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Chapter 2: The Structure of Policy ~~m~~Making in American Government

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. The surgeon general's anti-smoking policies and the Department of Agriculture's tobacco subsidies are evidence of _____.
A. federalism
B. separation of powers
C. fragmentation
D. iron triangle
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Structure of Policy ~~making~~ Making in American Government
Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Fragmentation of American government leads to which of the following public policy outcomes?
A. ~~Coordinated~~ coordinated policy decisions among all levels of government
B. ~~Leaner~~ leaner government budgets
C. ~~Limited~~ limited access for stakeholders to gain their preferred policy
D. ~~Incoherent~~ incoherent policies
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: The Structure of ~~Policymaking~~ Policy Making in American Government
Difficulty Level: Hard

3. Which amendments to the U.S. Constitution affirm the reservation of powers to the states and to the people?
A. First and Fourth
B. Eighth and Fourteenth
C. Ninth and Tenth
D. Fifth and Sixth
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Easy

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4. Which article of the U.S. Constitution establishes the supremacy of federal law when conflicts exist between federal and state and local law?
A. Article 1
B. Article 3
C. Article 6
D. Article 9
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Easy

5. Which of the following best describes the constitutional allocation of governmental powers between the federal and state governments?
A. ~~Federalism~~federalism
B. ~~Separation~~ separation of powers
C. ~~Intergovernmental~~ intergovernmental relations
D. ~~Neo~~neo-corporatism
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Hard

6. All of the following are types of federalism that have evolved in U.S. policy making over time EXCEPT _____.
A. “layer cake” federalism
B. “marble cake” federalism
C. “picket fence” federalism
D. “separation of powers” federalism
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Hard

7. Which type of federalism represents a breakdown of the formerly watertight separation of governmental functions and the establishment of a system of intergovernmental relations negotiated through central political officials?
A. “~~Layer~~ layer cake” federalism
B. “~~Marble~~ marble cake” federalism
C. “~~Picket~~ picket fence” federalism
D. “~~Separation~~ separation of powers” federalism
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Application

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Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Hard

8. The state of Oregon receives a categorical grant from the federal government to assist with drug rehabilitation efforts. Which of the following is likely to occur as a result?
A. ~~Absolute~~ absolute federal control of drug rehabilitation activities in the state
B. ~~Increased~~ increased federal control of state drug rehabilitation activities
C. ~~Increased~~ increased state control over the distribution of federal monies
D. ~~No~~ no change in federal control of state drug rehabilitation efforts
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Medium

9. All of the following are methods exercised by the federal government to control state and local governments EXCEPT _____.
A. development blocks
B. federal grant making
C. intergovernmental relations
D. mandates, funded, and unfunded
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Hard

10. The federal government passes legislation that requires states to provide veterans with access to dental care. This is an example of which of the following?
A. ~~Block~~ block grant
B. ~~Categorical~~ categorical grant
C. ~~Developmental~~ developmental grant
D. ~~Mandate~~mandate
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Hard

11. All of the following are true statement regarding the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1994 EXCEPT _____.
A. ~~the~~ The act required the congressional budget office to estimate mandated costs of legislation and report this information to congress.~~.~~
B. the act required that members of congress at least know what they are doing to the states and localities

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C. ~~the~~ The act was retroactive and affected mandates existing at the time of its passage.
D. ~~the~~ The act allowed the federal government to impose federal priorities on the states.
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Hard

12. On average, how many local governments were created every year?
A. 200
B. 300
C. 500
D. 600
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Easy

13. The Constitution specifically distributes the powers of government among all of the following branches EXCEPT _____.
A. legislative
B. executive
C. bureaucratic
D. judicial
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-2: Explain the separation of powers.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Separation of Powers
Difficulty Level: Hard

14. Which is the principal result of building interinstitutional coalitions?
A. ~~Divided~~ divided government
B. ~~Institutional~~ institutional competition
C. ~~Major~~ major revamping of policies
D. ~~Small~~small, incremental policy changes
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-2: Explain the separation of powers.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Separation of Powers
Difficulty Level: Medium

