The process by which one learns political beliefs and values is called
A) socialization.          D) rationalization.
B) anticipated reactions.  E) latency.
C) political efficacy

Research from the 1950s and 1960s usually concluded that the most important socializing agent was
A) the family.
B) the workplace.
C) school.
D) the political party in power during a voter's teenage years.
E) religious institutions

According to the law of anticipated reactions,
A) politicians react to public opinion even if it's latent or silent.
B) political parties try to gauge what the opposition is doing to win political contests.
C) when politicians assume they know how people will vote, they often make mistakes.
D) people believe they can make a difference in politics by expressing an opinion or acting politically.
E) policy makers can avoid unintended consequences with careful planning.

Most often we measure public opinion
A) by looking at a society's education levels.
B) by taking surveys.
C) by creating large focus groups
D) by examining a person's political efficacy.
E) All of the above

Studies show that the media's effects on public opinion
A) can decisively sway voters one way or another.
B) are only marginal effects on preexisting views.
C) are the key determinants in voting.
D) are growing significantly.
E) are overwhelmingly negative.

The error that results from using a small group to estimate the characteristics of a larger population is called
A) sampling error.          D) construction error.
B) grouping error.         E) None of the above
C) loading.

The aggregation of people's views about issues, situations, and public figures is called
A) media coverage.          D) public strategy.
B) single views.           E) political socialization.
C) public opinion

Political efficacy is defined as
A) the belief that the citizen can make a difference in politics by expressing an opinion or acting politically.
B) the beliefs passed down from one generation to another.
C) the ability of one person to analyze public opinion.
D) the acquisition of one’s political beliefs.
E) the belief that expressed political beliefs can effect policy.

Higher education is associated with
A) less tolerant attitudes.                      D) opposition to business interests.
B) more tolerant attitudes.                    E) opposition to government.
    C) opposition to labor issues.
The chance variation that arises in public opinion surveys as a result of using a representative but small sample to estimate the characteristics of a larger population is called a(n)

A) strategy poll.
B) sample projection.
C) sampling error.
D) exit poll.
E) political efficacy.

Sampling error deals with _______; selection bias deals with _______; and measurement error deals with ________.

A) which people you ask; the number of people you ask; the questions you ask
B) focus groups; polls; turnout
C) the number of people you ask; which people you ask; the questions you ask
D) polls; turnout; focus groups
E) turnout; focus groups; polls

Surprising as it may seem, a poll of as few as ________ people can provide an accurate picture of national public opinion.

A) 500  B) 100  C) 1500  D) 2000  E) 10,000

Selection bias is defined as

A) the distortion caused when a sampling method systematically includes or excludes people with certain attitudes from the sample.
B) instances when the control sample is used incorrectly.
C) an instance when the results prove that the original method used was invalid.
D) an instance when the sample to be questioned is chosen randomly.
E) all of the above

Measurement error is defined as

A) the error that arises from attempting to measure something as subjective as opinion.
B) an unexplained error in the sample used.
C) error that results from asking too few people to participate in the poll.
D) a mistake in polls' statistical analysis.
E) the lack of a random sample.

Most Americans’ political views are

A) ideological.  D) a reflection of deeply held beliefs.
B) uninformed.  E) unstable.
C) consistent

The right to vote is also called the


By world standards, American voter turnout is

A) quite high.  D) low.
B) about average.  E) the highest.
C) little different from other democracies.
Efforts by party activists and interest groups to turn out potential supporters is called

Of the following, the strongest predictor of voter turnout is
A) income. D) place of residence/region.
B) gender. E) ethnicity.
C) Age

Who determines voter eligibility?
A) Congress D) the states
B) the federal bureaucracy E) local governments
C) the President

The elitist argument that low voter turnout is not a problem argues that
A) nonvoters are less educated and less informed and so would not cast intelligent ballots.
B) those who do not vote are satisfied with the system.
C) only the enthusiastic should vote.
D) registration is the cause of low turnout.
E) nonvoters are less likely to have money to contribute to campaigns.

