

Chapter 1: The Study of American Government

Key Terms Match

Match the following terms and descriptions

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| 1. The ability of a person to cause another person to act in accordance with the first person's intentions | a. agenda setting |
| 2. A situation in which government bureaucracy thinks up problems for government to solve | b. benefit |
| 3. Political activity in which both benefits and costs are widely distributed | c. Aristotle |
| 4. Deciding what belongs on the political agenda | d. client politics |
| 5. Power when used to determine who will hold government office and how government will behave | e. authority |
| 6. Political activity in which one group benefits At the expense of many other people | f. cost |
| 7. Intended to force industries to clean up their own toxic wastes, but a good illustration of entrepreneurial politics | g. cost argument |
| 8. Political activity in which benefits are distributed, costs are concentrated | h. Do Not Call |
| 9. Political activity in which benefits are conferred on a distinct group and costs on another distinct group | i. entrepreneurial politics |
| 10. A sense of being worse off than one thinks one ought to be | j. bureaucratic theory |
| 11. Example of legislation pioneered in the states and replicated by the federal government | k. city-state |
| 12. A situation in which people are more sensitive to what they might lose than to what they might gain | l. interest-group politics |
| 13. People in and out of government who find ways of creating a legislative majority on behalf of interests not well represented in government | m. logrolling |
| 14. The right to exercise political power | n. majoritarian politics |
| 15. The widely shared perception that something or someone should be obeyed | o. policy entrepreneurs |
| 16. Conferring political authority on those selected by the voters in competitive elections | p. political agenda |
| | q. pork-barrel projects |
| | r. democracy |
| | s. professionalization of reform |

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| 17. Any satisfaction that people believe will derive if a policy is adopted | t. direct or participatory democracy |
| 18. An identifiable group of people with a disproportionate share of political power | u. elite (political) |
| 19. A relatively small political unit within which classical democracy was practiced | v. elitist theory |
| 20. The perceived burden to be borne if a policy is adopted | w. Hamilton |
| 21. Mutual aid among politicians, whereby one legislator supports another's pet project in return for the latter's support | x. Superfund |
| 22. A set of issues thought by the public or those in power to merit action by government | y. relative deprivation |
| 23. Legislation that gives tangible benefits to constituents in the hope of winning their votes | z. legitimacy |
| 24. A philosopher who defined democracy as the "rule of the many" | aa. New England town meeting |
| 25. An individual who worried the new government he helped to create would be too democratic | bb. pluralist theory |
| 26. A sociologist who emphasized the phenomenon of bureaucracy in explaining political developments | cc. political power |
| 27. A North American approximation of direct or participatory democracy | dd. power |
| 28. A theory that no one interest group consistently holds political power | ee. representative democracy |
| 29. A theory that appointed civil servants make the key governing decisions | ff. Weber |
| 30. A term used to describe three different political systems in which the people are said to rule, directly or indirectly | |
| 31. A political system in which all or most citizens participate directly by either holding office or making policy | |
| 32. A theory that few top leaders make the key decisions without reference to the popular desires | |

PRACTICING FOR EXAMS

True/False Questions

Read each statement carefully. Mark true statements *T*. If any part of the statement is false, mark it *F*, and write in the space provided a concise explanation of why the statement is false.

1. T F Politics exists in part because people differ about who should govern and the ends toward which they work.

2. T F Federal income taxes were higher in 1935 than they are today.

3. T F Most people holding political power in the United States today are middle-class, middle-aged, white Protestant males.

4. T F Constitutional amendments giving rights to African-Americans and women passed by large majorities.

5. T F It is easy to discern political power at work.

6. T F The text suggests that, increasingly, matters that were once considered "public" become "private," and beyond the scope of governmental action.

7. T F The Founders deliberately arranged things so that it would be difficult to pass a new law.

8. T F Much of American political history has been a struggle over what constitutes legitimate authority.

9. T F Alexander Hamilton worried that the new government would not be democratic enough.

10. T F Aristotle thought of democracy as the "rule of the many."

11. T F Everyone in an ancient Greek city-state was eligible to participate in government.

12. T F The New England town meeting approximates the Aristotelian ideal.

13. T F Some writers of the Constitution opposed democracy on the grounds that the people would be unable to make wise decisions.

14. T F Democracy, as used in this book, refers to the rule of the many.

15. T F The Framers of the Constitution did not think that the "will of the people" was synonymous with the "public good."
16. T F Interest-group politics often produce decisions about which the public is uninformed.
17. T F The Brady Bill requires background checks on gun buyers before they can purchase a firearm.
18. T F Majoritarian politics probably influence relatively few issues in this country.
19. T F Policy entrepreneurs are outside of government.
20. T F One theory about elite rule includes corporate, governmental, and media chiefs, key politicians, and labor officials in the power elite.
21. T F Weber assigned a significant amount of power to appointed officials in the bureaucracies of modern governments.
22. T F Weber felt that bureaucrats merely implemented public policies that are made by elected officials.
23. T F Pluralists deny the existence of elites.
24. T F The bureaucratic view does the most to reassure one that America has been, and continues to be, a democracy in more than name only.
25. T F The expansion of government has been the result, fundamentally, of a non-partisan process.
26. T F Ralph Nader is a well-known example of a policy entrepreneur.
27. T F Congressional action has been the preferred vehicle for advocates of unpopular causes.
28. T F The bureaucracy reacts to policy, but is not a source of policy.
29. T F Somewhat contrary to the intent of the Framers, the House of Representatives has become a source of significant political change.
30. T F Increasingly, the actions of state governments are irrelevant to national policy-making.
31. T F Conflicts between rival interest groups are not nearly so important in majoritarian politics.