15. All of the following are critique of U.S. policy making specifically linked to the divided government mandated by constitutional separation of powers EXCEPT _____.
A. ~~policy~~policy making is accomplished by the lowest common denominator

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B. ~~decisive~~ decisive policy action is impossible
C. ~~i~~incremental policy change is the norm
A. ~~grant~~ grant process leads to centralization of government power
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-2: Explain the separation of powers.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Separation of Powers
Difficulty Level: Hard

16. Rather than passing legislation to end agricultural subsidies, Congress shifts priorities in subsidy awarded from dairy farms to corn growers. This is an example of which of the following?
A. i~~I~~ntergovernmental relations
B. ~~Federalism~~federalism
C. ~~Conservatism~~conservatism
D. ~~Incrementalism~~incrementalism
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-2: Explain the separation of powers.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Separation of Powers
Difficulty Level: Hard

17. All of the following are viewed as an advantage of incremental policy changes EXCEPT _____.
A. policy stability
B. policy revamping
C. limitation of errors
D. reversibility
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-2: Explain the separation of powers.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Separation of Powers
Difficulty Level: Hard

18. The federal grant system has been purchasing a more _____ form of government.
A. decentralized
B. centralized
C. mandated
D. separated
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-2: Explain the separation of powers.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Separation of Powers
Difficulty Level: Medium

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19. All of the following factor(s) combine to give committees and subcommittees substantial power over legislation EXCEPT _____.
A. the expertise of committee and subcommittee members
B. the biased nature of committees and subcommittees
C. interaction with administrative agencies
D. campaign funds
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Hard

20. Congresspersons from _____ would most likely serve on an agricultural committee.
A. ~~california~~ California and Texas
B. ~~iowa~~ Iowa and Nebraska
C. ~~maine~~ Maine and Massachusetts
D. ~~seattle~~ Seattle and Virginia
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Hard

21. The Association for the Advancement of Retired People testifies in a committee hearing as to the positive support that retired people receive from the Department of Health and Human Services with regard to controlling hospitalization costs. During the hearing, they advocate for expanding the role of the Department in the area of cost control. This is an example of which relationship support interaction in an iron triangle?
A. ~~Interest~~ Interest group–committee
B. ~~Committee~~Committee–agency
C. ~~Interest~~ Interest group–agency
D. ~~Interest~~ Interest group–presidency
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Hard

22. President Clinton and his administration are given credit for which governmental reorganization?
A. ~~The~~ the creation of the Director of National Intelligence
B. ~~The~~ the implementation of the National Performance Review
C. ~~The~~ the implementation of the Government Performance and Results Act
D. ~~The~~ the reorganization of the Government Accounting Office (GAO)
Ans: B

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Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Easy

23. All of the following are elements of an iron triangle EXCEPT _____.
A. interest group
B. congressional subcommittee
C. presidential policy advisor
D. bureaucracy
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Hard

24. The organization Mothers Against Drunk Driving provides research to a congressional transportation subcommittee, which shows evidence that an effective tool for reducing drinking and driving is to increase random police checkpoints in areas near college campuses. The subcommittee votes to increase funding to local law enforcement agencies for the purpose of increasing checkpoints. This is an example of which relationship support interaction in an iron triangle?
A. ~~Interest~~ interest group–committee
B. ~~Committee~~committee–agency
C. ~~Interest~~ interest group–agency
D. ~~Interest~~ interest group–presidency
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Hard

25. A congressman on an agricultural subcommittee requests that a unit from FEMA respond to a flooding crisis within a farming area in his state. FEMA sends out a disaster response team. This is an example of which relationship support interaction in an iron triangle?
A. ~~Interest~~ interest group–committee
B. ~~Committee~~committee–agency
C. ~~Interest~~ interest group–agency
D. ~~Interest~~ interest group–presidency
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Hard

