

AP[®] U.S. Government and Politics Exam

SECTION I: Multiple-Choice Questions

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

At a Glance

Total Time
45 minutes
Number of Questions
60
Percent of Total Grade
50%
Writing Instrument
Pencil required

Instructions

Section I of this examination contains 60 multiple-choice questions. Fill in only the ovals for numbers 1 through 60 on your answer sheet.

Indicate all of your answers to the multiple-choice questions on the answer sheet. No credit will be given for anything written in this exam booklet, but you may use the booklet for notes or scratch work. After you have decided which of the suggested answers is best, completely fill in the corresponding oval on the answer sheet. Give only one answer to each question. If you change an answer, be sure that the previous mark is erased completely. Here is a sample question and answer.

Sample Question

Chicago is a
(A) state
(B) city
(C) country
(D) continent
(E) village

Sample Answer

(A) ● (C) (D) (E)

Use your time effectively, working as quickly as you can without losing accuracy. Do not spend too much time on any one question. Go on to other questions and come back to the ones you have not answered if you have time. It is not expected that everyone will know the answers to all the multiple-choice questions.

About Guessing

Many candidates wonder whether or not to guess the answers to questions about which they are not certain. Multiple choice scores are based on the number of questions answered correctly. Points are not deducted for incorrect answers, and no points are awarded for unanswered questions. Because points are not deducted for incorrect answer, you are encouraged to answer all multiple-choice questions. On any questions you do not know the answer to, you should eliminate as many choices as you can, and then select the best answer among the remaining choices.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Section I

Time—45 minutes

60 Questions

Directions: Each of the questions of incomplete statements below is followed by five suggested answers or completions. Select the one that is best in each case and then fill in the corresponding oval on the answer sheet.

1. Which of the following statements is LEAST true of voters in federal, state, and local elections?
 - (A) Voter turnout is lower in midterm elections than it is in presidential elections.
 - (B) Voters lacking party affiliation tend to vote less regularly than those with strong party affiliation.
 - (C) Young adults are less likely to vote than senior citizens.
 - (D) College educated individuals tend to vote more often than those with less than a high school education.
 - (E) Individuals are more likely to vote when they believe they know which candidate will win an election.
2. A presidential veto would most likely be overturned in which of the following situations?
 - (A) Approximately 30% of the senators and representatives are members of the President's political party.
 - (B) The majority of American citizens support the proposed legislation.
 - (C) The chief justice of the Supreme Court was appointed by the president.
 - (D) The president's successful reelection campaign advocated bipartisanship.
 - (E) Before being sent to the president, the bill was adopted by narrow margins in both houses of Congress.

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Questions 3-4 are based on the table below.

**General Election Exit Poll Data
(by percentage)**

	2000			2004			2008		
	D	R	I	D	R	I	D	R	I
Gender									
Male	39	48	13	47	43	10	42	48	10
Female	54	38	8	58	38	4	60	32	8
Race									
White	34	48	18	38	48	14	42	48	10
Black	62	25	13	63	20	17	66	24	10
Hispanic	74	20	6	72	21	7	66	28	6
Asian	48	45	7	45	48	7	49	49	2
Other	59	36	5	52	40	8	51	48	1
Education									
High school	58	40	2	60	39	1	63	35	2
Trade school	48	40	12	52	42	6	55	40	5
College	44	50	6	50	45	5	50	43	7
Post-Baccalaureate	38	62	0	40	59	1	41	57	4
Age									
18-24	66	24	10	70	26	4	73	23	4
25-44	63	29	8	68	25	7	71	19	10
45-64	49	43	7	55	44	1	58	40	2
65 and older	42	55	3	45	54	1	40	59	1
Region									
East	45	42	13	48	48	4	49	48	3
Midwest	52	35	13	50	42	8	51	39	10
South	39	55	6	35	60	5	32	62	6
West	70	24	6	72	20	8	75	18	7

3. Which of the following conclusions is most supported by the table above?
 - (A) Hispanic voters were more likely to vote Republican than they were Democratic.
 - (B) The majority of voters in the West voted Republican in all three elections.
 - (C) Half as many females voted independently in 2000 than they did in 2004.
 - (D) In all years, voters age 18-24 were more likely to vote Democratic than Republican.
 - (E) The majority of voters who attended trade school were more likely to vote Republican in 2008.

