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1. Lieutenant Russell Burgos was formerly a _____, prior to fighting in the Iraq War.
   A) college student
   B) attorney
   C) political science professor
   D) construction worker

2. What did Burgos think explained why the United States launched the war in Iraq?
   A) ideas
   B) religion
   C) politics
   D) none of the above

3. When did the colonies break away from England?
   A) August 21, 1824
   B) January 4, 1706
   C) July 4, 1776
   D) July 4, 1781

4. American leaders issued a Declaration of Independence explaining their revolutionary actions. Which of the following encapsulated their ideas?
   A) *"That all men and women are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."*
   B) *"That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their God with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."*
   C) *"That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."*
   D) none of the above

5. The Declaration of Independence explained the role of government—securing each individual's three rights. Which of the following is one of those rights?
   A) life
   B) freedom
   C) success
   D) none of the above

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6. The Declaration of Independence explained the role of government—securing each individual's three rights. Which of the following is one of those rights?
   A) wealth
   B) land
   C) liberty
   D) none of the above

7. The Declaration of Independence explained the role of government—securing each individual's three rights. Which of the following is one of those rights?
   A) freedom of religion
   B) pursuit of happiness
   C) property
   D) none of the above

8. Which of the following is not one of the seven big ideas espoused in the Declaration of Independence?
   A) liberty
   B) individualism
   C) freedom of religion
   D) equality

9. Which of the following is not one of the seven big ideas espoused in the Declaration of Independence?
   A) land ownership
   B) self-rule (which is often called democracy)
   C) limited government
   D) American dream

10. Which of the following IS one of the seven big ideas espoused in the Declaration of Independence?
    A) the American dream
    B) equality
    C) faith in God
    D) all of the above

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11. The Declaration of Independence states that people form governments for what purpose?
    A) voting
    B) secure rights
    C) colonize other lands
    D) provide citizenship

12. What percentage of Americans belong to a church or religious organization?
    A) 95
    B) 40
    C) 54
    D) 13

13. Why did eighty thousand slaves join the British during the Revolutionary War?
    A) The royal governor of Virginia promised them freedom
    B) The royal governor of Virginia paid them
    C) They did so out of loyalty
    D) They were forced to by King George III

14. What was the motto for the slaves who fought in the Revolutionary War?
    A) "Freedom for the slaves"
    B) "Freedom for all"
    C) "Liberty for the slaves"
    D) "Liberty and justice for slaves"

15. What is the definition of *freedom*?
    A) It means that the government will protect your life, your liberty, and your property from the coercion of others (excluding government) in order to permit you to pursue the goals you define for yourself.
    B) It means that the government will protect your life, your liberty, and your property from the coercion of others (including government) in order to permit you to pursue the goals you define for yourself.
    C) It means that the government will protect your life, your liberty, and your guns from the coercion of others (including government) in order to permit you to pursue the goals you define for yourself.
    D) none of the above

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16. What is the view of *negative liberty*?
    A) Freedom is granted with limited restrictions.
    B) Freedom is the absence of constraints.
    C) Freedom is the inclusion of constraints.
    D) none of the above

17. What is the definition of *positive liberty*?
    A) The freedom to pursue one's goals with government restrictions.
    B) The freedom to pursue one's goals with some exceptions.
    C) The freedom to pursue one's goals.
    D) The freedom to pursue one's goals without government control.

18. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, as the nation prepared for World War II, proclaimed that the nation was fighting for four freedoms. Which of the following is not one of them?
    A) freedom of speech
    B) freedom of worship
    C) freedom of oppression
    D) freedom from want

19. What does “freedom from want” mean?
    A) helping people achieve a home
    B) helping needy people who have fallen on hard times
    C) helping people obtain the American dream
    D) none of the above

20. Strong proponents of negative liberty are known as ____ and oppose most forms of government action.
    A) Libertarians
    B) Green
    C) Conservative
    D) Democratic

21. President Roosevelt adheres to which viewpoint?
    A) negative liberty
    B) positive liberty
    C) both
    D) social democracy

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22. The American promise, as written by _____, is the "promise of disharmony" as a steady parade of groups—African Americans, women, immigrants, and many others—successfully challenge the nation to live up to its ideals.
    A) Benjamin Franklin
    B) Andrew Jackson
    C) Samuel Huntington
    D) John Adams

23. Other political thinkers, like _____, warn against seeing anything like a steady rise of freedom. The outcome in the fight is never inevitable.
    A) Rogers Smith
    B) Samuel Adams
    C) John Adams
    D) Benjamin Franklin

24. _____ means that citizens participate directly in making government decisions.
    A) Republic
    B) Democracy
    C) Autocratic
    D) Libertarian

25. What is a referendum?
    A) a bill
    B) a recall
    C) a direct vote by the people on an issue
    D) a measure to kill a bill

26. How many states allow referendums?
    A) seventeen
    B) ten and the District of Columbia
    C) twenty-seven and the District of Columbia
    D) thirty

27. _____ permit the public to circulate a petition that proposes a new law or amendment to the government.
    A) Initiatives
    B) Referendums
    C) Ballot initiatives
    D) All of the above

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28. What is a sunshine law?
    A) a law that stipulates government meetings must be open to the public
    B) a law that allows marijuana usage for those eighteen and over
    C) a law that is only allowed in certain states
    D) a law that is only valid in the West Coast

29. When did Dr. Martin Luther King give his famous "I Have a Dream" speech?
    A) 1962
    B) 1955
    C) 1963
    D) 1969

30. Which of the Founding Fathers was a big proponent of maximizing democracy?
    A) Thomas Jefferson
    B) George Washington
    C) James Madison
    D) Benjamin Franklin

31. How many times does the word *right* appear in the Constitution?
    A) 6
    B) 0
    C) 3
    D) 8

32. What percentage of Americans believe a direct democracy is a good way to govern?
    A) 67%
    B) 86%
    C) 17%
    D) 40%

33. The foundation of American politics is (are)
    A) democracy
    B) checks and balances
    C) seven big ideas
    D) republicanism

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34. An irony of the Declaration of Independence is that many of the signers
    A) owned slaves
    B) were born in England
    C) refused military service
    D) did not own land

35. The idea that comes up in American history most often is
    A) Democracy
    B) Voting
    C) Independence
    D) Liberty

36. The Family and Medical Leave Act (1993) requires employers with more than 50 workers to allow up to _____ of *unpaid* leave for pregnancy, adoption, illness, or military service.
    A) one week
    B) five weeks
    C) twelve weeks
    D) fifteen weeks

37. What is the concept of *individualism*?
    A) the idea that individuals, with some assistance from the government, are responsible for their own well-being
    B) the notion that individuals, with some assistance from the greater society, are responsible for their own well-being
    C) the idea that individuals, not the society or the community or the government, are responsible for their own well-being
    D) none of the above

38. What do *social democrats* believe?
    A) members of a society are responsible for one another with the exception of some assistance from the government.
    B) members of a society are responsible for one another and should support other developing countries.
    C) members of a society are responsible for one another.
    D) none of the above

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39. Social democracies are based on ____, the idea that people have a tight bond and are responsible for one another.
    A) solidarity
    B) social cohesiveness
    C) interdependence
    D) social collaboration

40. Countries that emphasize community are known as
    A) social democracies
    B) republics
    C) welfare nations
    D) communitarian societies

41. Which economist famously wrote, “The world runs on individuals pursuing their separate interests”?
    A) Susan Richards
    B) Michael Samuels
    C) Milton Friedman
    D) Roger Hernandez

42. Individualism points toward limited government, faith in economic markets, and a strong emphasis on
    A) negative liberty.
    B) positive liberty.
    C) a mixture of positive and negative liberty.
    D) none of the above

43. Believing that someone should work hard for what they have is characteristic of
    A) individualism
    B) democracy
    C) social democracy
    D) European model

44. By 1860, how many black slaves were in America?
    A) Two million
    B) Four million
    C) Three million
    D) One million

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45. Benjamin Franklin perfected a classic American literary form—tips for getting rich. Which of the following was a slogan of Franklin?
    A) "A penny saved is a penny earned"
    B) "No gains without pains"
    C) "God helps those who help themselves"
    D) all of the above

46. "If you are talented and work hard, you can achieve personal (and especially financial) success" summarizes the
    A) slogan of unions
    B) Preamble
    C) American Dream
    D) Declaration of Independence

47. The American Dream according to James Truslow Adams is
    A) "anyone can be president"
    B) "free land for all"
    C) "life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement"
    D) "life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with government opportunity for all to achieve