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26. Which of the following is a reason that some argue the model of the iron triangle is no longer as relevant in describing U.S. policy making?
A. Interest groups no longer have access to congressional hearings.
B. Division between the executive and legislative branches is so far gone that they no longer communicate with each other.
C. Congress no longer has discretionary funds to spend outside of entitlement programs.
D. So many interest groups are prevalent, it is difficult to exclude any interest from policy decision- making.
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Hard

27. Which of the following best describes the concept that large numbers of interested parties, each with substantial policy expertise, now appear more descriptive of policy making in the United States?
A. ~~Corporatism~~corporatism
B. ~~Incrementalism~~incrementalism
C. ~~Issue~~ issue networks
D. ~~Iron~~ iron triangles
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

28. The bridge to an uninhabited island in Alaska is an example of _____.
A. corporatism
B. iron triangles
C. incrementalism
D. pork barrel spending
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

29. Which of the following requires consideration of alternative uses of money or an alternative source of revenue?
A. ~~Annual~~ annual budget allocations
B. ~~Logrolling~~logrolling
C. ~~Paygo~~paygo
D. ~~Pork~~ pork barrel politics
Ans: C

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Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

30. Which of the following is an example of congressional actors minimizing conflict by giving each other what each wants?
A. ~~Logrolling~~logrolling
B. ~~Budget~~ budget manipulation
C. ~~Incrementalism~~incrementalism
D. ~~G~~gridlock
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

31. Congressman Baker from Louisiana votes to approve additional corn subsidies for farmers in Iowa. In return, Congressman Harkin from Iowa votes to approve additional funding for levee protection in Louisiana. This is an example of which of the following?
A. ~~Corporatism~~corporatism
B. ~~Iron~~ iron triangle
C. ~~Logrolling~~logrolling
D. ~~Gridlock~~gridlock
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Hard

32. Which of the following is a special spending provision added to bills by congressional members for their individual constituencies?
A. ~~Policy~~ policy innovation
B. ~~Earmark~~earmark
C. ~~Logroll~~logroll
D. ~~Mandate~~mandate
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

33. All of the following are characteristics of logrolling and pork barrel spending EXCEPT _____.
A. the addition of special spending provisions to bills
B. minimizes conflict among members of Congress

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C. effective when government has sufficient wealth
D. can lead to budget deficits
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Hard

34. Which of the following refers to the representation in politics of members of the political community not as residents of a geographical area but as members of functionally defined interest in society?
A. ~~Incrementalism~~incrementalism
B. ~~Iron~~ iron triangles
C. ~~Corporatism~~corporatism
D. ~~Diversity~~diversity
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Public and Private
Difficulty Level: Hard

35. Which of the following is a reason for U.S. policy makers choosing to privatize some public activities?
A. U.S. antigovernment ethos
B. ~~Reliance~~ reliance on grant funding
C. ~~Separation~~ separation of powers
D. ~~Culture~~ culture of paternalism
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Public and Private
Difficulty Level: Medium

36. Which area of the public sector has the highest level of public employment?
A. ~~Police~~ police protection
B. ~~Education~~education
C. ~~Postal~~ postal service
D. ~~Social~~ social services
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Public and Private
Difficulty Level: Easy

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37. Which of the following concerns was raised due to the increased involvement of the private sector in public activities?
A. ~~Accountability~~accountability
B. ~~Logrolling~~logrolling
C. ~~Pluralism~~pluralism
D. ~~Increase~~ increase in public trust
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Public and Private
Difficulty Level: Medium

38. Since the World War II era, public expenditures have increased to what portion of gross national product?
A. ~~One~~ one fourth
B. ~~One~~ one third
C. ~~One~~ one half
D. ~~Two~~ two thirds
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Easy

39. Which of the following is one of the reasons for the decline in federal public employees?
A. ~~Decreased~~ decreased federal transfer programs
B. ~~Growth~~ growth in labor intensive federal activities
C. ~~Decreased~~ decreased federal borrowing
D. ~~Expansion~~ expansion of grants to states and localities
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Medium

40. Which of the following is true of the federal government's spending priorities since World War II?
A. The major focus has been on defense spending rather than social welfare spending.
B. The federal government has significantly reduced entitlement spending.
C. There has been a shift from spending on defense programs toward social welfare programs.