4. Which of the following can be inferred from the table above?
 - (A) White voters were most supportive of independent candidates in 2004.
 - (B) In all elections, the majority of voters age 45-64 voted Republican.
 - (C) The Democratic base in the West grew consistently from 2000 to 2008.
 - (D) Voters age 65 and older were less likely to vote for an independent candidate in 2008 than they were in 2004.
 - (E) Male voters typically voted Democratic in the period 2000-2008.

5. Which of the following is generally understood to be the purpose of the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution?
 - (A) It allows for trial by jury in common-law cases.
 - (B) It grants voting rights to all American women.
 - (C) It lowers the legal voting age from 21 to 18.
 - (D) It prohibits excessive bail in federal cases.
 - (E) It reserves powers to the states.

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Federal Domestic Assistance Programs (FDAP)

Year	Total FDAP Grants (Billions of \$)	FDAP Grants as a Percentage of State & Municipal Budgets	Department of Health & Human Services Grants (Part of FDAP)	
			Grants (Billions of \$)	As a Percentage of FDAP Grants
1972	195.3	14.6	35.1	18.0
1982	182.1	22.0	30.0	16.5
1992	175.8	30.8	37.1	21.1
2002	380.7	19.8	108.3	28.4
2012	512.4	25.0	156.2	30.5

6. Which of the following conclusions can be drawn from the table above?
- The share of FDAP grants allocated to the Department of Health & Human Services increased between 1982 and 2002.
 - FDAP grants comprised a larger share of state & municipal budgets in 1992 than in 1972.
 - The amount of money allocated for FDAP grants increased from 1972 to 1992.
- (A) I only
(B) II only
(C) I and II only
(D) II and III only
(E) I, II, and III
7. When an appeal is made to the Supreme Court, the Court usually
- (A) refuses to hear the appeal
(B) declares a mistrial
(C) orders the lower court to retry the case
(D) rules in favor of the defendant
(E) overturns the decision of lower court
8. Which of the following may file an *amicus curiae* brief?
- (A) A defendant who wants to know what witnesses the plaintiff plans to call.
(B) Former presidents who wish to send instructions to the justices who they appointed.
(C) A senator who wants to impeach a Supreme Court justice.
(D) A plaintiff who demands that the defendant turn over evidence.
(E) Companies that are not involved in a court case but wish to affect the outcome.
9. Which of the following principles is realized when the federal government provides most of the funding to a project in which multiple levels of government work together?
- (A) Confederation
(B) Fiscal federalism
(C) Grant-based funding
(D) Dual federalism
(E) Executive agreement
10. Given the structure of the electoral college system, presidential candidates tend to
- (A) avoid battleground states and focus their campaigns on "safe" states
(B) campaign more heavily in states with large populations
(C) spend more television advertising money in the Plains States
(D) campaign extensively in states that heavily favor one party over the other
(E) focus on winning the popular vote
11. In the House of Representatives, the Rules Committee
- (A) determines both the rules of the House and conditions for legislative process
(B) plays a pivotal role in the management of the Library of Congress
(C) has jurisdiction over fisheries and wildlife
(D) determines what behavior is deemed ethical in the House
(E) is responsible for overseeing the federal budget process

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12. The Commerce Clause of the Constitution has been used to
- (A) release detainees from prison following unlawful arrest
 - (B) maintain the navy
 - (C) increase the power of the national government
 - (D) veto legislative bills of attainder
 - (E) declare war
13. Each of the two main political parties of the United States is organized
- (A) as a single party with a presence at the national level only
 - (B) into a federal structure in which state and local parties have no power
 - (C) as a relatively independent organization that exists at all levels of government
 - (D) in a top-down fashion, so that instructions are dispersed from the national level to the state and local levels
 - (E) as a coalition of entirely local parties
14. The Dred Scott decision of 1857 was overturned by the
- (A) *Plessy v. Ferguson* decision
 - (B) Missouri Compromise
 - (C) Jim Crow laws
 - (D) Fourteenth Amendment
 - (E) Fifteenth Amendment



15. Which of the following is the main point of the cartoon above?
- (A) The vice president does not get to have his or her name on the ballot.
 - (B) The role of the vice president is a limited one.
 - (C) Gun rights will be put in jeopardy if Theodore Roosevelt becomes vice president.
 - (D) Theodore Roosevelt disagrees with his party's platform.
 - (E) Vice presidential nominees do not get to later run for president after being on a ballot once.

