - b. Pragmatic accommodation
 - c. Corruption
 - d. Clientelism
12. Presidents Miguel de la Madrid and Carlos Salinas confronted Mexico's economic crisis of the 1980s by
- a. borrowing against Mexico's expected future income from oil exports.
 - b. recommitting the country to the previously successful import-substitution industrialization model of economic development.
 - c. using neoliberal reforms to open Mexican markets to foreign trade and by limiting the role of government in the economy.
 - d. opening Mexican markets to foreign trade and nationalizing key industries.
13. Felipe Calderón was able to consolidate his hold over power in Mexico despite his winning the presidency by a narrow margin in 2006 due to
- a. Vicente Fox's selection of Calderón as the National Action Party's (PAN) presidential candidate.
 - b. Lopez Obrador's refusal to concede defeat, which divided Mexico's political opposition.
 - c. the support of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI).
 - d. his effective policies fighting Mexican drug cartels.

Chapter 10

14. President Vicente Fox found it difficult to enact his domestic agenda because
- he lacked support from the United States and Canada.
 - he lacked the cooperative congressional majority that his predecessors had enjoyed.
 - Mexico's ongoing economic difficulties limited his options for implementing his agenda.
 - his advisors were severely divided over what the administration's priorities should be.
15. Mexico's membership in NAFTA is symbolic of its
- continuous integration in the world economy since its colonization by Spain.
 - acceptance of its role in the global economy.
 - shift from an agrarian economy to an industrial economy.
 - attempt to limit foreign domination of its economy
16. Due to the domination of the PRI (the ruling party) at all levels of government and the co-options, marginalization or repression (as a last resort) through a corporatist state, Mexico's political system was often referred to as which of the following terms by its critics?
- Totalitarian dictatorship
 - Super-presidential system
 - Perfect dictatorship
 - One-party system
17. Between 1940 and 1982, Mexico pursued a trade and economic policy called that involved the domestic manufacture of previous imported good to satisfy domestic market demands. This policy is called
- state capitalism.
 - state socialism.
 - import and export embargo.
 - import substitution industrialization (ISI).
18. Which of the following was NOT an effect of import substitution industrialization (ISI)?
- It achieved rapid economic growth.
 - Industries that received government subsidies had less incentive to produce.
 - Particular groups - such as commercial farmers and union workers - benefited under ISI and provided a strong base of support for this development strategy.
 - It led to a decrease in urban and rural poverty.
19. The *Mexican Miracle* of the 1940s through the 1970s refers to a period
- where the Mexican military's influence was eliminated from the country's domestic political scene.
 - of impressive economic performance in Mexico.
 - of rapid changes in the political system of Mexico.
 - where Mexico was able to dominate Central American economies even more so than the United States.
20. Which of the following was NOT a result of the discovery of large oil reserves in Mexico during the 1970s?
- These reserves allowed the government to embark upon substantial investment programs in virtually all sectors of the Mexican economy.
 - These reserves allowed Mexico to finance initiatives to reduce poverty and halt declining agricultural productivity.