48. Today, which of the following statements is a correct assessment of America's economic milieu?
    A) The top 1 percent of Americans own more than the bottom 90 percent.
    B) Three million people enjoy more wealth than 290 million others.
    C) Sixty million Americans at the bottom of the charts own almost nothing—one-tenth of one percent of the national wealth.
    D) all of the above

49. Studies suggest that someone in the bottom fifth of the income distribution is twice as likely to move up at least one category (or quintile) in which of the following nations as in the United States?
    A) Canada
    B) Denmark
    C) France
    D) all of the above

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50. President Franklin Roosevelt said, “if they teach us that our true ____ is…to minister…to our ____ man” when referring to the Depression.
    A) quest…fallen
    B) destiny…fellow
    C) fate…brethren
    D) none of the above

51. Who said the following powerful statement during the civil rights movement? “Should we double our wealth and conquer the stars, and still not be equal to this issue [race], then we will have failed as a people and as a nation… what is a man profited, if he should gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?”
    A) John F. Kennedy
    B) Bobby Kennedy
    C) Lyndon Johnson
    D) Martin L. King

52. What percentage of children live below the poverty line?
    A) 15%
    B) 18%
    C) 21%
    D) 23%

53. In comparison with other wealthy nations, our taxes are relatively ___, we regulate business less, we take ____ vacations, and we place more stress on getting ahead.
    A) high…fewer
    B) high…more
    C) low…fewer
    D) low…more

54. According to the Harvard University study how do 18-29-year-olds feel about the American Dream?
    A) very achievable
    B) needs rewritten
    C) does not apply to them
    D) provides motivation to work hard

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55. The _____ is a belief that anyone who works hard can get ahead and grow wealthy.
    A) social democracy
    B) American democracy
    C) American dream
    D) individualism

56. How does your text define equality?
    A) Every citizen, man or woman, enjoys the same privileges, status, and rights before the laws.
    B) Every citizen enjoys the same privileges, status, and rights before the laws.
    C) Every male citizen enjoys the same privileges, status, and rights before the laws.
    D) none of the above

57. ____ means that all individuals enjoy the same status in society.
    A) Social equality
    B) Democratic equality
    C) Socialism
    D) Equal opportunity

58. _____ means that every citizen has the same political rights and opportunities.
    A) Political equality
    B) Social equality
    C) Democratic equality
    D) Political outcome

59. How many fixed social classes were there in the United States immediately following the Civil War?
    A) 4
    B) 0
    C) 2
    D) 12

60. ____ focuses on differences in wealth.
    A) Social equality
    B) Political equality
    C) Economic equality
    D) none of the above

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61. The ____ is one measure of economic inequality.
    A) economic coefficient
    B) Gini coefficient
    C) social coefficient
    D) Reagan coefficient

62. Today American society has become far less equal than which of the following countries?
    A) Japan
    B) Sweden
    C) Germany
    D) all of the above

63. We are now ____ the inequality levels of the most unequal country in the world than the most equal.
    A) closer to
    B) passing
    C) moving away from
    D) none of the above

64. _____ is the idea that every American has an equal chance.
    A) American dream
    B) Democracy
    C) Equal opportunity
    D) Equal outcome

65. _____ is the idea that a society guarantees not just an opportunity but also the results. Some nations reserve a minimum number of seats in the national legislature (whether it be a parliament or Congress) for women or members of specific ethnic groups.
    A) Equal outcome
    B) Equal opportunity
    C) Social democracy
    D) American liberty

66. Inequality has spiked over the past _____ years.
    A) Twenty-five
    B) Thirty-five
    C) Forty
    D) Twenty

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67. Today, American politics emphasizes _____ over equality.
    A) negative liberty
    B) positive liberty
    C) individualism
    D) American Dream

68. In the 1630s, a large contingent of _____ sailed to New England with an ambitious aim: to establish a biblical commonwealth that would serve as a Christian model for the rest of the world.
    A) Catholics
    B) Christians
    C) Puritans
    D) Quakers

69. Governor John Winthrop called their settlement "a city upon a hill." Why did he use this phrase?
    A) the church was built on a hill
    B) his house was on a hill
    C) the commonwealth would serve as a Christian model
    D) the commonwealth would rise above all other colonies

70. As most nations grow wealthier, their religious fervor wanes. Which of the following countries tell pollsters that God is not very important in their lives?
    A) Britain
    B) France
    C) Japan
    D) all of the above

71. Americans maintain high (and by some measures, rising) levels of religiosity. Some ____ percent of Americans say they believe in God, almost ____ percent belong to a church, and nearly _____ percent attend church regularly.
    A) 87…54…46
    B) 50…45…30
    C) 75…30…15
    D) 10…45…50

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72. Americans have a lot of religions to choose from. One recent survey found ____ different Christian denominations with more than a million members each.
    A) Fifty
    B) Twenty-five
    C) Sixteen
    D) Thirty

73. In America, Jews number some ____ million.
    A) 1.5
    B) 6.7
    C) 3.0
    D) 5.1

74. In the United States, there are nearly ____ Muslims.
    A) 3 million
    B) 1 million
    C) 5 million
    D) 2 million

75. There are ____ other non-Christian groups that have over 100,000 adherents each.
    A) five
    B) three
    C) seven
    D) ten

76. Religious observance is not the same throughout the United States. For example, Texas and Georgia have ___ religiosity.
    A) high
    B) medium-level
    C) low
    D) no

77. Religious observance is not the same throughout the United States. For example, Florida and Missouri have ___ religiosity.
    A) high
    B) medium-level
    C) low
    D) no

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78. Religious observance is not the same throughout the United States. Which of the following states is not especially religious?
    A) Utah
    B) Alabama
    C) Wisconsin
    D) Maryland

79. Generational change is also at work: while _____ Americans continue to report high rates of religious faith.
    A) those over 50
    B) Baby Boomers
    C) younger
    D) none of the above

80. The _____ declares, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”
    A) Third Amendment
    B) First Amendment
    C) Fourth Amendment
    D) Second Amendment

81. Which of the Founding Fathers described “a wall of separation between church and state”?
    A) Benjamin Franklin
    B) Thomas Jefferson
    C) John Adams
    D) George Washington

82. _____ thought that the practice of presidents holding national days of prayer violated the First Amendment.
    A) George Washington
    B) John Adams
    C) Thomas Jefferson
    D) all of the above

83. When did Congress add “under God” to the Pledge of Allegiance?
    A) 1954
    B) 1832
    C) 1790
    D) 1976

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84. When did Congress add “In God We Trust” to paper money?
    A) 1877
    B) 1794
    C) 1955
    D) 1991

85. President George W. Bush explained America's mission in Iraq as
    A) “God's gift of freedom”
    B) “Championing the mansion on the hill”
    C) “Spreading the gifts of God”
    D) “Sharing prosperity with the world”

86. Which of the following ideas are integral to portray the American *political culture*?
    A) liberty
    B) individualism
    C) the American dream
    D) all of the above

87. Why did the framers add a Bill of Rights to the Constitution?
    A) their belief in a social democracy
    B) their resolution in liberty
    C) their abiding faith in individualism
    D) all of the above

88. Why are there so many checks and balances in our national government?
    A) because of the old American fear of too much government
    B) because of Congress's fear of power being usurped
    C) because of the democratic way
    D) none of the above

89. Why does the United States regulate and tax less than other nations?
    A) because Americans are too individualistic
    B) because elected officials are afraid of voters
    C) because of the American dream's gospel of success
    D) because of the American dream's belief of independence

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90. American national culture is a
    A) finished process
    B) written process
    C) process of previous generations
    D) perpetual work in progress

91. The key to political action are the
    A) political organizations
    B) political institutions
    C) political culture
    D) political dichotomy

92. Where do barriers to new programs emerge from
    A) voters
    B) dislike of government
    C) the way government is organized
    D) Constitution

93. Why is the U.S. government slow to act, according to the institutional perspective?
    A) voters fail to vote
    B) the workweek is short
    C) party system
    D) designed to be slow by checks and balances

94. Cultural perspective suggest that the United States has never had national health insurance because
    A) Americans do not trust government
    B) Americans trust government too much
    C) national health insurance is seen as too European
    D) Americans are not likely to go to the doctor

95. Explain the theory of American exceptionalism.

96. What seven ideas provide the foundation of US national government and lie at the core of what makes America unique?

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97. The Declaration of Independence declares that all men are created equal, but many of the men who signed it owned slaves. Explain how these men reconciled this contradiction.

98. What happened at the end of the Revolutionary War to the slaves who fought with the British army because they were promised freedom?