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Section I

Questions 16-17 are based on the table below.

**Popular Vote Summary for the 2000 & 2004
Presidential Elections
(Number of Recorded Votes)**

State	2000		2004	
	George W. Bush (R)	Al Gore (D)	George W. Bush (R)	John Kerry (D)
Alabama	941,173	692,611	1,176,394	693,933
California	4,567,429	5,861,203	5,509,826	6,745,485
Delaware	137,288	180,068	171,660	200,152
Georgia	1,419,720	1,116,230	1,914,254	1,366,149
Hawaii	137,845	205,286	194,191	231,708
Iowa	634,373	638,517	751,957	741,898
Louisiana	927,871	792,344	1,102,169	820,299
Missouri	1,189,924	1,111,128	1,455,713	1,259,171
New York	2,403,374	4,107,697	2,962,567	4,314,280
Texas	3,799,639	2,433,746	4,526,917	2,832,704

16. Which of the following conclusions regarding voting behavior can be inferred from the table above?
- (A) Voters in states that favored the Republican candidate in 2000 did not support the Republican candidate in 2004.
 - (B) Voters in states that have large populations were more likely to vote Democratic than Republican.
 - (C) Voters were unsatisfied with George W. Bush's first term in office.
 - (D) Individual voting patterns were inconsistent from 2000 to 2004.
 - (E) Voters in states that favored the Democratic candidate in 2000 also supported the Democratic candidate in 2004.
17. Which of the following conclusions about the 2000 and 2004 election results in the states identified above CANNOT be drawn from the table?
- (A) In 2004, George W. Bush won the popular vote in all the states where he won in 2000.
 - (B) The Democratic popular vote in Delaware increased from 2000 to 2004.
 - (C) States with less than a million recorded votes in 2004 were more likely to vote Democratic.
 - (D) In 2004, John Kerry won the popular vote in all the states where Al Gore won in 2000.
 - (E) More individuals voted in 2004 than they did in 2000.
18. The Reorganization Plan 1 of 1939 and Executive Order 8248 allow the President to select the staff for the
- (A) Peace Corps
 - (B) White House Office
 - (C) Senate Committee on Appropriations
 - (D) Cabinet
 - (E) House Committee on Foreign Affairs
19. Which of the following processes best exemplifies the federal structure of the United States government?
- (A) Amending the United States Constitution
 - (B) Imposing export taxes
 - (C) Spending treasury money without the passage of an appropriations bill
 - (D) Granting titles of nobility
 - (E) Issuing bills of attainder
20. Which of the following statements about voting populations is most accurate?
- (A) Individuals are less likely to vote in a closely contested race.
 - (B) Voters are more likely to vote at age 18 than they are at age 65.
 - (C) An individual with a graduate degree is more likely to vote than an individual who has only a high school diploma.
 - (D) Affluent individuals are less likely to vote than impoverished individuals.
 - (E) Voter turnout is affected by neither education nor age.
21. Every ten years, the majority of state legislatures are responsible for
- (A) redrawing congressional district boundaries
 - (B) electing a new state governor
 - (C) evaluating the physical accessibility of polling venues
 - (D) deciding where to construct new elementary schools
 - (E) proposing revisions to current school curricula

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22. Members of Congress are allowed to mail letters to their constituents at the government’s expense because of
- (A) gerrymandering
 - (B) pork-barrel legislation
 - (C) the Sixteenth Amendment
 - (D) cloture
 - (E) the franking privilege