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D. Grant programs to states have been declining.
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Hardd

41. What is true about state government public sector employment?
A. It is labor--intensive.
B. It is declining as relative to federal employment.
C. Emphasis is on transportation-related employment.
D. Since 2000 has been declining as a percentage of total employment.
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Medium

42. Which of the following public services has seen the largest gains in employment?
A. Social Security
B. ~~Police~~ police and fire protection
C. ~~Homeland~~ homeland security
D. ~~Education~~education
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Medium

43. Which of the following is a mechanism, other than public expenditures and employment, used by the U.S. government to influence the economy?
A. ~~Corporate~~ corporate spending
B. ~~Mortgage~~ mortgage tax deductions
C. ~~Affordable~~ affordable care act
D. ~~Intergovernmental~~ intergovernmental relation
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Hard

44. What is a factor in the federal government's declining share of employment?

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A. Overall spending decreases in federal government programs.
B. ~~Shift~~ shift from defense programs toward social programs
C. ~~Shift~~ shift toward spending in more labor~~-~~intensive programs
D. ~~Shift~~ shift in wartime spending since 2001
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Medium

45. Which of the following is a major contributor to limitations in the federal government's ability to decrease social program spending?
A. ~~High~~ high birth rates
B. ~~Logrolling~~logrolling
C. ~~Immigration~~ immigration rates
D. ~~Aging~~ aging population
Ans: D
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Hard

46. An estimate of the regulatory impact of government on the economy in 2012 was _____.
A. $1 trillion
B. $525 billion
C. $216 billion
D. $115 billion
Ans: C
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Easy

47. What does the division of American government by the constitutional separation of powers doctrine create at the center of the federal government?
A. ~~Institutional~~ institutional confrontation
B. ~~Consensus~~consensus
C. ~~Coalitions~~coalitions
D. ~~Compromise~~compromise
Ans: A
Learning Objective: 2-2: Explain the separation of powers.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

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Answer Location: Separation of Powers
Difficulty Level: Medium

48. The terms “iron triangles,” “silos,” and “whilpools” describe all of the following EXCEPT_____
A. the federal government rarely acts as a unified institution
B. the federal government typically acts as a unified institution
C. each policy area is governed as if it existed in isolation
D. the federal government makes integrated policy choices
Ans: B
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Hard

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True/False

1. The division of government into many separate policy fiefdoms means that policy programs may cancel one another out.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Structure of Policy ~~m~~Making in American Government
Difficulty Level: Easy

2. Given a system of intergovernmental relations, the centralization of control in the federal government has decreased.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Structure of Policymaking in American Government
Difficulty Level: Medium

3. One of the primary factors complicating intergovernmental relations has been the proliferation of local governments in the United States.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. The fiscal crisis inherited by the Obama administration resulted in more centralization.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.

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Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. The bureaucracy possesses some legislative, executive, and judicial functions.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-2: Explain the separation of powers.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Separation of Powers
Difficulty Level: Medium

6. The increasing partisanship in Congress has increased the difficulty of producing desired major policy changes.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-2: Explain the separation of powers.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Separation of Powers
Difficulty Level: Medium

7. In addition to the usual tools of information and campaign funds that interest groups use to support their work, interest groups also have votes at their disposal.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

8. The structures of issue networks and policy communities surrounding an issue are more unified regarding policies than is the case with iron triangles.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

9. As the activities of government at all levels expanded, the watertight separation of functions broke down.
Ans: T
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Medium

10. Centralization versus decentralization has been a consistent theme in intergovernmental relations.
Ans: T

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Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

11. Priority setting is one of the strongest features of American government.
Ans: F
Learning Objective: 2-5: Examine the size and shape of the public sector.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Summary
Difficulty Level: Hard

