

**APGOV Reading Guide Review Questions Chapter 1**  
**\*Answers are in the notebook in my classroom.**

1. The age group with the lowest voter turnout rate is
  - a. 25 yrs or younger.
  - b. 26 to 40 yrs. old.
  - c. 41 to 64 yrs. old.
  - d. 65 yrs. old or older.
  
2. The institutions that make authoritative decisions that apply to all of society are collectively known as
  - a. the political system.
  - b. government.
  - c. linkage institutions.
  - d. public goods.
  
3. Which of the following is NOT a general characteristic of public goods?
  - a. governments usually must provide them
  - b. most businesses provide them for a profit
  - c. individuals have little incentive to provide them
  - d. every member of society can use one
  
4. Which of the following is NOT an example of a public good?
  - a. welfare benefits
  - b. parks
  - c. national defense
  - d. clean air policies
  
5. All governments
  - a. provide services.
  - b. have written constitutions.
  - c. have a president.
  - d. have a legislature.
  
6. One of the basic functions of government is to socialize young citizens into the political system through schooling.
  - True
  - False
  
7. Harold Lasswell's definition of politics is
  - a. "who gets what, when, and how."
  - b. "what gets done, then and how."
  - c. "the authoritative allocation of the GNP.
  - d. voting is a duly constituted election.
  
8. The media usually focuses on the
  - a. "who" of politics.
  - b. "what" of politics.
  - c. "when" of politics.
  - d. "how" of politics.

9. America has one of the highest voter turnout rates in the world.
- True
  - False
10. Single-issue groups
- a. aid effective policymaking.
  - b. are concerned with a wide range of problems.
  - c. have very little influence on voters or politicians.
  - d. have little taste for compromise.
11. Political issues get government's attention through linkage institutions.
- True
  - False
12. One type of linkage institution is
- a. an interest group.
  - b. a bureaucracy.
  - c. a government.
  - d. a legislature.
13. Which of the following is NOT an example of a linkage institution?
- a. the National Rifle Association
  - b. the Democratic party
  - c. a referendum
  - d. the Social Security Administration
14. A policy agenda is
- a. ignored by public officials.
  - b. a electoral ballot.
  - c. a list of problems to which serious attention is paid.
  - d. a public opinion poll.
15. A government's policy agenda changes infrequently.
- True
  - False
16. Which of the following policymaking institutions was NOT established by the Constitution?
- a. Congress
  - b. the bureaucracy
  - c. the presidency
  - d. the courts
17. Public policy
- a. consists of laws passed by Congress
  - b. is what government chooses not to do.
  - c. involves making decisions.
  - d. all of these

18. Public policies include
- a. congressional statutes.
  - b. court decisions.
  - c. budgetary choices.
  - d. all of these.
19. The last part of the policy system concerns
- a. implementation.
  - b. the policy agenda.
  - c. policy impacts.
  - d. elections.
20. According to The Communist Manifesto, the specter haunting Europe was
- a. democracy.
  - b. military dictatorship.
  - c. communism.
  - d. freedom.
21. The writers of the US Constitution
- a. cherished the idea of democracy.
  - b. favored government by the people.
  - c. rejected democratic ideals.
  - d. had no fondness for democracy.
22. Who said, the “should have as little to do as may be with government”?
- a. Abraham Lincoln
  - b. Elbridge Gerry
  - c. Roger Sherman
  - d. Alexis de Tocqueville
23. The basic principles of traditional democratic theory include all of the following EXCEPT
- a. equality in voting.
  - b. effective participation.
  - c. government control of information.
  - d. inclusion.
24. In democratic theory, the principle of minority rights accompanies the principle of
- a. majority rule.
  - b. representation.
  - c. pluralism.
  - d. equality.
25. The closer the correspondence between representative and their electoral majority, the closer approximation to democracy.
- True
  - False

26. Pluralists argue that
- a. there are only a few influential groups that shape US policymaking.
  - b. the US political system is a competition among many groups.
  - c. the public interest rarely prevails.
  - d. many access groups diminish group influence.
27. Critics of the pluralist theory contend that it
- a. misses the larger question of who owns the pie b concentrating on who gets a piece of the pie.
  - b. is overly pessimistic.
  - c. places too much emphasis on class differences.
  - d. fails to explain bargains and compromises.
28. Elite and class theory holds that
- a. power is dispersed among many institutions.
  - b. wealth is irrelevant to political power.
  - c. American society is divided by class lines.
  - d. elites influence policymakers but are distinct from them.
29. According to the theory of hyperpluralism, government has become more effective with time.
- True
  - False
30. The idea of powerful groups and weak government is most closely associated with
- a. democratic theory.
  - b. elite and class theory.
  - c. pluralism.
  - d. hyperpluralism.
31. Hyperpluralism can lead to
- a. multi-issue groups and politics.
  - b. muddled and inconsistent policy.
  - c. more effective and efficient government.
  - d. centralized power and authority.
32. Democratic theory requires citizens to become experts on most everything.
- a. True
  - b. False
33. Winning a congressional seat these days requires a campaign war chest of at least
- a. \$100,000
  - b. \$250,000
  - c. \$500,000
  - d. \$1,000,000
34. PACs usually care only about how members of Congress vote on issues that particularly affect them.
- True
  - False

35. A common consequence of the situation in which different parties control the president and Congress is
- a. policy compromise.
  - b. pluralism.
  - c. policy gridlock.
  - d. individualism.
36. The percentage of the gross domestic product currently spent by our government is about
- a. one-tenth.
  - b. one-half.
  - c. one-third.
  - d. one-fourth.
37. Which of the following statements about the scope of national government is TRUE?
- a. It spends more than \$2 trillion annually.
  - b. IT employs five million people.
  - c. It owns one-third of the land in the United States.
  - d. All of these.
38. The percentage of the federal budget devoted to national defense is about
- a. one-tenth.
  - b. one-sixth.
  - c. one-fourth.
  - d. one-third.
39. Compared to most Western democracies, the US
- a. has more involvement by government in the everyday lives of its citizens.
  - b. has a greater tax burden.
  - c. has more regulation and government ownership of utilities.
  - d. devotes a smaller percentage of its resources to government.
40. Most advanced industrial democracies have a system of national insurance that provides most health care.
- True
  - False
41. One of the primary reasons for the limited scope of government in the US is the prominence of
- a. group activities.
  - b. wealthy elites.
  - c. individualism.
  - d. compromise.