99. Briefly define *negative liberty*.

100. Briefly define *positive liberty*.

101. Which viewpoint of liberty did President Franklin Roosevelt adhere to?

102. Explain the principle of self-rule.

103. What is a sunshine law?

104. Explain the meaning of *referendum*.

105. Why are initiatives important?

106. Norwegians, through their government, take care of new parents. In fact, they strive to take good care of all their citizens. Almost half of a Norwegian's income goes to taxes. Explain whether you agree or disagree with this policy.

107. Do you believe that America as a society adheres too much to the idea of *individualism*? Elaborate on your opinion. Explain why this good or not good for our society.

108. Discuss solidarity and social democracy. How is solidarity changing?

109. Give an example where solidarity was key in your community as compared to individualism.

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110. What was Benjamin Franklin's central message for someone who wants to achieve the American dream?

111. Has the pursuit of wealth become an undesirable value or one that crowds out other important values?

112. Some critics question whether the American dream is still open to everyone or whether it has grown biased toward the rich and powerful. What is your opinion?

113. Do you believe that everyone in America has an equal opportunity to pursue the American dream?

114. Discuss the distinction between equal opportunity and equal outcome.

115. As most nations grow wealthier, their religious adherence wanes. Citizens in advanced countries, from Britain and France to Japan and South Korea, tell pollsters that God is not very important in their lives. Yet, in contrast, Americans maintain high levels of religious conviction. What is your theory as to why this is the case in the United States?

116. When Americans criticize their policy makers for inaction, they fail to remember that gridlock is a consequence of the frustrating institutions we have inherited. Elaborate on the institutions the framers designed.

117. Do you believe that we as Americans truly have freedom?

118. Has the United States been successful in the goal "*to secure those rights"* from the Declaration of Independence? Was there success at some points in history and not others?

119. There have been several ideas on freedom and liberty. Discuss ideas of scholars on this idea. What is your own idea? Why?

120. What are some ways the public can actively participate in self-rule?

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121. Why did Americans develop a distrust of central government?

122. Discuss the beliefs of social democrats. Does this appear to be a good system to you? Would it work well in the United States, or is it already working?

123. What two explanations help explain why Americans lean toward individualism?

124. Is there conflict within the American Dream? What two questions are usually asked to explain any conflict? Do you agree there is conflict or is the American Dream still open to everyone? Can the conflict be removed opening the American Dream to all?

125. The United States is a nation built on ideas; think about other important ideas that should be added to the seven we discuss in this chapter.

126. The Founding Fathers' goal in the Declaration of Independence was to secure each individual's rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Were they successful? Explain why or why not.

127. As the United States prepared for World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed that the nation was fighting for four freedoms: freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. The first two—freedom of speech and religion—were traditional, negative liberties: no one could infringe on these individual rights. Elaborate on the latter two.

128. Do you believe in positive liberty or negative liberty? State your reasoning.

129. What did Thomas Jefferson mean when he said, “The will of the majority is a sacred principle”?

130. Do you agree with Thomas Jefferson that maximizing democracy is the best for a thriving and successful nation?

131. Elaborate on the principles of a *republic*.

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132. One of the most important questions for political scientists is how we should balance self-rule and limits on government. Do you believe that self-rule should be the norm in government? Or do you believe the barriers to government action should be high?

133. Most western European nations are social democracies. Why has the arrival of Muslim immigrants caused these nations' sense of solidarity to falter?

134. Which groups in the United States share a strong sense of solidarity?

135. Explain why western European nations prefer community-oriented social democracies by roughly two to one in comparison to the United States.

136. Explain the factors many social scientists cite in arguing that the chance of moving up—from poverty to wealth—is fading in the United States.

137. Though America adheres more to the mindset of individualism, name recent examples of when the country came together.

138. Discuss how often the word *rights* appears in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and Constitutional Amendments?

139. Today, American society has become far less equal and is now closer to the inequality levels of less-developed nations than to the wealthier but more egalitarian nations of the world. Should we adopt public policies to limit inequality?

140. Should we adopt public policies to limit inequality?

141. Discuss differences between conservatives and liberals.

142. Today, American society has become far less equal and is now closer to the inequality levels of less-developed nations than to the wealthier but more egalitarian nations of the world. Should we adopt public policies to limit inequality?

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Answer Key

1. C
2. A
3. C
4. C
5. A
6. C
7. B
8. C
9. A
10. D
11. B
12. C
13. A
14. C
15. B
16. B
17. C
18. C
19. B
20. A
21. B
22. C
23. A
24. B
25. C
26. C
27. A
28. A
29. C
30. A
31. B
32. A
33. C
34. A
35. D
36. C
37. C
38. C
39. A
40. A
41. C
42. A
43. A
44. B

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45. D
46. C
47. C
48. D
49. D
50. B
51. C
52. C
53. C
54. C
55. C
56. B
57. A
58. A
59. B
60. C
61. B
62. D
63. A
64. C
65. A
66. B
67. A
68. C
69. C
70. D
71. A
72. C
73. B
74. A
75. C
76. A
77. B
78. C
79. C
80. B
81. B
82. C
83. A
84. C
85. A
86. D
87. C
88. A
89. C
90. D

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91. B
92. C
93. D
94. A
95. • America marked by distinct ideas
    • America unique among the nations of the world
    • America should share its values with the world
96. • Lists seven values (liberty, self-rule, limited government, individualism, American dream, equality, religion)
    • Discusses importance of each
    • Has examples on how one or more of them influences politics
97. • Quotes Declaration of Independence
    • Mentions the author was Thomas Jefferson, slaveholder
    • Discusses the continuing debate about slavery through the American Revolution and afterward
98. • Mentions British government offer to free slaves
    • Discusses how the British offered freedom against the colonists who fought for liberty
    • Discusses the outcome of this offer on the slaves
99. • Cites the definition
    • Mentions this contrasts with the idea of *positive liberty*
    • Provides an example
100. • Cites the definition
    • Mentions this contrasts with the idea of *negative liberty*
    • Provides an example
101. • Cites the speech of President Roosevelt prior to WWII
    • Lists his four freedoms—freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, freedom from fear
    • Explains how these ideas impacted New Deal
102. • Discusses the definition
    • Provides examples
    • Explains how this impacts American government
103. • Discusses the definition
    • Provides examples
    • Explains how this impacts American government
104. • Discusses the definition
    • Provides examples
    • Explains how this impacts American government
105. • Defines initiatives
    • Discusses citizens proposing laws and/or amendments
    • Public participation
106. • Discusses the idea of solidarity vs. individualism
    • Highlights examples of American individualism in a situation comparable to care for new parents
    • States opinion clearly on agreement or disagreement with this policy
107. • Discusses tenets of individualism

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- Compares individualism to solidarity
- States opinion clearly

108.
- Discusses tenets of solidarity
- Explain when solidarity is strongest
- Discusses changes to solidarity as a result of immigration

109.
- Discusses tenets of individualism
- Compares individualism to solidarity
- Gives a good example of solidarity

110.
- Cites the ideas of Benjamin Franklin on ways to achieve success
- Discusses the importance of these ideas to American culture
- Explains how the American dream affects American politics

111.
- Discusses tenets of the American dream
- Analyzes the values of the American dream in comparison to other values such as environmentalism or social justice
- Gives a good example of values in conflict

112.
- Discusses tenets of the American dream
- Discusses how helping people get wealthy can help those already wealthy the most
- Gives a good example where this has occurred

113.
- Discusses tenets of the American dream
- Discusses how equal opportunity exists/does not exist
- Gives a good example where this has occurred

114.
- Discusses tenets of the American dream
- Gives a good example of the government promoting equal opportunity
- Gives a good example of the government promoting equal outcome

115.
- Discusses early America, where many of the colonies began as religious communities
- Discusses religious diversity
- Presents an opinion of why Americans remain more religious than other countries

116.
- Describes the American value of limited government
- Cites an example from the Constitution or current political practice on how this occurs
- States an opinion on whether this is good or bad for America

117.
- Discusses positive freedom and negative freedom
- Provides examples of each
- States an opinion clearly

118.
- States opinion
- Gives historical examples
- Gives modern examples

119.
- American history steady march toward greater liberty
- American history full of oppression but faith in freedom leads oppressed groups to fight
- Groups challenge the nation to live up to ideals
- Freedom is won and lost and then won and lost again

120.
- Town Hall meetings
- Referendums

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- Initiatives
- Sunshine Laws
- Demonstrations