23. A presidential plurality victory occurs when
- (A) the winning candidate receives less than 50% of the popular vote
 - (B) candidates receive an equal number of electoral votes and the popular vote determines the winner
 - (C) the Senate declares the formal winner
 - (D) the winning candidate receives more than 50% of the popular vote
 - (E) the House of Representatives declares the formal winner

24. The practice of drawing congressional district lines in an attempt to give one party a benefit over another is referred to as
- (A) front-loading
 - (B) prior restraint
 - (C) reapportionment
 - (D) gerrymandering
 - (E) extradition

25. The right of American citizens to petition the government for a redress of grievances is protected under the
- (A) First Amendment
 - (B) Second Amendment
 - (C) Third Amendment
 - (D) Eighth Amendment
 - (E) Tenth Amendment

26. The separation of church and state is articulated in the
- (A) establishment clause
 - (B) Nineteenth Amendment
 - (C) inevitable discovery rule
 - (D) Seventh Amendment
 - (E) full faith and credit clause

27. All of the following are ways in which lobbyists attempt to persuade legislators EXCEPT
- (A) distributing propaganda to media
 - (B) endorsing candidates for office
 - (C) socializing with government officials
 - (D) providing expert testimony before Congress
 - (E) acquiring corporate campaign donations for candidates

Party Identification in Texas, 1992-2008
(% of Registered Voters)

	1992	1996	2000	2004	2008
Republican	29	30	38	34	36
Democrat	30	28	24	26	35
Independent	41	42	38	40	29

28. Which of the following statements can be supported by the table above?
- I. From 1992-2008, the majority of registered voters in Texas identified as Independents.
 - II. The percent of registered voters in Texas who identified as Republican was greater in 2000 than in any other year from 1992-2008.
 - III. A larger share of the electorate in Texas identified as Democrats in 2008 than in 2000.
- (A) I only
 - (B) II only
 - (C) III only
 - (D) I and III only
 - (E) II and III only

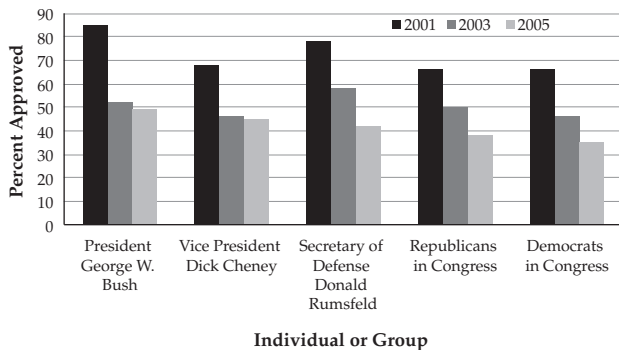
29. Which of the following best describes a block grant?
- (A) Money provided to individuals to fund research projects
 - (B) Funds with few restrictions that are provided to state or local governments for general purpose use
 - (C) Funds distributed among states according to a set formula
 - (D) Money that can only be used for a specific purpose
 - (E) Grants allocated by individual members of Congress for special projects for their constituents

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Section I

30. The Voting Rights Act of 1965
- (A) granted women the right to vote
 - (B) banned race-based discrimination
 - (C) granted African-Americans the right to vote
 - (D) allowed states to alter voting procedures without federal permission
 - (E) suspended the use of literacy tests at voting centers

Public Approval Ratings, 2001-2005



31. Which of the following statements regarding approval ratings can be concluded from the table above?
- (A) Vice President Dick Cheney consistently received higher approval ratings than did President George W. Bush.
 - (B) Donald Rumsfeld's approval rating dropped by approximately 75 percent between 2001 and 2005.
 - (C) Democrats in Congress had a higher approval rating in 2005 than they did in 2001.
 - (D) George W. Bush received a higher approval rating in 2001 than Donald Rumsfeld received in any of his years in office.
 - (E) Unlike the approval ratings received by Democrats in Congress, the approval ratings of Republicans in Congress increased between 2001 and 2005.
32. Which of the following cases established the precedent that a defendant must be informed of the right to remain silent, the right to a lawyer, and protection from self-incrimination?
- (A) *Weeks v. United States*
 - (B) *Betts v. Brady*
 - (C) *Mapp v. Ohio*
 - (D) *Escobedo v. Illinois*
 - (E) *Miranda v. Arizona*

