

MATCHING: Match the description on the left with the term that it best corresponds with.

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|---|------------------------------|
| 1. The ideas and attitudes a significant number of Americans hold about government and political issues | |
| 2. A party's statement of purpose | a. political efficacy |
| 3. The course of action the government takes in response to a particular issue or concern | b. political policy |
| 4. The set of values and beliefs about a nation and its government that most citizens share | c. public opinion |
| 5. Refers to an individual's feelings of effectiveness in politics | d. political culture |
| | e. ideology |

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the answer that best completes each statement.

6. All of the following are basic elements of the U.S. political *EXCEPT* ____.
- a. liberty
 - b. democracy
 - c. individualism
 - d. civic duty
 - e. economic equality
7. What was the Swedish sociologist Gunnar Myrdal referring to when he spoke of "America's dilemma" ____.
- a. affluence
 - b. race relations
 - c. corporate ignorance
 - d. political ignorance
 - e. economic disparities
8. Political conflict can occur over specific policies even among those who share common beliefs. One reason for this is that ____.
- a. political culture typically takes precedence over political ideology
 - b. a unitarian political system allows little room for compromise
 - c. our interpretations of these common beliefs are also alike
 - d. many political values are irrelevant to specific controversies
 - e. ideology is rarely a feature of political conflict
9. Which of the following statements about economic equality applies *most* accurately to Americans ____?
- a. Most Americans believe that all people should be paid on the basis of their economic needs: "equality of results."
 - b. Most Americans believe that everyone has the right to get ahead: "equality of opportunity."
 - c. Most Americans believe in the preferential treatment of women and minorities in hiring: "equality of wealth."
 - d. Most Americans believe in the idea of having a top limit on what people can earn: "equality of wealth."
 - e. Most Americans believe that citizens who participate in politics should have guaranteed income: "equality of participants."
10. According to polls, which of the groups below are Americans most willing to help ____.
- a. People on welfare
 - b. Feminist groups seeking preferential hiring programs
 - c. The elderly
 - d. Recent immigrants
 - e. Civil rights groups seeking preferential hiring programs

11. In American political culture, the ____ view of social is by far the most popular.

- a. individualist
- b. collectivist
- c. accountability
- d. conservative
- e. traditionalist

12. Compared with Americans, Japanese are *more* likely to ____.

- a. stress social harmony and group cohesion in their social relations
- b. emphasize the virtues of individualism and competition in social relations
- c. emphasize the virtue of treating others fairly but impersonally, with due regard for their rights
- d. rely on individual decision making rather than decisions made by groups
- e. believe in a divine being

13. A classic study of American and Swedish trade-union and political-party leaders found that Americans were

- a. less likely to favor equal pay for workers.
- b. less likely to favor top limit on salaries.
- c. more likely to support higher disparities in salaries.
- d. more likely to favor equality of opportunity
- e. All of the above.

14. There is, in fact, less income inequality in Sweden than in America because

- a. workers there are more similar to their talents.
- b. employers have different notions of economic fairness.
- c. the government ensures that it is so.
- d. education levels are much lower in Sweden.
- e. political parties are stronger in the United States.

15. Research finds that religious persons are *more* likely than secular persons to

- a. donate money to charity.
- b. volunteer their time.
- c. give money and time nonreligious organizations.
- d. All of the above.
- e. None of the above.

16. Which group attracted an enormous amount of media attention and became a prominent force in many national, state, and local elections during the 1990s?

- a. Great Beginnings
- b. Prohibitionists
- c. Spiritual Awakening
- d. Hyper-Dispensationalists
- e. the Christian Coalition

17. The relevance and potential impact of religion in American politics were evident in 2002 when a federal court issued a controversial ruling regarding

- a. prayer in schools.
- b. the use of the Bible in high school literature classes.
- c. the Pledge of Allegiance.
- d. the singing of "God Bless America."
- e. All of the above.

18. The text suggests that Americans have a "preoccupation" with

- a. law.
- b. rights.
- c. order.
- d. conflict.
- e. commerce.

19. Which statement is *incorrect*?

- a. The Federalists were led by Hamilton and Adams.
- b. The Democratic-Republicans were led by Jefferson and Madison.
- c. The Federalists passed laws to suppress journalists favorable to Jefferson.
- d. The Federalists and the Democratic-Republicans deeply distrusted one another.
- e. The Federalists sought to repeal laws that suppressed journalists favorable to Jefferson.

20. The notion that individuals should work hard, save their money, and avoid dependence on the state is sometimes referred to as the

- a. Protestant (work) ethic.
- b. blue-collar ethic.
- c. doctrine of social Darwinism.
- d. evolutionary principle.
- e. labor theory of value.

21. Churches in the United States were important in the development of the sense of civic duty and civic competence because they

- a. indoctrinated citizens to favor the status quo.
- b. were in a continuous struggle for survival.
- c. provided the major opportunity for citizens to express their political views.
- d. were independent of most political pressures.
- e. were organized much like a political system.

22. The *most* important source of political values in the United States is probably

- a. the mass media.
- b. the family.
- c. religion.
- d. public schools.
- e. local newspapers.

23. One aspect of the American family that contributes to the way Americans regard their political system is the

- a. emphasis in the American family on group harmony.
- b. relatively small degree of freedom found in American families.
- c. emphasis in the American family on respect for authority.
- d. tendency of families to disagree about matters that is most personal.
- e. large measures of equality among American family members.