121. • History of securing rights
- Americans enjoyed political rights before had a central government
- King too far away to meddle in colonial affairs
- Central government seen as threat to life, liberty, and happiness

122. • Members of a society are responsible for one another
- Government a source of mutual assistance
- Government provides citizens with the basics
- Based on solidarity

123. • Golden Opportunity
- Social Conflict

124. • Is the system tilted toward the wealthy?
- Does the American Dream promote the wrong values?
- States an opinion with supports

125. • Lists the seven values behind American political culture (liberty, self-rule, limited government, individualism, American dream, equality, religion)
- Suggests additional ideas that impact American political culture
- Analyzes American political culture to explain which organizations or individuals reflect these additional ideas
- Discusses the likely success of organizations and individuals in implementing programs based on these ideas
- Discusses the likelihood that American political culture will adopt new values over time as the demographics of America change

126. • Discusses the development of the Declaration of Independence in American history
- Analyzes the rights to life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness in the Declaration of Independence
- Highlights current government policies that reinforce these rights
- Analyzes whether government policies are successful in improving the lives of people
- Suggests possible government policy changes to better implement these rights

127. • Discusses the four freedoms, explaining what they mean
- Analyzes what freedom from want and freedom from fear mean as elements of "positive liberty"
- Highlights elements of the New Deal that reflect the values of freedom from want and freedom from fear
- Explains how the four freedoms helped the United States prepare to fight World War II
- Suggests post–New Deal policies of the United States that reflect continuing adherence to freedom from want and freedom from fear

128. • Discusses the definitions of positive liberty and negative liberty
- Provides examples of government policies that support positive liberty and negative liberty
- Provides a viewpoint for which definition of liberty is better

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- Suggests reasons for why the viewpoint is correct
- Suggests alternative or additional policies that would enhance the selected definition of liberty

129.
- Explains Thomas Jefferson's quote
- Discusses what democracy means for government operation
- Analyzes opposing points of view (James Madison) to majority rule
- Provides examples where majority rule is positive and successful
- Provides examples where majority rule is negative and destructive

130.
- Explains Thomas Jefferson's point of view
- Discusses what democracy means for government operation
- Analyzes opposing points of view (James Madison) to majority rule
- Provides examples where majority rule is positive and successful
- Provides examples where majority rule is negative and destructive

131.
- Explains the ideas of a republic
- Discusses what having a republic means for government operation
- Analyzes alternatives to a republic
- Provides examples where having a republic is positive and successful
- Provides examples where having a republic is negative and destructive

132.
- Discusses what self-rule and government limitations mean
- Provides an opinion on whether self-rule or limited government should be the norm
- Suggests examples of government policies that support self-rule
- Suggest examples of government policies that support limited government
- Suggests alternative policies

133.
- Explains the definition of solidarity
- Discusses reasons for less solidarity and more individualism in America
- Compares the US to Europe
- Cites government policies that would reflect a value for solidarity
- Cites government policies that would reflect a value for individualism
- Suggests policy changes occurring in Europe due to the arrival of Muslim immigrants

134.
- Cites groups in the United States that share a strong sense of solidarity
- Analyzes reasons why these groups believe in solidarity
- Suggests ways this sense of solidarity affects American politics
- Analyzes the impact of changing demographics on American political culture
- States policies that exist due to a sense of solidarity

135.
- Explains why western European nations prefer social democracies
- Explains why the United States has different preferences than western Europe
- Suggests policies that western Europeans have that the United States does not have due to their support for social democracy
- Analyzes the trade-offs western Europeans experience due to higher taxes to afford social democratic programs
- Analyzes the trade-offs Americans experience due to lower socioeconomic security with a weaker safety net

136.
- Discusses elements of the American dream
- Lists factors that prevent people from moving from poverty to wealth in America

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- Analyzes the validity of the arguments that people cannot move up from poverty to wealth
- Provides examples to highlight the analysis
- Suggests changes in government policies that might facilitate economic and social mobility

137.
- Names one or more examples of when the country came together over an event
- Analyzes individualism vs. solidarity
- Analyzes how the event promoting solidarity occurred
- Suggests ways Americans may be becoming more or less individualistic
- Discusses whether American individualism is positive

138.
- 10 times in Declaration of Independence
- 0 times in the Constitution
- 15 times in amendments
- Opinion on differences

139.
- Discusses the importance of the American dream to Americans
- Discusses issues of individualism vs. solidarity
- Discusses potential causes of greater income inequality in America
- Analyzes whether greater income inequality is an issue government should address
- Suggests potential public policies that may be adopted to limit inequality

140.
- Discusses the importance of the American dream to Americans
- Discusses issues of individualism vs. solidarity
- Discusses potential causes of greater income inequality in America
- Analyzes whether greater income inequality is an issue government should address
- Suggests potential public policies that may be adopted to limit inequality

141.
- Conservatives: reduced government spending, personal responsibility, traditional moral values, strong national defense
- Liberals: cultural diversity, government programs for the needy, public intervention in the economy, individuals' right to a lifestyle based on their own social and moral positions

142.
- Discusses the importance of the American dream to Americans
- Discusses issues of individualism vs. solidarity
- Discusses potential causes of greater income inequality in America
- Analyzes whether greater income inequality is an issue government should address
- Suggests potential public policies that may be adopted to limit inequality

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Chapter 2: The Ideas That Shape America

What Students Should Learn from This Chapter

- The seven key American ideas: liberty, self-rule, limited government, individualism, the American dream, equality, and faith in God.
- The arguments that surround each of them.
- How to explore the essential question: How do ideas affect politics?

Outline

I. Nation of ideas
  A. Ideas are the root of American independence as articulated in the Declaration of Independence
  B. American exceptionalism—the view that the United States is unique, marked by a distinct set of ideas such as equality, self-rule, and limited government
  C. Seven Big Ideas
    1. Liberty
    2. Self-rule (often called democracy)
    3. Individualism
    4. Limited government
    5. American dream
    6. Equality
    7. Faith in God
  D. Americans rarely agree on meaning of ideas, constantly debate

II. Liberty
  A. Freedom: the ability to pursue one's own desires without interference from others
    1. Most often-invoked American value
  B. There are two different views of what liberty means
    1. *Negative liberty*
      a) Freedom from constraints or the interference of others
      b) Society's responsibility to make sure that others do not interfere
      c) Limits government action
    2. *Positive liberty*
      a) Freedom to pursue one's goals
      b) Individuals cannot really be free if they lack the basic necessities of life
      c) Government action is a way to help give all people a legitimate chance to achieve their dreams
  C. Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Four Freedoms, 1941
    1. Freedom of Speech
    2. Freedom of Religion
    3. Freedom from Want
    4. Freedom from Fear

III. Self-rule
  A. The people rule
  B. Two types of government by the people
    1. *Democracy*
      a) Citizens participate directly in making government decisions.
      b) Exemplified through New England town hall meetings
      c) Still exists in many states
        1) Referendum—voting directly on an issue
        2) Initiative—the public can propose a new law or amendment to the state constitution

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3) Sunshine provisions—laws that require all government meetings be open to the public

2. *Republic*
   a) A government in which citizens rule indirectly and make government decisions through their elected representatives
   b) American government consists of elected representatives organized to put a check on the majority.
3. America balances these two ideals: democratic republic

IV. Limited government
- A. Outside government was distrusted even when Americans were English colonists.
- B. Conservatives
  1. Reduced government spending
  2. Personal responsibility
  3. Traditional moral values
  4. Strong national defense
- C. Liberals
  1. Cultural diversity
  2. Government programs for the needy
  3. Public intervention int eh economy
  4. Individuals' right to a lifestyle based on their own social and moral positions
- D. Americans say they do not like government and then demand government address problems they are concerned about
- E. Suspicion built into Constitution
  1. Checks and balances on power
  2. Limits to what Congress can do
- F. During times of crisis people turn to the government for action
- G. Democracy and limited government, two American ideas, frequently clash

V. Individualism
- A. The idea that individuals, not the society, are responsible for their well-being
- B. Social democracy—government is responsible for everyone's well-being and policies are to assure all are comfortably cared for
  1. Emphasize community
  2. Members of society are responsible for one another
  3. Government a source of mutual assistance
  4. Based on *solidarity*
- C. Individualism – people and their families responsible for their own welfare
  1. Limited government, faith in economic markets, emphasis on *negative liberty*
  2. Part of American history
     a) America was an opportunity for European immigrants to get ahead in a New World and open frontier.
     b) America was too big and diverse to form a sense of solidarity.