33. All of the following are constitutionally mandated presidential powers EXCEPT the power to
- (A) negotiate treaties
 - (B) veto legislation
 - (C) grant reprieves and pardons
 - (D) declare war
 - (E) serve as the head of state
34. Which of the following statements does NOT accurately describe voting behavior in the United States?
- (A) Registered voters between the ages of 35 and 45 are more likely to vote than are those under the age of 21.
 - (B) A registered voter who has attained his or her General Educational Development (GED) is less likely to vote than a high school dropout.
 - (C) Registered voters are more likely to vote in general elections than they are in primary elections.
 - (D) More women than men have voted in every presidential election since 1980.
 - (E) In the 2012 election, the majority of the Hispanic vote went to Barack Obama.
35. Which of the following is a direct result of an electoral system that features single-member districts?
- (A) Only two major parties can successfully be supported.
 - (B) National campaigns can be conducted without incurring great expense.
 - (C) Third parties can be as successful as the two major political parties can.
 - (D) Each political party tends to focus its campaign on a single issue.
 - (E) Voter turnout is higher than in other systems.
36. Under the system of checks and balances, all of the following statements are true EXCEPT:
- (A) The president's nominees must be approved by the Senate before taking office.
 - (B) Two-thirds of the Senate must approve presidentially negotiated treaties.
 - (C) The president can override a congressional veto and pass laws.
 - (D) Congress can override a presidential veto.
 - (E) Different branches of government share power and must cooperate in order to pass legislation.

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37. The majority of Supreme Court justices
- (A) are appointed by presidents of the same political party
 - (B) have no prior judicial experience
 - (C) switch party affiliation during their term
 - (D) stay on the court for only a decade
 - (E) have no party affiliation
38. Ruled unconstitutional in 1983, the legislative veto had allowed
- (A) the executive branch to veto legislation approved by Congress
 - (B) federal district courts to overturn legislation
 - (C) the president to veto state laws
 - (D) Congress to nullify resolutions approved by the executive branch
 - (E) the president to overturn Supreme Court decisions
39. Which of the following actions can the President take without congressional approval?
- (A) Grant reprieves and pardons
 - (B) Appoint Supreme Court justices
 - (C) Negotiate and ratify treaties
 - (D) Declare war
 - (E) Appoint the Secretary of the Treasury
40. The line-item veto was ruled unconstitutional because it
- (A) violated the legislative process by which bills become laws
 - (B) allowed Congress to eliminate sections of legislation without a two-thirds majority
 - (C) gave states the ability to override federal legislation
 - (D) empowered Congress to nullify executive actions
 - (E) allowed the president to pass legislation without congressional approval
41. Which of the following best states an argument made by James Madison in *The Federalist* number 10?
- (A) Honest politicians can prevent factions from developing.
 - (B) Factions are more likely to occur in large republics than in small ones.
 - (C) The negative effects of factionalism can be reduced by a republican government.
 - (D) Free elections are the people's best defense against factionalism.
 - (E) Factions cannot emerge in a republic when decisions are made by the majority.
42. An "unfunded mandate" is created when the federal government requires state and municipal governments to
- (A) collect a sales tax in their areas without instructions on how to spend the revenues
 - (B) comply with federal laws, even if those laws conflict with state and municipal laws
 - (C) issue short-term bonds without specifying the interest rate for those bonds
 - (D) fulfill a particular duty but does not provide the finances for doing so
 - (E) attract new businesses to their areas by lowering tax rates
43. Which of the following is an example of "horse-race journalism"?
- (A) A news story focuses on a politician's scandals rather than achievements.
 - (B) A television news anchor reports an event before the station's rivals.
 - (C) A reporter announces which candidate leads in a public opinion poll.
 - (D) A newspaper editor prints stories about long-term political developments.
 - (E) A radio broadcaster interviews a senator about recent policy decisions.