Chapter 10

- c. These reserves resulted in Mexico becoming increasingly vulnerable to international economic fluctuations in the demand for and price of oil.
 - d. These reserves increased the power of privileged interest groups in Mexico and their ability to influence government policy.
21. Why was the 1985 earthquakes in Mexico City a watershed in Mexican politics?
- a. Groups learned that they could solve their problems better without the Mexican government than with it.
 - b. Armed militias who challenged the legitimacy of the government emerged.
 - c. The swift and efficient response of the Mexican government reinforced the legitimacy of the PRI.
 - d. The massive relief efforts of the United States helped to ease the tensions between the two states.
22. Between 1988 and 1994, PRI presidents introduced a series of reforms to liberalize the economy to end the country's traditional import substitution industrialization policy. Which of the following was NOT such a reform?
- a. The privatization of many state enterprises
 - b. Deregulation of the private sector
 - c. Mexican membership in NAFTA
 - d. The strengthening of Mexican federal system to give more authority to Mexico's traditionally weak central government to promote economic development
23. Today, Mexico's economic profile is quite distinct from many of its Latin American neighbors because of its
- a. continued heavy reliance on exports of agricultural products and raw materials.
 - b. growing manufacturing sector, including advanced industries like an aerospace industry.
 - c. continued reliance on import substitution industrialization and state capitalism.
 - d. declining GDP due to its participation in NAFTA.
24. Which of the following is NOT representative of the Mexican government's growing recognition of the importance of Mexican citizens working in other countries and the remittances they send back to Mexico?
- a. The passage of a 1996 law in Mexico allowing Mexicans to hold dual citizenship.
 - b. Mexican governors, mayors, and federal officials regularly visiting representatives of Mexican migrant groups in the United States.
 - c. The allowance of Mexicans living abroad to participate in Mexican federal elections.
 - d. The Mexican government's lobbying the U.S. government for immigration reform.
25. A term technocrat refers to
- a. a career-minded official who administers public policy according to a technical, rather than a political, rationale.
 - b. state-owned industries and semiautonomous agencies of the government.
 - c. the practice of rotating regional military commands so that generals could not build up geographic bases of power.
 - d. the symbolic importance of public ownership of key industries.
26. Which of the following about Mexico's environment is NOT true?
- a. One result of the country's pursuit of economic development and industrialization is that Mexico City is one of the most-polluted cities in the world.

Chapter 10

- b. Mexico's environmental movement has been hampered by the fact that the country lacks a tradition of conservation.
 - c. Mexico's membership in NAFTA has forced the country to undertake greater environmental oversight.
 - d. The country established an environmental ministry in 1994, signaling its recognition that environmental concerns were important to the government.
27. Which of the following is NOT true of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) as it relates to Mexico?
- a. The reduction of trade barriers has led to a more evenly balanced level of trade between Mexico and the United States.
 - b. Domestic producers worry about competition from U.S. firms.
 - c. It has meant that the fate of the Mexican economy has become increasingly tied to the health of the U.S. economy.
 - d. Free trade entails a loss of sovereignty for Mexico.
28. Members of the Chamber of Deputies are elected through
- a. a first-past-the-post elections in individual districts.
 - b. a system of proportional representation.
 - c. appointment by the Mexican president.
 - d. a combination of proportional representation and simple majority vote.
29. The term *sexenio* refers to the single six-year term in office of
- a. Mexican presidents governors, and the mayor of Mexico City.
 - b. Mexican presidents, senators, governors, and Congressional deputies.
 - c. Mexican presidents and governors, but not members of the Mexican legislature.
 - d. the Mexican President, but not other elected officials.
30. During the period of Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) dominance, the party's presidential candidate was selected
- a. through a primary election process.
 - b. through consultation with organizations that represented different segments of Mexican society.
 - c. through a caucus of party leaders.
 - d. through a decision made by the outgoing president.
31. Formal powers of the Mexican president include all of the following EXCEPT
- a. initiating legislation.
 - b. creating government agencies.
 - c. making policy through decree.
 - d. selecting his successor
32. Which of the following is NOT true about the Mexican cabinet?
- a. While Peña Nieto has followed PRI tradition to name some aides from his term as governor and PRI allies from key regions, he has broken with tradition to appoint members of the opposition to his cabinet.
 - b. It often consists of numerous members of the Mexican bureaucracy that have few political ties to the party in power.