In 1920 the Woman's suffrage movement successfully passed which Amendment, granting women the vote?
A) Eleventh D) Nineteenth C) Sixth
B) Twentieth E) Fifth

In the United States, voter registration is
B) automatic. D) complicated.
C) the responsibility of the individual. E) not legally required.
D) the responsibility of the community.

Elections in America are usually held on

One contributor to a good election turnout is
A) a competitive election. B) a younger population.
C) an unknown issue. D) more media coverage.
E) an increase in absentee voting.

Highly educated people
A) are less likely to vote.
B) are significantly more likely to vote.
C) are known for not paying attention to politics.
D) hinder the process.
E) oppose extending the right to vote to others.

Individuals will contribute their time and money to an interest group if
A) they are paid to do so.
B) they can write off the contribution on their taxes.
C) the expected benefit they receive outweighs the costs.
D) they can afford the membership dues.
E) None of the above

One of the most common ways that interest groups attempt to influence government officials is through
A) lobbying.  B) bribery.  C) coercion.
D) disinformation.  E) running candidates.

Which groups are most represented by PACs?
A) labor groups
B) business groups
C) citizen groups
D) governments
E) environmental groups

The largest voluntary association in America is
A) the National Rifle Association (NRA).
B) the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).
C) the American Medical Association (AMA).
D) the Chamber of Commerce.
E) Common Cause.

An organization or association of people with common interests that engages in political behavior on behalf of its members is known as a(n)
A) interest group.  D) city council.
B) community.  E) None of the above
C) club.

Many Americans participate indirectly in politics by joining or supporting
A) interest groups.  B) political caucuses.  C) political parties.  D) voting groups.  E) issue groups.

James Q. Wilson divides incentives into three main categories that include
A) time, money, and resources.
B) solidary, material, and purposive.
C) energetic, individual, and constructive.
D) money, energetic, and constructive
E) resources, purpose and solidary

The free-rider problem is defined as
A) obtaining a goal with little investment.
B) a problem that arises when people can enjoy the benefits of group activity without bearing any of the costs.
C) an interest group that wants to undermine the common good.
D) providing your opinion free of charge.
E) None of the above

2. Public goods are defined as
A) goods enjoyed simultaneously by a group, as opposed to a private good that must be divided up
to be shared.
B) goods paid for with public funds.
C) goods sold on the public market.
D) all goods sold to the public.
E) All of the above

3. Specific private goods that an organization provides only to its contributing members are called
   A) selective benefits.
   B) company benefits.
   C) individual contributions.

4. Interest-group activity intended to influence directly the decisions that public officials make is called
   A) lobbying.
   B) government.
   C) social engineering.

Organizations that focus on raising money to spend on political campaigns are called
   A) political action committees (PACs).
   B) lobbying firms.
   C) interest groups.

The modern civil rights movement followed a
   D) litigation strategy.
   E) direct action strategy.
   F) media campaign strategy.

Pluralists believe that politics in America should consist of
   A) a handful of lobbyist who are accountable only to Congress.
   B) a competition of groups representing a variety of interests.
   C) majority factions.
   D) individual involvement, without interest groups.
   E) None of the above

Traditionally, political parties have been defined as
   A) organizations or associations that engage in politics on behalf of their members.
   B) groups that have broad-based demands for government action on some problem or issue.
   C) groups of like-minded people who band together to take control of government.
   D) specialized organizations for raising and contributing election funds.
   E) groups who pressure government for policy changes.

Every four years, parties write a statement of their positions on the major issues of the time. These are called
   A) platforms.
   B) positions.
   C) talking points.
   D) rhetoric.
   E) political statements.

Support for independent and third party candidates generally _______ closer to the election.
   A) increases
B) declines
C) becomes more vocal
D) becomes more bitter
E) becomes an issue of party loyalty

By the end of the Civil War and Reconstruction period, political party organizations in large cities were referred to as
A) machines.
B) failing.
C) Democrats.
D) stellar.
E) progressive.