VI. The American dream
- A. The idea that if you are talented and work hard, you can achieve financial success
- B. Common people cared about getting rich, so policies to enable wealth creation became a function of government
- C. Challenges
  1. Policies have failed to support common people but only encourage the wealthy to stay rich
  2. Policies promote materialism

VII. Equality
- A. The idea that every citizen enjoys the same privileges, status, and rights before the law

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B. Types of equality
    1. Social—same status in society (no rigid social boundaries)
    2. Political—same political rights and opportunities (e.g., voting)
    3. Economic equality—small differences in wealth between citizens. True anymore?

C. Equality of opportunity vs. equality of outcome
    1. Equality of opportunity—every American has an equal chance to win economic success.
    2. Equality of outcome—government should be a tool to ensure greater economic equality.

VIII. Religion

A. John Winthrop of the Puritan colony called it a "city on a hill."

B. America is still far more religious than other European societies.
    1. Many colonies started as religious communities.
    2. Extensive religious diversity

C. Religious debate has extensively impacted governmental action.
    1. Different interpretations of the First Amendment
    2. Religion has inspired Americans to social action (e.g., Prohibition, civil rights movement).
    3. Missionary sense of destiny (e.g., Manifest Destiny, Cold War)

IX. Ideas affect politics.

A. Ideas create political culture—the orientation of citizens of a state towards politics.

B. Ideas create political institutions that regulate political behavior (e.g., Federalist 10, where the Constitution molds public outcomes regardless of the character of the people or their leaders).

Suggested Lecture Topics and Class Activities

1) Which of the seven American ideas is most important to you? Why did you choose that one? Are there any ideas that need to be removed? Explain why.
2) Do the ideals of America still exist? If you were writing the American Ideal today what would you include? Why did you choose those?
3) Discuss the difference between *individualism and social democracies.* Should we ensure the basics—or simply protect individual rights and let every person run the great race alone?
4) Analyze the difference between political institutions and political culture.
5) Separate the class into groups. Have each group defend one of the seven American ideas as the greatest. Give examples of how it is important today as well as why it was important in the past.
6) How do American ideals affect government decisions? What happens when people disagree on the meaning of the ideals? How is the issue resolved?

Discussion Questions

1) What are the core concepts of individualism and social democracies?
2) Today, America strives towards equal opportunity. But does every citizen have an equal opportunity to influence the political process, and are they all treated the same way before the law (i.e., women and minorities)?
3) Discuss the politics of religion. Analyze why religion still plays a strong part in American lives, whereas religious conviction has waned in countries like Britain, Japan, and France as they have become wealthier.
4) Discuss three different kinds of political issues with regard to religion: 1) first, there is the question of what exactly the Constitution forbids; 2) second, religious faith often inspires people to throw themselves into political issues; 3) third, religious fervor sometimes fosters a missionary sense in American politics.

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Video Resources
USA.gov Channel http://www.youtube.com/user/USGovernment
Icount https://icount.com/
PBS *Frontline* http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/watch/
Firing Line Debates https://www.hoover.org/library-archives/collections/firing-line
Bill Moyers http://billmoyers.com/

Website Resources
Data and Statistics about the U.S. https://www.usa.gov/statistics
A Chronology of US Historical Documents www.ushistory.or/documents/
The Founders' Constitution http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/
Follow the Money http://www.followthemoney.org/
Political Resource Directory http://politicalresources.com/
The Internet Classics Archive classics.mit.edu
The Online Library of Liberty http://oll.libertyfund.org/

Test Questions

Multiple-Choice Questions

Question type: factual
Page number:
1) Lieutenant Russell Burgos was formerly a _____, prior to fighting in the Iraq War.
a. college student
b. attorney
*c. political science professor
d. construction worker

Question type: factual
Page number:
2) What did Burgos think explained why the United States launched the war in Iraq?
*a. ideas
b. religion
c. politics
d. none of the above

Question type: factual
Page number:
3) When did the colonies break away from England?
a. August 21, 1824
b. January 4, 1706
*c. July 4, 1776
d. July 4, 1781

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
4) American leaders issued a Declaration of Independence explaining their revolutionary actions. Which of the following encapsulated their ideas?
a. *"That all men and women are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."*

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b. *"That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their God with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."*
*c. *"That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."*
d. none of the above

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
5) The Declaration of Independence explained the role of government—securing each individual's three rights. Which of the following is one of those rights?
*a. life
b. freedom
c. success
d. none of the above

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
6) The Declaration of Independence explained the role of government—securing each individual's three rights. Which of the following is one of those rights?
a. wealth
b. land
*c. liberty
d. none of the above

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
7) The Declaration of Independence explained the role of government—securing each individual's three rights. Which of the following is one of those rights?
a. freedom of religion
*b. pursuit of happiness
c. property
d. none of the above

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
8) Which of the following is not one of the seven big ideas espoused in the Declaration of Independence?
a. liberty
b. individualism
*c. freedom of religion
d. equality

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
9) Which of the following is not one of the seven big ideas espoused in the Declaration of Independence?
*a. land ownership
b. self-rule (which is often called democracy)
c. limited government
d. American dream

Question type: conceptual
Page number:

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10) Which of the following IS one of the seven big ideas espoused in the Declaration of Independence?
a. the American dream
b. equality
c. faith in God
*d. all of the above

Question type: factual
Page number:
11) The Declaration of Independence states that people form governments for what purpose?
a. voting
*b. secure rights
c. colonize other lands
d. provide citizenship

Question type: factual
Page number:
12) What percentage of Americans belong to a church or religious organization?
a. 95
b. 40
*c. 54
d. 13

Question type: factual
Page number:
13) Why did eighty thousand slaves join the British during the Revolutionary War?
*a. The royal governor of Virginia promised them freedom
b. The royal governor of Virginia paid them
c. They did so out of loyalty
d. They were forced to by King George III

Question type: factual
Page number:
14) What was the motto for the slaves who fought in the Revolutionary War?
a. “Freedom for the slaves”
b. “Freedom for all”
*c. “Liberty for the slaves”
d. “Liberty and justice for slaves”

Question type: factual
Page number:
15) What is the definition of *freedom*?
a. It means that the government will protect your life, your liberty, and your property from the coercion of others (excluding government) in order to permit you to pursue the goals you define for yourself.
*b. It means that the government will protect your life, your liberty, and your property from the coercion of others (including government) in order to permit you to pursue the goals you define for yourself.
c. It means that the government will protect your life, your liberty, and your guns from the coercion of others (including government) in order to permit you to pursue the goals you define for yourself.
d. none of the above

Question type: conceptual
Page number:

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16) What is the view of *negative liberty*?
a. Freedom is granted with limited restrictions.
*b. Freedom is the absence of constraints.
c. Freedom is the inclusion of constraints.
d. none of the above

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
17) What is the definition of *positive liberty*?
a. The freedom to pursue one's goals with government restrictions.
b. The freedom to pursue one's goals with some exceptions.
*c. The freedom to pursue one's goals.
d. The freedom to pursue one's goals without government control.

Question type: factual
Page number:
18) President Franklin D. Roosevelt, as the nation prepared for World War II, proclaimed that the nation was fighting for four freedoms. Which of the following is not one of them?
a. freedom of speech
b. freedom of worship
*c. freedom of oppression
d. freedom from want

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
19) What does "freedom from want" mean?
a. helping people achieve a home
*b. helping needy people who have fallen on hard times
c. helping people obtain the American dream
d. none of the above

Question type: factual
Page number:
20) Strong proponents of negative liberty are known as ____ and oppose most forms of government action.
*a. Libertarians
b. Green
c. Conservative
d. Democratic

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
21) President Roosevelt adheres to which viewpoint?
a. negative liberty
*b. positive liberty
c. both
d. social democracy

Question type: conceptual
Page number:

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22) The American promise, as written by _____, is the “promise of disharmony” as a steady parade of groups—African Americans, women, immigrants, and many others—successfully challenge the nation to live up to its ideals.
a. Benjamin Franklin
b. Andrew Jackson
*c. Samuel Huntington
d. John Adams

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
23) Other political thinkers, like _____, warn against seeing anything like a steady rise of freedom. The outcome in the fight is never inevitable.
*a. Rogers Smith
b. Samuel Adams
c. John Adams
d. Benjamin Franklin

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
24) _____ means that citizens participate directly in making government decisions.
a. Republic
*b. Democracy
c. Autocratic
d. Libertarian

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
25) What is a referendum?
a. a bill
b. a recall
*c. a direct vote by the people on an issue
d. a measure to kill a bill