Short Answer

1. Identify two advantages of the fragmentation of American government.
Ans: Varies. Advantages include the following: Having a number of decision-makers involved in every decision should reduce errors, as all must agree before a proposal can become law or be implemented as an operating program. The existence of multiple decision-makers should also permit greater innovation both in the federal government and in state and local governments. Diffused policymaking power reduces the capacity of central government to run roughshod over the rights of citizens or the interests of socioeconomic groups. Numerous points of access to policy making permit losers at one level of government, or in one institution, to become winners at another point in the process.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Structure of Policy ~~m~~Making in American Government
Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Identify two disadvantages of the fragmentation of American government.
Ans: Varies. Disadvantages include the following: It is sometimes difficult to accomplish anything, and elected politicians with policy ideas find themselves thwarted by the large number of decision points in the policy-making system. Programs may cancel each other out as a result of separate policy fiefdoms. The apparent inability or unwillingness of policymakers to choose among options means that policies will be incoherent and the process continues seemingly without any closure. It also means that because potential conflicts are resolved by offering every interest in society some support from the public sector, taxes and expenditures are higher than they might otherwise be.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Structure of Policy ~~m~~Making in American Government
Difficulty Level: Medium

3. Identify one problem that results from the proliferation of special-purpose governments.

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Ans: ~~Answers will vary~~Varies. Problems include the following: Intergovernmental coordination may frustrate citizens. Leaders of special~~-~~ purpose governments are not elected. Citizens can only indirectly influence decision ~~-~~making through state and local governments.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. ~~Though~~ Although not granted specific constitutional authority, describe the bureaucracy's role in policy activities.
Ans: ~~Answers will vary~~Varies. The bureaucracy is the institution most active in policy change. Workers who comprise the bureaucracy work closely with the individuals and interests to which they provide services. They also have own interest in specific policy areas. Bureaucracy has wide latitude to elaborate upon congressional legislation and adjudicate the application of laws within each policy area. Can use influence to expand budgets, impede or block policy change, and set congressional policy agendas.
Learning Objective: 2-2: Explain the separation of powers.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Separation of Powers
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Identify the three principal actors that compose an iron triangle.
Ans: ~~congressional~~ Congressional committees and subcommittees, interest groups, and administrative agencies.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Easy

6. Charles O. Jones described the current pattern of iron triangles in American government as "big sloppy hexagons" instead of "cozy little triangles." Explain why the concept of an iron triangle may be less applicable in contemporary times.
Ans: Varies. Issue networks and policy communities involving large numbers of interested parties, each with substantial expertise in the policy area, now appear more descriptive of policymaking in the United States as well as other industrialized democracies. These structures of interest groups surrounding an issue are less unified about policy than were the iron triangles, and they may contain competing ideas and types of interests to be served through public policy.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Define the concepts of issue networks and policy communities~~,~~ and identify one characteristic of either of these concepts.

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Ans: Varies. These entities are less unified than their predecessor the iron triangle. Each represents, generally, large numbers of interested parties with substantial expertise in specified policy areas. Each may contain competing ideas. Characteristics include size, membership, indeterminacy, and lack of coherence of the networks, among others.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Explain what is necessary for logrolling and pork barrel spending to be effective policy tools. What are the limitations and consequences of these mechanisms?
Ans: Varies. Requires sufficient wealth and economic growth for these measures to be comfortably sustainable within budget constraints. The use of logrolling and pork barrel spending during leaner economic times has contributed to massive government deficits.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Hard

9. Describe how the blurring of the lines between the public and private sectors has changed the role of interest groups.
Ans: The use of quasi-public organization has expanded the role of the private sector in the public domain. The growth of institutions for formal representation of interest group has given those groups a more powerful position in policy making. Instead to vying for access, interest groups are given formal access and can exert a legitimate claim to their position in government.
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Public and Private
Difficulty Level: Medium

10. Why is it that government expenditures and employment figures do not represent an accurate picture of government influence on the economy?
Ans: Varies. Government influences the economy indirectly through regulation, loan guarantees, and tax policies, and these actions do not significantly affect government employment and expenditures. Further, the blurring line between the public and private sectors means that some of the government's work is done in the private sector and is therefore not accounted for in expenditure and employment figures.
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Public and Private
Difficulty Level: Medium

