

## ***American Political Landscape***

**Instructions:** You may use your books to answer these questions. Put all your answers on the answer sheet.

1. When individuals do not stop to consider how people from other backgrounds may see things differently but rely on their own selective perception based on individual background, attitudes and biases may be called
  - a. racism.
  - b. ethnocentrism.
  - c. discrimination.
  - d. prejudice.
  
2. A study of the causes of diversity in America include an analysis of the implications of
  - a. geography or demographics.
  - b. social and ethnic background.
  - c. economic or class divisions.
  - d. (all of the above)
  
3. This chapter focuses on the implications of diversity on
  - a. economics.
  - b. social interaction.
  - c. cultural profiles.
  - d. political perspective and behaviors.
  
4. A major difference between the United States and other countries, is that
  - a. most nations are historically configured.
  - b. most other nations share the same concept of deity.
  - c. the United States has an official language.
  - d. the United States is a nation of immigrants.
  
5. Elements of diversity which have political significance include
  - a. regional differences.
  - b. maintenance of traditional identities among third-or-fourth-generation Americans.
  - c. religious identity.
  - d. (all of the above)

6. The process by which parents and others teach children about the values, beliefs and attitudes of a political culture is termed
  - a. political indoctrination.
  - b. political socialization.
  - c. value inculcation.
  - d. patriotic indoctrination.
  
7. The study of where we live and who we are in terms of our religion and occupation and how that affects voting is called
  - a. demographics.
  - b. political geography.
  - c. human geography.
  - d. cultural indicators.
  
8. When social and economic indicators coincide and make the differences even more important, they are said to be
  - a. reinforcing cleavages.
  - b. cross-cutting cleavages.
  - c. additive.
  - d. multiplicative.
  
9. If both rich and poor in all religions sometimes vote on the basis of their religion and sometimes vote on the basis of their wealth, it is an illustration of
  - a. reinforcing cleavages.
  - b. cross-cutting cleavages.
  - c. additive.
  - d. multiplicative.
  
10. American ethnocentrism has been historically significant in
  - a. the life of immigrants in the early colonies.
  - b. the anti-immigration movements of the late 1800s.
  - c. the anti-civil rights ballot initiatives of the 1990s.
  - d. (all of the above)
  
11. In 1835, Alexis de Tocqueville observed that because the United States was geographically large and historically isolated without major political or economic powers on its borders, it has had
  - a. no great wars.
  - b. no invasions or conquests.

- c. (both a and b)
  - d. (neither a nor b)
- 
12. The only foreign enemy the United States has fought on United States soil was
- a. Mexico.
  - b. Spain.
  - c. England.
  - d. Russia.
13. The idea that the United States should be a continental nation reaching from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans was called
- a. expansionism.
  - b. colonialism.
  - c. arrogance.
  - d. manifest destiny.
14. Sectional differences in the United States are primarily
- a. geographic.
  - b. ethnic.
  - c. religious.
  - d. linguistic.
15. Voter registration of African Americans compared to white is largely explained by differences in
- a. voter qualifications.
  - b. education.
  - c. rural - urban residence.
  - d. political party membership.
16. Population growth patterns include all of the following EXCEPT
- a. growth in the West is explained by younger persons who provide the growth.
  - b. growth in the Sun Belt is primarily explained by growth in the over 65 age population.
  - c. there has been a resurgence of industrial growth in the New England states.
  - d. Sun Belt states have experienced greater economic growth than most of the other areas.
17. An area comprised of a central city and its suburbs is called a
- a. megacity.
  - b. metropolitan area.

- c. super city.
  - d. central city.
18. Population movement since the 1950s has been
- a. to the rural areas.
  - b. to the metropolitan areas.
  - c. to the suburbs.
  - d. to the metropolitan areas in the northern states but to the suburbs in the Midwest.
19. The percentage of African Americans living in central cities is now approximately
- a. 10 percent.
  - b. 25 percent.
  - c. 40 percent.
  - d. 50 percent.
20. As the population base of the city shifts from richer to poorer
- a. the tax base of the city declines.
  - b. service needs in the cities increase.
  - c. there is more crime.
  - d. (a and b)
21. Groups of human beings with common characteristics presumed to be transmitted genetically may form a
- a. race.
  - b. national group.
  - c. ethnic group.
  - d. cultural group.
22. A social division based on national origin, religion, language and a sense of attachment may form a
- a. race.
  - b. national group.
  - c. ethnic group.
  - d. cultural group.
23. According to the authors, whites in America will have declined to just under what fraction of the population by the year 2050?
- a. one-half
  - b. one-third