Question type: factual
Page number:
26) How many states allow referendums?
a. seventeen
b. ten and the District of Columbia
*c. twenty-seven and the District of Columbia
d. thirty

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
27) _____ permit the public to circulate a petition that proposes a new law or amendment to the government.
*a. Initiatives
b. Referendums
c. Ballot initiatives
d. All of the above

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Question type: conceptual
Page number:
28) What is a sunshine law?
*a. a law that stipulates government meetings must be open to the public
b. a law that allows marijuana usage for those eighteen and over
c. a law that is only allowed in certain states
d. a law that is only valid in the West Coast

Question type: factual
Page number:
29) When did Dr. Martin Luther King give his famous “I Have a Dream” speech?
a. 1962
b. 1955
*c. 1963
d. 1969

Question type: factual
Page number:
30) Which of the Founding Fathers was a big proponent of maximizing democracy?
*a. Thomas Jefferson
b. George Washington
c. James Madison
d. Benjamin Franklin

Question type: factual
Page number:
31) How many times does the word *right* appear in the Constitution?
a. 6
*b. 0
c. 3
d. 8

Question type: factual
Page number:
32) What percentage of Americans believe a direct democracy is a good way to govern?
*a. 67%
b. 86%
c. 17%
d. 40%

Question type: applied
Page number:
33) The foundation of American politics is (are)
a. democracy
b. checks and balances
*c. seven big ideas
d. republicanism

Question type: applied
Page number:

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34) An irony of the Declaration of Independence is that many of the signers
*a. owned slaves
b. were born in England
c. refused military service
d. did not own land

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
35) The idea that comes up in American history most often is
a. Democracy
b. Voting
c. Independence
*d. Liberty

Question type: factual
Page number:
36) The Family and Medical Leave Act (1993) requires employers with more than 50 workers to allow up to _____ of *unpaid* leave for pregnancy, adoption, illness, or military service.
a. one week
b. five weeks
*c. twelve weeks
d. fifteen weeks

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
37) What is the concept of *individualism*?
a. the idea that individuals, with some assistance from the government, are responsible for their own well-being
b. the notion that individuals, with some assistance from the greater society, are responsible for their own well-being
*c. the idea that individuals, not the society or the community or the government, are responsible for their own well-being
d. none of the above

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
38) What do *social democrats* believe?
a. members of a society are responsible for one another with the exception of some assistance from the government.
b. members of a society are responsible for one another and should support other developing countries.
*c. members of a society are responsible for one another.
d. none of the above

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
39) Social democracies are based on ____, the idea that people have a tight bond and are responsible for one another.
*a. solidarity
b. social cohesiveness
c. interdependence
d. social collaboration

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Question type: factual
Page number:
40) Countries that emphasize community are known as
*a. social democracies
b. republics
c. welfare nations
d. communitarian societies

Question type: factual
Page number:
41) Which economist famously wrote, “The world runs on individuals pursuing their separate interests”?
a. Susan Richards
b. Michael Samuels
*c. Milton Friedman
d. Roger Hernandez

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
42) Individualism points toward limited government, faith in economic markets, and a strong emphasis on
*a. negative liberty.
b. positive liberty.
c. a mixture of positive and negative liberty.
d. none of the above

Question type: applied
Page number:
43) Believing that someone should work hard for what they have is characteristic of
*a. individualism
b. democracy
c. social democracy
d. European model

Question type: factual
Page number:
44) By 1860, how many black slaves were in America?
a. Two million
*b. Four million
c. Three million
d. One million

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
45) Benjamin Franklin perfected a classic American literary form—tips for getting rich. Which of the following was a slogan of Franklin?
a. “A penny saved is a penny earned”
b. “No gains without pains”
c. “God helps those who help themselves”
*d. all of the above

Question type: factual

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Page number:
46) “If you are talented and work hard, you can achieve personal (and especially financial) success” summarizes the
a. slogan of unions
b. Preamble
*c. American Dream
d. Declaration of Independence

Question type: factual
Page number:
47) The American Dream according to James Truslow Adams is
a. “anyone can be president”
b. “free land for all”
*c. “life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement”
d. “life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with government opportunity for all to achieve

Question type: factual
Page number:
48) Today, which of the following statements is a correct assessment of America’s economic milieu?
a. The top 1 percent of Americans own more than the bottom 90 percent.
b. Three million people enjoy more wealth than 290 million others.
c. Sixty million Americans at the bottom of the charts own almost nothing—one-tenth of one percent of the national wealth.
*d. all of the above

Question type: applied
Page number:
49) Studies suggest that someone in the bottom fifth of the income distribution is twice as likely to move up at least one category (or quintile) in which of the following nations as in the United States?
a. Canada
b. Denmark
c. France
*d. all of the above

Question type: factual
Page number:
50) President Franklin Roosevelt said, “if they teach us that our true ____ is…to minister…to our ____ man” when referring to the Depression.
a. quest… fallen
*b. destiny… fellow
c. fate… brethren
d. none of the above

Question type: factual
Page number:
51) Who said the following powerful statement during the civil rights movement? “Should we double our wealth and conquer the stars, and still not be equal to this issue [race], then we will have failed as a people and as a nation… what is a man profited, if he should gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?”
a. John F. Kennedy

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b. Bobby Kennedy
*c. Lyndon Johnson
d. Martin L. King

Question type: factual
Page number:
52) What percentage of children live below the poverty line?
a. 15%
b. 18%
*c. 21%
d. 23%

Question type: applied
Page number:
53) In comparison with other wealthy nations, our taxes are relatively ___, we regulate business less, we take ____ vacations, and we place more stress on getting ahead.
a. high… fewer
b. high… more
*c. low… fewer
d. low… more

Question type: applied
Page number:
54) According to the Harvard University study how do 18-29-year-olds feel about the American Dream?
a. very achievable
b. needs rewritten
*c. does not apply to them
d. provides motivation to work hard

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
55) The _____ is a belief that anyone who works hard can get ahead and grow wealthy.
a. social democracy
b. American democracy
*c. American dream
d. individualism

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
56) How does your text define equality?
a. Every citizen, man or woman, enjoys the same privileges, status, and rights before the laws.
*b. Every citizen enjoys the same privileges, status, and rights before the laws.
c. Every male citizen enjoys the same privileges, status, and rights before the laws.
d. none of the above

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
57) ____ means that all individuals enjoy the same status in society.
*a. Social equality
b. Democratic equality
c. Socialism

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d. Equal opportunity

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
58) _____ means that every citizen has the same political rights and opportunities.
*a. Political equality
b. Social equality
c. Democratic equality
d. Political outcome

Question type: applied
Page number:
59) How many fixed social classes were there in the United States immediately following the Civil War?
a. 4
*b. 0
c. 2
d. 12

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
60) ____ focuses on differences in wealth.
a. Social equality
b. Political equality
*c. Economic equality
d. none of the above

Question type: applied
Page number:
61) The ____ is one measure of economic inequality.
a. economic coefficient
*b. Gini coefficient
c. social coefficient
d. Reagan coefficient

Question type: applied
Page number:
62) Today American society has become far less equal than which of the following countries?
a. Japan
b. Sweden
c. Germany
*d. all of the above

Question type: applied
Page number:
63) We are now ____ the inequality levels of the most unequal country in the world than the most equal.
*a. closer to
b. passing
c. moving away from
d. none of the above

Question type: conceptual

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Page number:
64) _____ is the idea that every American has an equal chance.
a. American dream
b. Democracy
*c. Equal opportunity
d. Equal outcome

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
65) _____ is the idea that a society guarantees not just an opportunity but also the results. Some nations reserve a minimum number of seats in the national legislature (whether it be a parliament or Congress) for women or members of specific ethnic groups.
*a. Equal outcome
b. Equal opportunity
c. Social democracy
d. American liberty

Question type: factual
Page number:
66) Inequality has spiked over the past _____ years.
a. Twenty-five
*b. Thirty-five
c. Forty
d. Twenty

Question type: factual
Page number:
67) Today, American politics emphasizes _____ over equality.
*a. negative liberty
b. positive liberty
c. individualism
d. American Dream

Question type: factual
Page number:
68) In the 1630s, a large contingent of _____ sailed to New England with an ambitious aim: to establish a biblical commonwealth that would serve as a Christian model for the rest of the world.
a. Catholics
b. Christians
*c. Puritans
d. Quakers

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
69) Governor John Winthrop called their settlement “a city upon a hill.” Why did he use this phrase?
a. the church was built on a hill
b. his house was on a hill
*c. the commonwealth would serve as a Christian model
d. the commonwealth would rise above all other colonies