Chapter 10

- c. While few women have been selected for ministry-level posts, several have recently served as Mexico's Foreign Minister and Attorney General.
 - d. Before 2000, the Mexican president usually appointed those with whom he had worked closely over the years.
33. Which of the following is NOT true about the Mexican president's power of appointment?
- a. The president's authority to appoint high-level officials allows him to provide policy direction.
 - b. The sheer number of positions that the president is able to appoint means that the beginning of each administration experiences a high level of turnover in political positions, which slows progress on the president's political agenda in the early part of his sexenio.
 - c. The president's authority to make appointments has been severely curtailed by the Mexican Congress as a means of making the policy-making process more democratic.
 - d. The president's power of appointment helps the president build a team of like-minded officials and secure their loyalty.
34. Which of these statements is NOT true about the Mexican bureaucracy?
- a. Although officials at lower levels of bureaucracy are ensured job security by legislation, those at the middle and upper levels serve only so long as their bosses have confidence in them.
 - b. The size of the federal bureaucracy is roughly equal to the size of the bureaucracies of state and local governments
 - c. About one-quarter of Mexico's bureaucracy is employed by its state-owned industries and semi-autonomous government agencies.
 - d. It has become a less attractive career due to the decreased power of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) and the increased power of the private sector in Mexico.
35. The term maquiladoras refers to
- a. factories that produce goods for export, often located along the Mexico-U.S. border.
 - b. charismatic populist leaders, usually with a military background.
 - c. a forceful, extra-constitutional action resulting in the removal of an existing government.
 - d. land granted by Mexican government to an organized group of peasants.
36. Which of the following is NOT true about Mexico's parastatal sector?
- a. The development of this sector came about in large part because of the government's post-1940 development strategy.
 - b. This sector has generally grown smaller since the 1980s due to economic policy reforms.
 - c. Some core components of the sector will likely remain in government hands for the foreseeable future.
 - d. This sector has been limited to industries involved in heavy manufacturing and the energy sector.
37. Which of the following is TRUE of the military in Mexico?
- a. The Mexican military became subordinate to civilian control in 1946 after it gained representation within the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI).
 - b. No military officer has held the presidency.
 - c. After the Mexican Revolution, the practice of rotating regional military commands so officers could not build geographic bases of power was introduced.
 - d. Mexican military leaders are prevented from engaging in business ventures so as to avoid corruption in the armed forces.

Chapter 10

38. When Mexican citizens feel their constitutional rights have been violated by specific government actions or laws and occasionally by Mexican courts to slow the actions of government, they may ask for a writ of
- a. security.
 - b. amparos.
 - c. habeas corpus.
 - d. constitutional complaint.
39. One of the most significant changes being made to the Mexican judiciary is the introduction of
- a. public trials with oral testimony and the presumption of innocence.
 - b. habeas corpus to prevent unlawful detention.
 - c. judicial review.
 - d. trial by jury.
40. Which of the following is NOT true of state and municipal governments in Mexico?
- a. Most municipal governments tend to rely upon funds from the central government.
 - b. Municipal and state governments suffered greatly from the lack of well-paid and well-trained public officials.
 - c. Many jobs in state and local governments are distributed through political patronage.
 - d. State and municipal governments have had a substantial level of authority in the Mexican federal system although this power is being threatened by federal efforts to centralize power to better fight local corruption.
41. In terms of its impact on the policy-making process, the sexenio
- a. makes the Mexican bureaucracy the focal point of policy formulation and the Mexican Congress the focal point of policy manager.
 - b. makes policy innovation less likely since the Mexican President is a lame duck from the start of his term of office.
 - c. makes it easy for the Mexican president to introduce extensive personnel changes upon coming to office in order to build a team of people who are motivated to carry out his policy goals.
 - d. made policy discontinuity impossible before 2000 due to the dominance of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) and its ideology within the Mexican political system.
42. Historically, Mexican citizens best interacted with their government through
- a. a variety of informal means.
 - b. interest-group lobbying.
 - c. elections.
 - d. political unrest and protest activity
43. The Mexican Congress has evolved from a rubber-stamp institution to one that must be negotiated with the executive branch due to
- a. rulings by the Mexican Supreme Court upholding Congress's role in the policy process.
 - b. the passage of constitutional amendments that strengthened the role of the Mexican Congress.
 - c. the loss by the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) of its stranglehold on congressional representation.
 - d. the growth of a recalcitrant public demanding more representation in the policy-making process.
44. Which of the following was NOT a measure adopted to make it easier for political parties to participate politically in Mexican politics?