- c. three-quarters
  - d. seven-eighths
24. American Hispanics constitute about \_\_\_\_\_ of the population.
- a. 5 percent
  - b. 10 percent
  - c. 25 percent
  - d. 30 percent
25. The percentage of African Americans who lived in the South by the end of the twentieth century was
- a. 90 percent.
  - b. 74 percent.
  - c. 54 percent.
  - d. 34 percent.
26. Many African Americans left the South after the turn of the century in order to
- a. escape segregation.
  - b. improve their lives economically and socially.
  - c. buy small farms.
  - d. resettle with family members who had left during or immediately following the Civil War.
27. All of the following are true EXCEPT
- a. economically, African Americans are much worse off than whites.
  - b. the median income for African Americans in 1995 was about \$30,000.
  - c. one half of all African Americans are below the poverty line.
  - d. African Americans net wealth is 10 percent that of whites.
28. A profile of African American life in the United States would include all of the following EXCEPT
- a. the population is somewhat older.
  - b. African Americans have a lower level of education.
  - c. African Americans are concentrated in economically hard-pressed urban areas.
  - d. African Americans have a higher unemployment rate than most other groups.
29. African Americans tend to vote for
- a. Democrats.
  - b. Republicans.

- c. Independents.
  - d. candidates of their own race.
30. Cuban Americans tend to vote for
- a. Democrats.
  - b. Republicans.
  - c. Independents.
  - d. persons of their own race or ethnicity.
31. The largest number of immigrants coming to the United States did so between the years
- a. 1840 and 1860.
  - b. 1860 and 1900.
  - c. 1900 and 1924.
  - d. 1950 and 1984.
32. In recent elections, women, compared to men, have been more likely to vote for presidential candidates from the
- a. Democratic party.
  - b. Republican party.
  - c. Libertarian party.
  - d. Green party.
33. The number of Senators in 2000 who are also female is
- a. four.
  - b. six.
  - c. nine.
  - d. fourteen.
34. Compared to women in other Western democracies, American women tend to vote
- a. more often.
  - b. more compassionately.
  - c. less than their Western European counterparts.
  - d. across party lines.
35. After the 2000 election, there were \_\_\_\_\_ state governors which happened to be women.
- a. one
  - b. three
  - c. five
  - d. seven
36. All of the following statements are true about gender

inequality EXCEPT

- a. as age increases, the earnings gap decreases.
  - b. among college graduates ages 25 to 34, women earn an average of 80 cents for every dollar earned by men.
  - c. women now earn on average about 70 cents for every dollar earned by men.
  - d. an increasing number of women are the sole breadwinners for their families.
37. The differences between men and women in public opinion and voting is referred to as the
- a. gender discrimination factor.
  - b. political power factor.
  - c. gender gap.
  - d. political gap.
38. The percentage of Americans attending a house of worship at least several times a year is
- a. 25 percent.
  - b. 50 percent.
  - c. 66 percent.
  - d. 75 percent.
39. The largest Protestant denomination is
- a. Presbyterian.
  - b. Baptist.
  - c. Congregationalist.
  - d. Methodist.
40. In the United States, religious differences when related to other politically important characteristics
- a. form reinforcing cleavages.
  - b. are cross-cutting cleavages.
  - c. have no significant pattern.
  - d. vary significantly with the religion and economic level.
41. The most important means for Americans to achieve economic and social mobility has been
- a. inheritance.
  - b. capital accumulation.
  - c. education.

- d. investment.
42. Aside from race, the most important factor in explaining views on issues, partisanship and ideology, may be
- a. ethnicity.
  - b. religion.
  - c. income.
  - d. wealth.
43. In *The Federalist*, No. 10 James Madison wrote that "The most common and durable source of factions has been the various and unequal distribution of \_\_\_\_\_."
- a. income
  - b. education
  - c. property
  - d. inheritance
44. Most college students come from families from the top quarter of American families which have annual incomes in excess of
- a. \$30,000.
  - b. \$40,000.
  - c. \$50,000.
  - d. \$75,000.
45. The region of the United States which is least prosperous is the
- a. Northeast.
  - b. West.
  - c. Midwest.
  - d. South.
46. The organizing device for the post-industrial era is
- a. high technology.
  - b. education.
  - c. skill.
  - d. knowledge.
47. Socioeconomic status is based on
- a. occupation.
  - b. income.
  - c. education.
  - d. (all of the above)
48. The poverty rate among older Americans has
- a. remained nearly the same for the past 20 years.



- b. increased marginally.
- c. shown a significant increase.
- d. decreased.

49. A "generational effect" in U.S. politics is illustrated by

- a. the Vietnam War.
- b. the Depression.
- c. the Civil Rights movement.
- d. (all of the above)

50. Just over what fraction of all Americans have not gone to college?

- a. one-fourth
- b. one-half
- c. one-third
- d. three-fourths