Question type: applied

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Page number:
70) As most nations grow wealthier, their religious fervor wanes. Which of the following countries tell pollsters that God is not very important in their lives?
a. Britain
b. France
c. Japan
*d. all of the above

Question type: factual
Page number:
71) Americans maintain high (and by some measures, rising) levels of religiosity. Some ____ percent of Americans say they believe in God, almost ____ percent belong to a church, and nearly _____ percent attend church regularly.
*a. 87… 54… 46
b. 50… 45… 30
c. 75… 30… 15
d. 10… 45… 50

Question type: factual
Page number:
72) Americans have a lot of religions to choose from. One recent survey found ____ different Christian denominations with more than a million members each.
a. Fifty
b. Twenty-five
*c. Sixteen
d. Thirty

Question type: factual
Page number:
73) In America, Jews number some ____million.
a. 1.5
*b. 6.7
c. 3.0
d. 5.1

Question type: factual
Page number:
74) In the United States, there are nearly ____ Muslims.
*a. 3 million
b. 1 million
c. 5 million
d. 2 million

Question type: factual
Page number:
75) There are ____ other non-Christian groups that have over 100,000 adherents each.
a. five
b. three
*c. seven
d. ten

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Question type: factual
Page number: 53
76) Religious observance is not the same throughout the United States. For example, Texas and Georgia have ___ religiosity.
*a. high
b. medium-level
c. low
d. no

Question type: applied
Page number:
77) Religious observance is not the same throughout the United States. For example, Florida and Missouri have ___ religiosity.
a. high
*b. medium-level
c. low
d. no

Question type: factual
Page number:
78) Religious observance is not the same throughout the United States. Which of the following states is not especially religious?
a. Utah
b. Alabama
*c. Wisconsin
d. Maryland

Question type: factual
Page number:
79) Generational change is also at work: while _____ Americans continue to report high rates of religious faith.
a. those over 50
b. Baby Boomers
*c. younger
d. none of the above

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
80) The _____ declares, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”
a. Third Amendment
*b. First Amendment
c. Fourth Amendment
d. Second Amendment

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
81) Which of the Founding Fathers described “a wall of separation between church and state”?
a. Benjamin Franklin
*b. Thomas Jefferson

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c. John Adams
d. George Washington

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
82) _____ thought that the practice of presidents holding national days of prayer violated the First Amendment.
a. George Washington
b. John Adams
*c. Thomas Jefferson
d. all of the above

Question type: factual
Page number:
83) When did Congress add "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance?
*a. 1954
b. 1832
c. 1790
d. 1976

Question type: factual
Page number:
84) When did Congress add "In God We Trust" to paper money?
a. 1877
b. 1794
*c. 1955
d. 1991

Question type: factual
Page number:
85) President George W. Bush explained America's mission in Iraq as
*a. "God's gift of freedom"
b. "Championing the mansion on the hill"
c. "Spreading the gifts of God"
d. "Sharing prosperity with the world"

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
86) Which of the following ideas are integral to portray the American *political culture*?
a. liberty
b. individualism
c. the American dream
*d. all of the above

Question type: factual
Page number:
87) Why did the framers add a Bill of Rights to the Constitution?
a. their belief in a social democracy
b. their resolution in liberty
*c. their abiding faith in individualism

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d. all of the above

Question type: applied
Page number:
88) Why are there so many checks and balances in our national government?
*a. because of the old American fear of too much government
b. because of Congress's fear of power being usurped
c. because of the democratic way
d. none of the above

Question type: applied
Page number:
89) Why does the United States regulate and tax less than other nations?
a. because Americans are too individualistic
b. because elected officials are afraid of voters
*c. because of the American dream's gospel of success
d. because of the American dream's belief of independence

Question type: factual
Page number:
90) American national culture is a
a. finished process
b. written process
c. process of previous generations
*d. perpetual work in progress

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
91) The key to political action are the
a. political organizations
*b. political institutions
c. political culture
d. political dichotomy

Question type: conceptual
Page number:
92) Where do barriers to new programs emerge from
a. voters
b. dislike of government
*c. the way government is organized
d. Constitution

Question type: factual
Page number:
93) Why is the U.S. government slow to act, according to the institutional perspective?
a. voters fail to vote
b. the workweek is short
c. party system
*d. designed to be slow by checks and balances

Question type: conceptual

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Page number:
94) Cultural perspective suggest that the United States has never had national health insurance because
*a. Americans do not trust government
b. Americans trust government too much
c. national health insurance is seen as too European
d. Americans are not likely to go to the doctor

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Short-Answer Questions

1) Explain the theory of American exceptionalism.
    - America marked by distinct ideas
    - America unique among the nations of the world
    - America should share its values with the world

2) What seven ideas provide the foundation of US national government and lie at the core of what makes America unique?
    - Lists seven values (liberty, self-rule, limited government, individualism, American dream, equality, religion)
    - Discusses importance of each
    - Has examples on how one or more of them influences politics

3) The Declaration of Independence declares that all men are created equal, but many of the men who signed it owned slaves. Explain how these men reconciled this contradiction.
    - Quotes Declaration of Independence
    - Mentions the author was Thomas Jefferson, slaveholder
    - Discusses the continuing debate about slavery through the American Revolution and afterward

4) What happened at the end of the Revolutionary War to the slaves who fought with the British army because they were promised freedom?
    - Mentions British government offer to free slaves
    - Discusses how the British offered freedom against the colonists who fought for liberty
    - Discusses the outcome of this offer on the slaves

5) Briefly define *negative liberty*.
    - Cites the definition
    - Mentions this contrasts with the idea of *positive liberty*
    - Provides an example

6) Briefly define *positive liberty*.
    - Cites the definition
    - Mentions this contrasts with the idea of *negative liberty*
    - Provides an example

7) Which viewpoint of liberty did President Franklin Roosevelt adhere to?
    - Cites the speech of President Roosevelt prior to WWII
    - Lists his four freedoms—freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, freedom from fear
    - Explains how these ideas impacted New Deal

8) Explain the principle of self-rule.
    - Discusses the definition
    - Provides examples
    - Explains how this impacts American government

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9) What is a sunshine law?
   - Discusses the definition
   - Provides examples
   - Explains how this impacts American government

10) Explain the meaning of *referendum*.
   - Discusses the definition
   - Provides examples
   - Explains how this impacts American government

11) Why are initiatives important?
   - Defines initiatives
   - Discusses citizens proposing laws and/or amendments
   - Public participation

12) Norwegians, through their government, take care of new parents. In fact, they strive to take good care of all their citizens. Almost half of a Norwegian's income goes to taxes. Explain whether you agree or disagree with this policy.
   - Discusses the idea of solidarity vs. individualism
   - Highlights examples of American individualism in a situation comparable to care for new parents
   - States opinion clearly on agreement or disagreement with this policy

13) Do you believe that America as a society adheres too much to the idea of *individualism*? Elaborate on your opinion. Explain why this good or not good for our society.
   - Discusses tenets of individualism
   - Compares individualism to solidarity
   - States opinion clearly

14) Discuss solidarity and social democracy. How is solidarity changing?
   - Discusses tenets of solidarity
   - Explain when solidarity is strongest
   - Discusses changes to solidarity as a result of immigration

15) Give an example where solidarity was key in your community as compared to individualism.
   - Discusses tenets of individualism
   - Compares individualism to solidarity
   - Gives a good example of solidarity

16) What was Benjamin Franklin's central message for someone who wants to achieve the American dream?
   - Cites the ideas of Benjamin Franklin on ways to achieve success
   - Discusses the importance of these ideas to American culture
   - Explains how the American dream affects American politics

17) Has the pursuit of wealth become an undesirable value or one that crowds out other important values?
   - Discusses tenets of the American dream

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- Analyzes the values of the American dream in comparison to other values such as environmentalism or social justice
- Gives a good example of values in conflict

18) Some critics question whether the American dream is still open to everyone or whether it has grown biased toward the rich and powerful. What is your opinion?
    - Discusses tenets of the American dream
    - Discusses how helping people get wealthy can help those already wealthy the most
    - Gives a good example where this has occurred

19) Do you believe that everyone in America has an equal opportunity to pursue the American dream?
    - Discusses tenets of the American dream
    - Discusses how equal opportunity exists/does not exist
    - Gives a good example where this has occurred

20) Discuss the distinction between equal opportunity and equal outcome.
    - Discusses tenets of the American dream
    - Gives a good example of the government promoting equal opportunity
    - Gives a good example of the government promoting equal outcome

21) As most nations grow wealthier, their religious adherence wanes. Citizens in advanced countries, from Britain and France to Japan and South Korea, tell pollsters that God is not very important in their lives. Yet, in contrast, Americans maintain high levels of religious conviction. What is your theory as to why this is the case in the United States?
    - Discusses early America, where many of the colonies began as religious communities
    - Discusses religious diversity
    - Presents an opinion of why Americans remain more religious than other countries

22) When Americans criticize their policy makers for inaction, they fail to remember that gridlock is a consequence of the frustrating institutions we have inherited. Elaborate on the institutions the framers designed.
    - Describes the American value of limited government
    - Cites an example from the Constitution or current political practice on how this occurs
    - States an opinion on whether this is good or bad for America

23) Do you believe that we as Americans truly have freedom?
    - Discusses positive freedom and negative freedom
    - Provides examples of each
    - States an opinion clearly

24) Has the United States been successful in the goal "*to secure those rights"* from the Declaration of Independence? Was there success at some points in history and not others?
    - States opinion
    - Gives historical examples
    - Gives modern examples

25) There have been several ideas on freedom and liberty. Discuss ideas of scholars on this idea. What is your own idea? Why?