24. Tales of youngsters who started out poor but became rich by determination and hard work are associated with the writings of

- a. Kurt Vonnegut.
- b. F. Scott Fitzgerald.
- c. Horatio Alger.
- d. Ernest Hemingway.
- e. Mark Twain.

25. Most conspicuous among the orthodox are

- a. conservative persons from the Midwest.
- b. Catholics.
- c. fundamentalist Protestants.
- d. labor leaders.
- e. members of the Hollywood elite.

26. The culture war is about

- a. which ethnic group governs.
- b. what kind of country were ought to live in.
- c. how much money should be spend on social programs.
- d. the ethnic of foreign policy.
- e. which groups deserve to influence policy.

27. Alan Abramowitz suggest that the culture war might be more real than imagined because people are increasingly choosing their party affiliation on the basis of
- issues.
 - income.
 - completion.
 - social background characteristics.
 - advertising.
28. Although the proportion of people who say they trust the government in Washington to do the right thing has steadily declined since the 1950s, it should be remembered that
- surveys on this particularly topic are notoriously unreliable.
 - the numbers were even lower in the 1920s.
 - more was expected of the government in the 1950s.
 - they are talking about government officials, not the system of government.
 - the proportion of people who trusted the government was never very high.
29. The percentage of Americans who say that they have a lot of confidence in Congress typically
- quite large.
 - around sixty-five.
 - around fifty.
 - almost forty.
 - fairly low.
30. Putnam worried that Americans might be losing social capital because
- they are increasingly likely to complain about government.
 - they are less likely to participate in major elections.
 - they have high levels for external political efficacy.
 - they are less and less likely to join voluntary associations.
 - they are a nation of “joiners.”
31. Studies show that Americans support constitutional freedoms under what conditions?
- Only for people who agree with them
 - During times of peace, but not necessarily during war
 - In the abstract, but not always in the concrete
 - For all groups at all times
 - In the aftermath of war
32. The text argues that a lack of consensus regarding which groups ought to be repressed has led to
- a breakdown of consensual social values.
 - the survival of unpopular political causes.
 - a large increase in the number of free-speech court cases.
 - an erosion of First Amendment freedoms.
 - reinterpretation of the Protestant work ethic.
33. According to Wilson and DiIulio, the “culture war” in America “is about what kind of country we ought to live in, not just about what kinds of policies our government ought to adopt.” Which of the following is NOT a major source of cultural disagreement in America?
- abortion
 - legal rights of homosexuals
 - legalization or decriminalization of drugs
 - federal funding for the arts
 - socialism and communism
34. Which of the following statements best describes the trend in Americans’ trust in government?
- Americans have had a high level of trust in government officials since World War II
 - Americans now trust government officials more than they did during the 1950s
 - Beginning with the Watergate scandal, there has been a steady decline in Americans’ trust in government officials
 - Americans’ trust in government officials has declined at a fairly steady rate since the 1950s
 - Americans’ trust in government officials drops in wartime and rises in peacetime

35. All of the following are true about political tolerance in America EXCEPT
- a. Americans are more tolerant of members of different religious groups than they are of atheists
 - b. lawyers and judges are more tolerant of specific political activities than most citizens are
 - c. Americans are willing to allow many people with whom they disagree to participate in the political process
 - d. Americans have become more tolerant over the years
 - e. Americans will support liberties for all groups both in theory and in practice
36. Author Robert Putnam argues that American social capital is decreasing. How might this trend impact the United States?
- a. Americans will become more cooperative and lose their spirit of individualism.
 - b. Americans will join more volunteer groups and provide important services in their communities.
 - c. The decrease in capital will result in less money for state agencies.
 - d. Fewer citizens will join groups, and people will be less involved in their communities.
 - e. People will move away from large cities into less crowded suburbs.
37. Alexis de Tocqueville's notable visit to the United States was prompted by the desire to study ____.
- a. farming
 - b. prisons
 - c. the legislative process
 - d. campaigns and elections
 - e. both c and d
38. A political culture exists where ____.
- a. there is a distinctive and patterned way of thinking about political economic life
 - b. the demographics of a nation suggest the presence of a fairly homogeneous group
 - c. a constitution creates an orderly society
 - d. there is a large amount of agreement among the public
 - e. there is elite guidance in matters related to politics
39. In a classic study of the political beliefs and attitudes of children, American children were more likely to argue that a president who was pulled over for speeding would be ____.
- a. warned
 - b. reprimanded
 - c. let off completely
 - d. fined or ticketed
 - e. impeached
40. Some have argued that democracy flourished early in America because of ____.
- a. the lack of national army
 - b. strict immigration
 - c. low population levels
 - d. moderate temperatures
 - e. the availability of land
41. Liberty and individualism are two key elements of ____.
- a. all Western democracies
 - b. all twentieth-century nations
 - c. most nations throughout history
 - d. U.S. political culture
 - e. European nations during the 1700s

ESSAYS: CHOOSE 1 of the following 2.

1. How does American political culture differ with what many West European nations—for example, Sweden—with respect to beliefs about the economic system?
2. Thomas Jefferson's opinion that "if we're going to have a successful democratic society, we have to have a well-educated and healthy citizenry." Jefferson believed that for American style democracy to work, citizens need to understand civics and fulfill their civic duty. A recent survey shows that only 24 percent of twelfth graders scored proficient or higher in civics. To address this lack of civics knowledge and to fulfill the value of our civic duty, should 40 hours of community service be required to graduate high school?