When one party holds the presidency but does not control both houses of Congress it is called
A) divided government.
B) unified government.
C) split government.
D) controlled chaos.
E) None of the above

In 1854-1856 a new party, _______, displaced the Whigs as the second major party in the system.
F) the Democrats
G) the Independents
H) the Progressives
I) the Greens
J) the Republicans

A highly organized party, run by a “boss,” that uses patronage to build power and control government is called a
A) machine.  B) company.  C) focus group.  D) mafia.  E) None of the above

This is a method of choosing party candidates that allows voters instead of party leaders to choose nominees for office.
K) General election
L) Direct primary election
M) Run-off election
N) Special election
O) Substitute election

An electoral system in which the candidate who wins the most votes in each district is elected, is called
A) a single-member, simple plurality (SMSP) system.
B) a proportional representation system.
C) a divided government.
D) a national convention.
E) a realignment.

Deciding what is newsworthy, and thus important, is also known as
A) agenda setting.
B) selection bias.
C) equal time.
D) policymaking.
E) journalistic bias.
News covered on television or in the newspaper tends to be
A) negative.  
B) positive.  
C) encouraging.  
D) about the status quo.  
E) realistic.  

The media tends to focus on ______________ during political campaigns.
A) issues and problems  
B) Congress  
C) facts and statistics  
D) personalities  
E) events

When the media emphasizes certain issues such as the economy during an election, the public tends to judge candidates on those issues. This is called
A) persuasion.  
B) priming.  
C) selection bias.  
D) pack journalism.  
E) framing

Means of communication that are widely affordable and technologically capable of reaching a broad audience are called
A) mass media. 
B) paid media. 
C) free media. 
D) broadcast media. 
E) private media.

When Europeans first established colonies in North America, the only communications technology available was what?
A) Television  
B) Radio  
C) Printing press 
D) Morse code  
E) Post office

Radio flourished after the end of which era or event?
A) World War I  
B) Herbert Hoover's presidency  
C) Franklin Delano Roosevelt's presidency  
D) World War II  
E) the Civil War

Which development in U.S. radio had implications for future mass media?
A) the importance of advertising  
B) the emergence of national networks  
C) the licensing system  
D) All of the above  
E) None of the above

The FCC is
A) the Federal Communications Commission.  
B) the Free Commerce Clause.  
C) the Federal Call for Communication.  
D) the Federal Communications Call.
E) the Free Clause of Communication.

When Americans hear the term “media” they generally think of what?
A) newspapers   B) television   C) magazines   D) blogs   E) the Internet

Talk radio has ___________ since the 1980s.
A) grown significantly   B) declined significantly   C) not really changed
D) stagnated because of the fairness doctrine   E) decreased in popularity

Cable and satellite TV, e-mail, and the Internet—the media that have grown out of the technological advances of the past few decades—are collectively referred to as
A) technomedia.
B) mass media.
C) new media.
D) i-media.
E) None of the above

The majority of Americans _________________ in order to learn about national politics.
A) watch television   B) read the newspaper   C) listen to the radio   D) read magazines   E) surf the Internet

A growing fundraising strategy for political candidates is
A) grassroots lobbying.   B) public speaking appearances.   C) soliciting online contributions.
D) direct mail.   E) door-to-door solicitation.

The way in which opinions about an issue can be altered by emphasizing or de-emphasizing particular facets of the issue is known as

In recent decades, the media
A) has become more fair and balanced.   D) All of the above
B) has become less and less important to our daily lives.   E) None of the above
C) has become more negative in tone.

A preliminary election in which all registered party voters are eligible to select a party's nominee is called a(n)
A) caucus.   B) primary.   C) mandate.   D) elector.   E) None of the above

Caucus participants of both parties
A) are unrepresentative of the general population.
B) tend to be less ideological than the general population.
C) tend to have less education than the general population.
D) largely come from low-income groups.
E) None of the above
Campaign advertising focuses increasingly on
A) negative ads.
B) the issues.
C) the benefits of a given candidate.

D) domestic affairs.
E) foreign affairs.
The Electoral College
   A) votes to determine who will become the nation's president.
   B) has the same number of electors as there are House seats.
   C) always chooses the candidate who wins the popular vote.
   D) casts votes for president but not for vice president.
   E) All of the above

When it comes to the economy, the voters tend to
   A) blame the party in the White House if the economy is doing poorly.
   B) blame the party in control of Congress if the economy is doing poorly.
   C) support the party in the White House if the economy is doing poorly.
   D) support the party in the Congress if the economy is doing poorly.
   E) None of the above (there is no consistent response by voters to a poor economy)

Primary elections and caucuses are ways in which
   A) delegates to national conventions are chosen. D) the president is nominated.
   B) state representatives are chosen. E) Democrats are chosen.
   C) superdelegates are chosen.