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- American history steady march toward greater liberty
- American history full of oppression but faith in freedom leads oppressed groups to fight
- Groups challenge the nation to live up to ideals
- Freedom is won and lost and then won and lost again

26) What are some ways the public can actively participate in self-rule?
- Town Hall meetings
- Referendums
- Initiatives
- Sunshine Laws
- Demonstrations

27) Why did Americans develop a distrust of central government?
- History of securing rights
- Americans enjoyed political rights before had a central government
- King too far away to meddle in colonial affairs
- Central government seen as threat to life, liberty, and happiness

28) Discuss the beliefs of social democrats. Does this appear to be a good system to you? Would it work well in the United States, or is it already working?
- Members of a society are responsible for one another
- Government a source of mutual assistance
- Government provides citizens with the basics
- Based on solidarity

29) What two explanations help explain why Americans lean toward individualism?
- Golden Opportunity
- Social Conflict

30) Is there conflict within the American Dream? What two questions are usually asked to explain any conflict? Do you agree there is conflict or is the American Dream still open to everyone? Can the conflict be removed opening the American Dream to all?
- Is the system tilted toward the wealthy?
- Does the American Dream promote the wrong values?
- States an opinion with supports

Essay Questions

1) The United States is a nation built on ideas; think about other important ideas that should be added to the seven we discuss in this chapter.
- Lists the seven values behind American political culture (liberty, self-rule, limited government, individualism, American dream, equality, religion)
- Suggests additional ideas that impact American political culture
- Analyzes American political culture to explain which organizations or individuals reflect these additional ideas
- Discusses the likely success of organizations and individuals in implementing programs based on these ideas
- Discusses the likelihood that American political culture will adopt new values over time as the demographics of America change

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2) The Founding Fathers' goal in the Declaration of Independence was to secure each individual's rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Were they successful? Explain why or why not.
    - Discusses the development of the Declaration of Independence in American history
    - Analyzes the rights to life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness in the Declaration of Independence
    - Highlights current government policies that reinforce these rights
    - Analyzes whether government policies are successful in improving the lives of people
    - Suggests possible government policy changes to better implement these rights

3) As the United States prepared for World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed that the nation was fighting for four freedoms: freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. The first two—freedom of speech and religion—were traditional, negative liberties: no one could infringe on these individual rights. Elaborate on the latter two.
    - Discusses the four freedoms, explaining what they mean
    - Analyzes what freedom from want and freedom from fear mean as elements of "positive liberty"
    - Highlights elements of the New Deal that reflect the values of freedom from want and freedom from fear
    - Explains how the four freedoms helped the United States prepare to fight World War II
    - Suggests post–New Deal policies of the United States that reflect continuing adherence to freedom from want and freedom from fear

4) Do you believe in positive liberty or negative liberty? State your reasoning.
    - Discusses the definitions of positive liberty and negative liberty
    - Provides examples of government policies that support positive liberty and negative liberty
    - Provides a viewpoint for which definition of liberty is better
    - Suggests reasons for why the viewpoint is correct
    - Suggests alternative or additional policies that would enhance the selected definition of liberty

5) What did Thomas Jefferson mean when he said, "The will of the majority is a sacred principle"?
    - Explains Thomas Jefferson's quote
    - Discusses what democracy means for government operation
    - Analyzes opposing points of view (James Madison) to majority rule
    - Provides examples where majority rule is positive and successful
    - Provides examples where majority rule is negative and destructive

6) Do you agree with Thomas Jefferson that maximizing democracy is the best for a thriving and successful nation?
    - Explains Thomas Jefferson's point of view
    - Discusses what democracy means for government operation
    - Analyzes opposing points of view (James Madison) to majority rule
    - Provides examples where majority rule is positive and successful
    - Provides examples where majority rule is negative and destructive

7) Elaborate on the principles of a *republic*.

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- Explains the ideas of a republic
- Discusses what having a republic means for government operation
- Analyzes alternatives to a republic
- Provides examples where having a republic is positive and successful
- Provides examples where having a republic is negative and destructive

8) One of the most important questions for political scientists is how we should balance self-rule and limits on government. Do you believe that self-rule should be the norm in government? Or do you believe the barriers to government action should be high?
   - Discusses what self-rule and government limitations mean
   - Provides an opinion on whether self-rule or limited government should be the norm
   - Suggests examples of government policies that support self-rule
   - Suggest examples of government policies that support limited government
   - Suggests alternative policies

9) Most western European nations are social democracies. Why has the arrival of Muslim immigrants caused these nations' sense of solidarity to falter?
   - Explains the definition of solidarity
   - Discusses reasons for less solidarity and more individualism in America
   - Compares the US to Europe
   - Cites government policies that would reflect a value for solidarity
   - Cites government policies that would reflect a value for individualism
   - Suggests policy changes occurring in Europe due to the arrival of Muslim immigrants

10) Which groups in the United States share a strong sense of solidarity?
   - Cites groups in the United States that share a strong sense of solidarity
   - Analyzes reasons why these groups believe in solidarity
   - Suggests ways this sense of solidarity affects American politics
   - Analyzes the impact of changing demographics on American political culture
   - States policies that exist due to a sense of solidarity

11) Explain why western European nations prefer community-oriented social democracies by roughly two to one in comparison to the United States.
   - Explains why western European nations prefer social democracies
   - Explains why the United States has different preferences than western Europe
   - Suggests policies that western Europeans have that the United States does not have due to their support for social democracy
   - Analyzes the trade-offs western Europeans experience due to higher taxes to afford social democratic programs
   - Analyzes the trade-offs Americans experience due to lower socioeconomic security with a weaker safety net

12) Explain the factors many social scientists cite in arguing that the chance of moving up—from poverty to wealth—is fading in the United States.
   - Discusses elements of the American dream
   - Lists factors that prevent people from moving from poverty to wealth in America
   - Analyzes the validity of the arguments that people cannot move up from poverty to wealth
   - Provides examples to highlight the analysis

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- Suggests changes in government policies that might facilitate economic and social mobility

13) Though America adheres more to the mindset of individualism, name recent examples of when the country came together.
    - Names one or more examples of when the country came together over an event
    - Analyzes individualism vs. solidarity
    - Analyzes how the event promoting solidarity occurred
    - Suggests ways Americans may be becoming more or less individualistic
    - Discusses whether American individualism is positive

14) Discuss how often the word *rights* appears in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and Constitutional Amendments?
    - 10 times in Declaration of Independence
    - 0 times in the Constitution
    - 15 times in amendments
    - Opinion on differences

15) Today, American society has become far less equal and is now closer to the inequality levels of less-developed nations than to the wealthier but more egalitarian nations of the world. Should we adopt public policies to limit inequality?
    - Discusses the importance of the American dream to Americans
    - Discusses issues of individualism vs. solidarity
    - Discusses potential causes of greater income inequality in America
    - Analyzes whether greater income inequality is an issue government should address
    - Suggests potential public policies that may be adopted to limit inequality

16) Should we adopt public policies to limit inequality?
    - Discusses the importance of the American dream to Americans
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    - Analyzes whether greater income inequality is an issue government should address
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17) Discuss differences between conservatives and liberals.
    - Conservatives: reduced government spending, personal responsibility, traditional moral values, strong national defense
    - Liberals: cultural diversity, government programs for the needy, public intervention in the economy, individuals' right to a lifestyle based on their own social and moral positions

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