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Section I

44. Federal election laws require that, in
- (A) an area that has a substantial community of non-English speakers, voters be provided with ballots in their native language
 - (B) an electoral district that has historically low voter turn-out, polling places be open for longer than the typical work day
 - (C) a state with a budget deficit, a tax be collected from each voter to pay for the cost of the election
 - (D) a region with racial diversity, congressional district lines be drawn to guarantee that at least one elected congressperson be of a racial minority
 - (E) an area that lacks adequate public transportation, all voters with drivers licenses be automatically registered to vote
45. Which of the following is the largest source of “automatic spending” for the federal government?
- (A) Salaries to employees of the U.S. Post Office
 - (B) Interest payments made to U.S. bondholders
 - (C) Entitlement programs
 - (D) National defense
 - (E) Infrastructure investments in roads and bridges
46. Which of the following best describes the Supreme Court’s doctrine of incorporation?
- (A) Although the Constitution empowers the federal government to regulate international trade, states may establish boycotts of goods imported from countries that use child labor.
 - (B) While the Congress creates laws, and the executive branch enacts and enforces those laws, only the Supreme Court may decide which laws and executive actions are unconstitutional.
 - (C) The Fifth Amendment guarantees that an individual may not be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process, and this protection provides a legal justification for those who do not wish to serve on a jury.
 - (D) Although the Securities and Exchange Commission has the power to establish regulations for the financial markets, it does not have the authority to levy fines against or otherwise punish those who do not comply.
 - (E) The Bill of Rights articulates certain rights in order to protect individuals from the federal government, and the Fourteenth Amendment extends most of those rights to protect individuals from the state governments as well.
47. Which of the following plays the most significant role in forming a child’s political views?
- (A) The geographical area in which the child grows up
 - (B) The child’s family
 - (C) The media to which the child is exposed
 - (D) The child’s religion
 - (E) The child’s teacher
48. Which of the following was the legal basis for the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* majority opinion, in which the Supreme Court struck down a state ban on abortion?
- (A) The Nineteenth Amendment secures for women the right to vote.
 - (B) The Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination based on gender.
 - (C) The Bill of Rights implies a right to privacy.
 - (D) The Ninth Amendment reserves powers to the people.
 - (E) The First Amendment guarantees freedom of religion.
49. When the Founders met in 1787 to write the Constitution, their primary objective was to
- (A) establish a bill of rights that would protect citizens from the government
 - (B) create a national court system for hearing disputes between citizens of different states
 - (C) return to the states those powers that the Articles of Confederation had given to the central government
 - (D) create a government in which small states had equal influence as large states
 - (E) replace the weak central government created by the Articles of Confederation with a stronger one
50. Which of the following best articulates the doctrine of original intent?
- (A) When a law is unclear, the Supreme Court may consider the intent of a law or the letter of the law, but not both.
 - (B) Copyright laws exist to protect the rights of those who create original works.
 - (C) Appellate judges should respect the original decisions of trial judges.
 - (D) The Constitution should be interpreted in light of the intent of those who wrote it.
 - (E) The Supreme Court should not hear a case unless the Court intends to issue an original decision that is different from past decisions.