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11. Identify two factors responsible for the declining share of employment in the federal government.
Ans: Factors include the expansion of federal grants to state and local governments; the fact that the programs that state and local governments run are labor-intensive; and the shift from defense to social programs and spending that reflects this shift; among others.
Learning Objective: 2-5: Examine the size and shape of the public sector.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Medium

12. Explain why growth levels of public expenditures are more than twice as large as growth levels in public employment.
Ans: Varies. Differences in the pattern of change are largely due to the raise in transfer programs. These programs require spending large amounts of money~~,~~ but require relatively few administrators to manage the programs. Further, purchases of goods and services from the private sector require large expenditures but almost no public employment.
Learning Objective: 2-5: Examine the size and shape of the public sector.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Medium

13. Explain the effect of entitlement programs on public spending patterns in the United States in recent decades.
Ans: Varies. Most social programs are entitlement programs. Once government creates benefits for a particular group, it is difficult to remove these benefits. This is especially true for the retired elderly. Government would find it difficult to either remove Social Security benefits after this groups years of contributions or expect this group to return to the workforce to make up for a loss of benefits. Public expenditures are increasingly directed toward the elderly. As the U.S. population ages, government spending for this group will increase. Reducing the size of the government's social budget will be difficult. Health~~-~~ care changes will likely expand the level of social spending.
Learning Objective: 2-5: Examine the size and shape of the public sector.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Medium

14. Describe the growth in public employment since the World War II era. What has been the difference in employment in the federal and state governments?
Ans: ~~Answers will vary~~Varies. Overall public employment has increased from about 11% of total employment to over 15% of total employment. Federal government's share of employment has dropped from 33% of public employment to 12%. Federal government's drop in employment is largely due to expansion of transfer programs which are costly~~,~~ but require relatively fewer employees to administer the programs. Conversely, state governments are involved in labor~~-~~intensive services (education and

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police and fire protection). Major growth of government employment has occurred at the state and local levels.
Learning Objective: 2-5: Examine the size and shape of the public sector.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Hard

15. What is the term for a situation in which different institutions block one another from developing and enforcing policies.
Ans: Gridlock is a situation in which different institutions block one another from developing and enforcing policies.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Structure of Policymaking in American Governments
Difficulty Level: Easy

16. What does the constitutional separation of powers ensure regarding veto points?
Ans: The constitutional separation of powers ensures any number of veto points exist in the federal government which in turn makes initiating policy difficult and preventing change relatively easy.
Learning Objective: 2-2: Explain the separation of powers.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Separation of Powers
Difficulty Level: Medium

17. Describe the the actors in an iron triangle.
Ans: The first is the interest group, which wants something from government, usually a favorable policy decision, and must attempt to influence the institutions that can act in its favor.The second component of these triangular relationships is the congressional committee or subcommittee. the third component of the iron triangle is the administrative agency, which, like the pressure group, wants to promote its interests through the policymaking process.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

18. Describe expert and functional policy subsystems.
Ans: Expert and functional policy subsystems divide the authority of the government and attempt to appropriate the mantle of the public interest for their own more private interests.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Easy

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19. Why is it difficult to identify the boundary between public and private interests?
Ans: Public and private interests and organizations have become so intermingled that it is difficult to ascertain where the boundary between the two sectors lies. The leakage across the boundary between the public and private sectors, as artificial as that boundary may be, has been occurring in both directions. Activities that once were almost entirely private now have greater public sector involvement,
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Public and Private
Difficulty Level: Easy

20. Why is the increased use of the private entities in the public sector described as governing at the margins of the state?
Ans: In an era when citizens are attempting to exercise greater control over their governments, the development of these forms of policymaking "at the margins of the state" may be an understandable response to financial constraints but may exacerbate underlying problems of public loss of trust and confidence in government.
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Public and Private
Difficulty Level: Medium