People who regularly participate in politics, who are more extreme in their views, and who tend to focus on certain issues and candidates more than the average American, are called
What do Rutherford Hayes, Benjamin Harrison, and George W. Bush have in common?

A) They each won a presidential election by winning the Electoral College vote, while losing the popular vote.
B) They each were chosen to be superdelegates.
C) They each won the popular vote but lost in the Electoral College.
D) The each won a plurality in each of the 40 least populated states, which together included only 43 percent of the U.S. population, but won a majority of the Electoral College and became president.
E) They each won 49 percent of the popular vote but 70 percent of the electoral vote because of the winner-take-all system.

One way political parties clarify and simplify presidential elections is by
a) restricting information about the candidates.
b) nominating candidates, so that there is only one representative from each party running for president.
c) lying about the candidates.
d) controlling all of the media coverage of the candidates.
e) All of the above

The major, though not exclusive, means of nominating the presidential candidates between 1796 and 1824 was what?

a) Congressional caucus
b) Congressional primary
c) General election
D) White primary
E) Closed primary

In 1860 the Republican Party presidential candidate was

a) Abraham Lincoln.
b) George Washington.
c) Alexander Hamilton.
D) John Jay.
E) George McClellan

2. Caucuses differ from primaries in which of the following ways?
   1. The rules are more complicated.
   2. They take longer to complete.
   3. They require participants to make their preference known publicly.
   4. They have smaller turnout.
   5. All of the above

3. FECA refers to
   3. Free Election Cash Always.
   5. None of the above
4. Certain Democratic party leaders—members of the U.S. House and Senate, governors, members of the national committee—are considered automatic or ex-officio delegates to the national convention. These people are called
   1. superdelegates.
   2. illuminati.
   3. elitists.
   4. party bosses.
   5. None of the above

5. In 2008, what was the maximum contribution an individual could make to a presidential candidate?
   1. $1000
   2. $2,300
   3. $1500
   4. $1800
   5. $5,000

6. The period before a single primary or caucus occurs is called
   1. the invisible primary.
   2. the preliminary primary.
   3. the invisible caucus.
   4. the preliminary elections.
   5. None of the above

7. The first caucus in the United States presidential election cycle is held in
   1. New York.
   2. New Hampshire.
   3. Iowa.
   4. Illinois.
   5. Missouri.

8. The first primary in the United States presidential election cycle is held in
   1. New Hampshire.
   2. Texas.
   3. California.
   5. Nevada.

9. Political concerns about the primary system include that
   1. by empowering political activists, the primary system leads to more polarized candidates.
   2. primaries weaken political parties.
   3. primaries do not really empower citizens.
   4. All of the above
   5. None of the above

10. If no candidate wins a majority of the electoral votes in the Electoral College, the president is chosen by
    1. a new popular vote.
    2. the Senate.
    3. the House of Representatives.
    4. the Supreme Court.
    5. None of the above

11. What is the smallest number of Electoral College votes a state may have?
5. Grassroots lobbying refers to
   A) inside-the-beltway persuasion.
   B) trying to get officials’ attention and change their minds by getting their constituents to take action.
   C) specialized strategies for raising and spending campaign funds to influence office holders.
   D) intense citizen support of government policies.
   E) appeals to the established media for help.

6. Organizations that focus on raising money to spend on political campaigns are called
   A) political action committees (PACs).
   B) lobbying firms.
   C) interest groups.
   D) issue networks.
   E) single-issue groups.

7. The modern civil rights movement followed a
   A) litigation strategy.
   B) direct action strategy.
   C) media campaign strategy.
   D) grassroots lobbying strategy.
   E) militant strategy.

Pluralists believe that politics in America should consist of
   A) a handful of lobbyist who are accountable only to Congress.
   B) a competition of groups representing a variety of interests.
   C) majority factions.
   D) individual involvement, without interest groups.
   E) None of the above