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51. Which of the following is a significant difference between the Senate and the House of Representatives?
- (A) Only the House has the power to issue subpoenas.
 - (B) Only the Senate may introduce revenue bills.
 - (C) States are equally represented in the House, while representation in the Senate is proportional to population.
 - (D) The Senate allows unlimited debate, while the House does not.
 - (E) The House has the power to confirm presidential appointments, while the Senate does not.
52. Appointments to which of the following positions must be confirmed by the Senate before taking effect?
- I. Director of Homeland Security
 - II. Secretary of the Treasury
 - III. National Security Advisor
 - IV. U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations
- (A) II only
 - (B) I and III only
 - (C) II and IV only
 - (D) I, II, and IV only
 - (E) I, II, III, and IV
53. Which of the following CANNOT limit the influence of the federal courts?
- (A) A constitutional amendment to the contrary of a court decision
 - (B) The impeachment of a federal judge
 - (C) A governor's failure to enforce a court decision
 - (D) A national election recalling an unpopular judge
 - (E) Appointment of new judges
54. Which of the following is true of the House Committee on Ways and Means?
- (A) Its primary role is to appropriate spending for infrastructure projects.
 - (B) It is the primary author of congressional banking reform legislation.
 - (C) It allocates funding for canals and waterways.
 - (D) It serves the same function as the Senate Committee on Appropriations.
 - (E) Its jurisdiction includes the tax system.
55. Of the following interest groups, which has created the largest number of political action committees (PACs) since the 1970s?
- (A) Environmental activists
 - (B) Labor unions
 - (C) For-profit business
 - (D) Religious institutions
 - (E) Senior citizens
56. Which of the following is NOT true of executive orders?
- (A) Presidents avoid using executive orders for controversial actions.
 - (B) Executive orders have the same effect as laws passed by Congress.
 - (C) Presidents have made increased use of executive orders since the 1970s.
 - (D) Executive orders bypass congressional approval.
 - (E) The courts have jurisdiction over executive orders.
57. All of the following are core values of American political culture EXCEPT
- (A) income equality
 - (B) democracy
 - (C) individual liberty
 - (D) due process
 - (E) equality before the law
58. Why do political scientists identify the presidential elections of Franklin Roosevelt in 1932 and Richard Nixon in 1968 as well as the midterm election of 1994 as "critical elections"?
- (A) The issues at stake in those elections were more important than in most elections.
 - (B) Those elections saw major shifts in party alignment that would last for decades.
 - (C) Minority voters played a key role in deciding the winners of those elections.
 - (D) Those elections took place during wartime.
 - (E) The personalities of the candidates were more important to voters than issues in those elections.

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**Presidential Appointments of Article III (Lifetime) Judges by Gender, Ethnicity, and Disability
(As of Jan. 2012)**

President	Total	Male	Female	White	African American	Hispanic	Asian American	Native American	People with Disabilities
James Carter	262	221 (84.3%)	41 (15.7%)	205 (78.2%)	37 (14.1%)	16 (6.1%)	3 (1.1%)	1 (0.3%)	1
Ronald Reagan	383	351 (96.1%)	32 (8.8%)	360 (93.9%)	7 (1.8%)	14 (3.6%)	2 (0.5%)	0	1
George H. W. Bush	193	157 (81.3%)	36 (18.7%)	172 (89.1%)	13 (6.7%)	8 (4.1%)	0	0	1
William Clinton	378	267 (70.6%)	111 (29.4%)	285 (75.3%)	62 (16.4%)	25 (6.6%)	5 (1.3%)	1 (0.2%)	3
George W. Bush	327	256 (78.2%)	71 (21.8%)	269 (82.2%)	24 (7.3%)	30 (9.1%)	4 (1.2%)	0	2
Barack Obama	173	102 (59.0%)	71 (41.0%)	111 (64.2%)	30 (17.3%)	21 (12.1%)	12 (6.9%)	0	1

Source: Alliance for Justice

59. Which of the following conclusions can be drawn from the data above?
- (A) Republican presidents appointed a higher percentage of minorities to the judiciary than Democratic presidents.
 - (B) Democratic presidents appointed a higher percentage of males to the judiciary than Republican presidents.
 - (C) President Clinton made more judicial appointments than President Reagan.
 - (D) President Obama appointed the highest percentage of women to the judiciary.
 - (E) President Reagan appointed the highest percentage of African Americans to the judiciary.
60. Which of the following accurately describes individual entitlements?
- (A) Congress provides funds to the states, and the states decide how best to spend the money.
 - (B) Congress is allowed to fund these programs only when the federal government has a budget surplus.
 - (C) Congress must pay benefits to anyone who qualifies to receive them.
 - (D) Congress grants money to states, provided that certain criteria are met.
 - (E) Congress must pass a law each year to determine how to allocate these funds.