Chapter 10

- a. The creation of an independent electoral commission
 - b. The establishment of public financing for all parties
 - c. Guaranteed access to the media for all parties
 - d. The imposition of term limits
45. The Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) was founded by a coalition of Mexican political elites who believed that
- a. it was better to work out their differences through a system of compromise rather than resorting to violence.
 - b. a mass party was necessary to confront the political influence of the Catholic Church.
 - c. the promotion of agrarian reform and the rights of workers was necessary if Mexico wanted to develop economically.
 - d. the formation of a mass party would better achieve democracy due to its corporate structures representing all class interests.
46. The Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) faced a difficult future beginning in the 21st century, because Mexican voters were more
- a. educated, urban, and older.
 - b. urban, middle-class, and younger.
 - c. rural, poor, and uneducated.
 - d. urban, poor, and older.
47. Historically, the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) was organized in a corporatist fashion in which the interests of certain social groups were represented through national organizations. Which of the following was NOT a group that was represented in the party's structure?
- a. Labor
 - b. Peasants
 - c. The Catholic Church
 - d. Public employees
48. The PRI's corporatist structure meant that the party
- a. integrated economic groups into its internal decision-making process.
 - b. was structured in an efficient and effective way, like a business corporation.
 - c. distributed public resources, such as jobs and land, through extended networks to lower-level activists who controlled votes at the local level.
 - d. acted as a referee in conflicts between Mexico's interest groups and between these groups and the Mexican government.
49. The National Action Party (PAN) has drawn most of its political support from the
- a. Gulf coast.
 - b. southern states.
 - c. northern states.
 - d. rural countryside.
50. The National Action Party (PAN) has traditionally run on a platform that includes
- a. less regional autonomy, greater regulation of business, and anticlericalism.

Chapter 10

- b. greater regional autonomy, less government intervention in the economy, and clean and fair elections.
 - c. support for private and religious education, less regional autonomy, and clean and fair elections.
 - d. greater regional autonomy, opposition to NAFTA, and support for private and religious education.
51. The factor that inhibits the electoral prospects of the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD) is
- a. the ability of the PRI and PAN to continuously appropriate its policies.
 - b. electoral fraud.
 - c. the inability of the party to win the control of any state or the Federal District in Mexico
 - d. factionalization within the party.
52. Which of the following may be a potential limit on the future role of the media in Mexican politics?
- a. The number of newspapers and news magazines is declining.
 - b. Many citizens lack access to global television networks.
 - c. Mexico's media outlets are increasingly coming under the control of the national government.
 - d. Violence and intimidation of reporters by drug cartels has limited the ability of the media to report on a key issue.
53. The Mexican political system's traditional response to important interest groups is generally characterized as
- a. pragmatic accommodation.
 - b. patron-clientelism.
 - c. hostile confrontation.
 - d. violent repression.

Essay

54. Explain how the PRI maintained control over Mexico for so long without facing significant challenges to its power. Describe several factors that helped to bring the end of the PRI's hegemonic position. Discuss the future of this party. Please cite specific examples in your answer.
55. Examine how Mexico's leaders have responded to the challenges of globalization. Discuss the policies they have adopted and assess their successfulness in preparing the country to compete in an increasingly complex global economy. Assess the impact of these policies on Mexico's domestic politics. Please cite specific examples in your argument.
56. Discuss the economic developments in Mexico that have had the greatest effects, both good and bad, on the country and its citizenry. Explain the degree government policy has affected such developments. Explain the degree to which they were shaped by outside forces. Please use specific examples in your answer.
57. Explain how, since the 1980s, the balance of power between the executive and legislature has shifted. Describe what accounts for these shifts. Explain the impact(s) these shifts have had upon the policy-making process in Mexico.
58. Compare and contrast Mexico's major political parties, including their supporters and policy platforms. Describe how they are similar and different. Explain the challenges facing these parties.

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Chapter 10

59. On paper, Mexico's political system resembles that of the United States, but, in practice, it differs quite significantly. Compare and contrast the Mexican political system with the U.S. political system. Discuss how it is similar and different.

60. Describe the major challenges facing Mexico today. Of these challenges, which do you think is the most pressing challenge?