21. Describe the changing size of the public sector in the United States and the changing distribution of expenditures.
Ans: Table 2.4 contains information about the changing size of the public sector in the United States, since the post–World War II era, and the changing distribution of expenditures and employment. Most obvious in this table is that the public sector in the United States has indeed grown, with expenditures increasing from less than one-quarter to more than one-third gross national product. Likewise, public employment has increased from 11 percent of total employment to over 15% ~~percent~~.
Learning Objective: 2-5: Examine the size and shape of the public sector.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Size and Shape of the Public Sector
Difficulty Level: Easy

22. What do the basic patterns of decision-making in American politics include?
Ans: The basic patterns of decision-making in American politics include logrolling and pork barrel policy making through which people minimize conflict by giving one another the resource allocations they want.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Easy

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23. What does the term intergovernmental relations mean?
Ans: A term such as intergovernmental relations more accurately describes the complex crazy quilt of overlapping authority and interdependence among levels of government than does a more formal, constitutional term such as federalism
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Medium

Essay

1. What is federalism? Identify and describe the types of federalism that have evolved in the United States in terms of policy making. Describe how does federalism affects policy making in the modern political environment.
Ans: Varies. Federalism is the constitutional allocation of governmental powers between the federal and state governments. Students should identify and define layer cake federalism, marble cake federalism, picket fence federalism, and intergovernmental relations (IR). IR is a better explanation of federalism in the modern political environment. IR is more oriented toward administrative issues; more functionally specific and lacks coherence that might result if higher political officials were obliged to be involved in the principal decisions; without the mechanisms that could generate effective policy control and coordination. Students should conclude with discussion of how IR has led to increased centralization of federal control through grant processes, regulation, and mandates.
Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Compare and contrast the presidential administrations since Reagan on economics. Discuss the use of federal funding and mandates (funded or unfunded) in these administrations. Be sure to identify each of the administrations as either a decentralizing or a centralizing agent, and provide an example consistent with your response for each.
Ans: Varies. Discuss the attempts at decentralization in the Reagan and George H. W. Bush administrations, including reductions in federal support. Students should highlight the recession of the early 1990s and the resulting shift in the economy from state to federal focus. Students should also discuss the attempts to limit unfunded mandates in the 1990s and how the use of mandates have been increasing. Clinton was a decentralizing, while George W. Bush was a centralizing force. Clinton passed welfare reform in 1996; Bush involved the federal government in No Child Left Behind and established another federal agency to add to the bureaucracy. Bush also increased federal involvement in law enforcement and health issues. Obama has expanded the increased centralization of the George W. Bush administration. The Stimulus Package and Affordable Care Act greatly expanded role of, and control exercised, by the federal government.

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Learning Objective: 2-1: Define federalism.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Federalism
Difficulty Level: Medium

3. Describe what is meant by the term "iron triangle." Explain the symbiotic relationship of actors in an iron triangle. Use the following actors: the Defense Department (agency), defense contractors (interest groups), and the Armed Services Committee (congressional committee).
Ans: Varies. The term iron triangle refers to the (cozy) relationships that develop across institutional lines within government. The underlying phenomenon of this term is that government rarely acts as a unified institution making integrated policy choices but tends to endorse the decisions made by portions of the government. Defense contractors need the Defense Department to deliver services to its members and to provide a friendly point of access to government; defense contractors also need the Armed Services Committee as a point of access and as an internal advocate in Congress. The Defense Department needs defense contractors to mobilize political support for its programs among the affected clientele. The department also needs support for budget funding from the Armed Services Committee. And the Armed Services Committee needs defense contractors to mobilize votes for its members and to explain to group members how and why they are doing a good job in Congress. The committee needs support from the Department of Defense in policy suggestion and providing services to members' constituents.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. The text notes that each functional policy area tends to operate in isolation from the remainder of the government. What is the practical result of this approach? Additionally, identify and discuss the principal actors in iron triangles, what each contributes to the iron triangle, and the relationship that develops among the principal actors through the policymaking process. Provide a specific example of each contribution and discuss generally how the needs of each actor are fulfilled through the iron triangle.
Ans: Varies. The practical result of this approach is that the powers and legitimacy of government are used to advance individual or group interests in society rather than the general public interest. The principal actors in iron triangles are (1) interest groups, (2) congressional committees or subcommittees, and (3) administrative agencies. Interest groups deliver votes and possess information valuable to government officials; congressional committees or subcommittees possess and contribute to the triangle expertise, direct benefits to constituencies, and wield power over the policymaking process; and administrative agencies contribute a means to achieve desired goals along with possessing their own policy ideas. Each actor in the iron triangle needs the other two to reach its goal. The style that develops from this sense of dependence is symbiotic. Examples of the fact that each of the actors needs the other actors in the iron triangle include the following: The pressure group needs the agency to deliver services