END OF SECTION I

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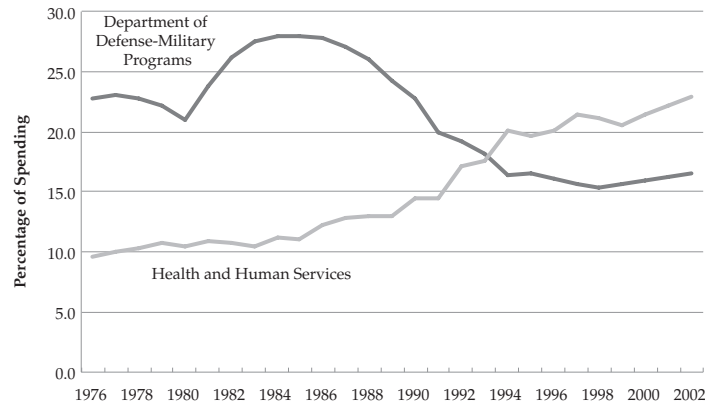
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**Section II****Time—1 hour and 40 minutes**

Directions: You have 100 minutes to answer all four of the following questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. Spend approximately one-fourth of your time (25 minutes) on each question. Illustrate your essay with substantive examples where appropriate. Make certain to number each of your answers as the question is numbered below.

1. One purpose of the U.S. Constitution's system of checks and balances is to keep one faction or political party from gaining complete control of government. The result in a two-party system is that sometimes one party controls the executive branch while the other party controls the legislative branch.
 - (a) Describe two obstacles to Congress in passing legislation when the other party controls the presidency.
 - (b) Identify and explain two ways Congress attempts to overcome the obstacles described in (a).

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**Percentage of National Budget Spent by
Government Agencies, 1976-2002**



Source: Office of Management and Budget, *The President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2014: Historical Tables*, Table 5.3, April 2013.

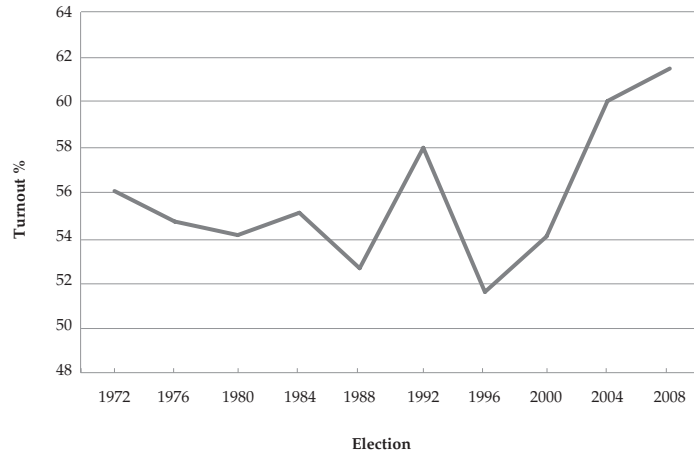
2. Use the graph above and your knowledge of U.S. politics to do the following:
- Describe the major trend illustrated in the graph.
 - Identify two political factors that significantly contributed to the trends in the graph.
 - Explain how each of the two factors you identified in (B) affected the percentage of spending by government agencies between 1976 and 2002.

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Section II

3. For people and groups interested in social welfare policy, the structure and substance of the three branches of the federal government's political institutions provide opportunities and impediments to exercising political influence.
- (a) Identify one feature of one of the following and explain how that feature has presented opportunities to those interested in increasing social welfare in their efforts to gain political influence.
- The Supreme Court
 - The bicameral legislature
 - The president's ability to influence the national agenda
- (b) Identify one feature of one of the following and explain how that feature has presented impediments to those interested in increasing social welfare in their efforts to gain political influence.
- The Supreme Court
 - The bicameral legislature
 - The president's ability to influence the national agenda

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Source: Cook, R. (2012, June). "Voter Turnout: Heading Downward in 2012?"
University of Virginia Center for Politics: Sabato's Crystal Ball.

4. Use the graph above and your own knowledge of U.S. politics to answer parts (a), (b), and (c).
- Identify one four-year shift on the graph in which the percentage of voter turnout increased and explain one cause of the shift.
 - Identify one four-year shift on the graph in which the percentage of voter turnout decreased and explain one cause of the shift.
 - Whether voter turnout increases or decreases in presidential election years, midterm elections receive lower levels of turnout than presidential elections. Identify two reasons turnout for midterm elections is lower than turnout for presidential elections and explain why each reason leads to that result.

END OF EXAMINATION