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to its members and to provide a friendly point of access to government. The agency needs the pressure group to mobilize political support for its programs among the affected clientele. Letters from constituents to influential representatives and senators must be mobilized to argue that the agency is doing a good job and could do an even better job if given more money or a certain policy change. The pressure group needs the congressional committee again as a point of access and as an internal advocate in Congress. And the committee needs the pressure group to mobilize votes for its members and to explain to group members how and why they are doing a good job in Congress. The pressure group can also be a valuable source of policy ideas and research for busy politicians. Finally, the committee members need the agency as an instrument for producing services to their constituents and for developing new policy initiatives. The agency has the research and policy analytic capacity that Congress members often lack, so committees can profit from their association with the agencies. And the agency obviously needs the committee to legitimate its policy initiatives and provide it with funds.
Learning Objective: 2-3: Describe subgovernments.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Subgovernments
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Discuss the increasing "blurred lines" between the public and private sectors in policymaking. What methods has government adopted that blur these lines? Provide examples. What is the role of interest groups in this framework? Identify concerns raised by introducing the private sector into public policymaking and implementation.
Ans: Varies. Public and private interests and organizations have become so intermingled it is difficult to tell where the boundaries between the two lie. The relationship works in both directions. Public activities have increasing private sector involvement at the same time that the private sector has increased activities in the public domain. Privatization of public activities has been used as a tool to reduce government cost in providing public service. Examples include privatization of hospitals, prison, and garbage collection, and so on. Interest groups have developed formal institutions for representation in policy formation and policy implementation. They have been granted formal access to government and can claim legitimacy in the role of policymaking. Corporatism, direct involvement of interest groups in public decision-making, has been increasing in the United States. Special interests are actively used by government in the formation and implementation of policy. Examples include Department of Agriculture using local farming organizations to monitor crop allotment programs, medical societies used to review Medicare and Medicaid services, airline cabin attendants enforcing seat belt laws, and so on. Concerns include the questions of who is ultimately responsible for public policy when the duties are either shared with the private sector or completely managed by private organizations--who is held accountable when something goes wrong. Does government risk a loss of public trust by increasing the role of the private sector?
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis

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Answer Location: Public and Private
Difficulty Level: Medium

6. What is corporatism, neocorporatism, or network governance?
Ans: The development of mechanisms for direct involvement of interest groups in public decision-making is frequently referred to as corporatism, neocorporatism or network governance. These terms refer to the representation in politics of members of the political community not as residents of a geographical area but as members of functionally defined interests in the society—labor, management, farmers, students, the elderly, and so forth. Associated with this concept of representation is the extensive use of interest groups both as instruments of input to the policy process and as means of implementing public policies. The United States is a less corporatist political system than most industrialized democracies but still has corporatist elements. Most urban programs mandate the participation of community residents and other interested parties in decision-making. Crop allotment programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture have used local farmers' organizations for monitoring and implementation, and fishing quotas are negotiated with local fishery management councils. County medical societies have been used as professional service review organizations for Medicare and Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act, checking on the quality and cost of services; and medical and legal associations license practitioners on behalf of government. There are 6,500 advisory bodies in the federal government, many containing substantial interest group representation.
Learning Objective: 2-4: Illustrate the increasing confusion of public and private interests and organizations.
Cognitive Domain: Analysis
Answer Location: Public and Private
Difficulty Level: Medium

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