

Notes on the AP United States Government and Politics Practice Exam

Multiple-Choice Section

Course Framework Alignment and Rationales

Question 1

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
1.B: Explain political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.		CON-1.B: Explain the relationship between key provisions of the Articles of Confederation and the debate over granting the federal government greater power formerly reserved to the states.	Challenges of the Articles of Confederation
(A)	Correct. Under the Articles of Confederation, the national government could only request money from the states, which were not compelled to satisfy such requests.		
(B)	Incorrect. The Articles of Confederation did not include a separate executive branch.		
(C)	Incorrect. The lack of power over interstate commerce was actually identified as a weakness of the Articles of Confederation.		
(D)	Incorrect. The United States has never had an elected judiciary at the federal level.		

Question 2

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
2.A: Describe the facts, reasoning, decision, and majority opinion of required Supreme Court cases.	CON-2.B: Explain how the appropriate balance of power between national and state governments has been interpreted differently over time.	Constitutional Interpretations of Federalism
(A)	Incorrect. In <i>United States v. Lopez</i> (1995), the Supreme Court did not use the necessary and proper clause to uphold a federal law regulating firearms within a school zone. The Supreme Court ruled that the commerce clause did not extend to the Gun-Free School Zones Act, which prohibited the possession of a firearm within a school zone.	
(B)	Incorrect. In <i>United States v. Lopez</i> (1995), the Supreme Court did not rule that the Second Amendment is incorporated to the states. The incorporation of the Second Amendment through the Fourteenth Amendment occurred in the case <i>McDonald v. Chicago</i> (2010). The Supreme Court ruled that the commerce clause did not extend to the Gun-Free School Zones Act, which prohibited the possession of a firearm within a school zone.	
(C)	Incorrect. In <i>United States v. Lopez</i> (1995), the Supreme Court did not rule that the right to keep and bear arms was restricted to circumstances in which a well-regulated militia was involved. The Supreme Court ruled that the commerce clause did not extend to the Gun-Free School Zones Act, which prohibited the possession of a firearm within a school zone.	
(D)	Correct. In <i>United States v. Lopez</i> (1995), the Supreme Court ruled that the commerce clause did not extend to the Gun-Free School Zones Act, which prohibited the possession of a firearm within a school zone.	

Question 3

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	CON-3.B: Explain how the structure, powers, and functions of both houses of Congress affect the policy-making process.	Structures, Powers, and Functions of Congress
(A)	Incorrect. The free rider problem is a situation in which an individual is able to enjoy a group benefit without contributing to the work. The representative is engaging in passing pork barrel legislation which is wasteful spending that benefits a limited number of stakeholders.	
(B)	Correct. Pork barrel legislation describes wasteful spending that benefits a limited number of stakeholders. Oftentimes pork barrel spending is added to a bill to attract critical votes from a few members of Congress, as described in the scenario.	
(C)	Incorrect. An issue network is a term used to describe a group of organizations and people who work together to achieve policy goals. It is a concept that is not applied to the internal workings of Congress. The representative is engaging in passing pork barrel legislation which is wasteful spending that benefits a limited number of stakeholders.	
(D)	Incorrect. Gerrymandering is drawing congressional districts to favor one party over the other. The representative is engaging in passing pork barrel legislation which is wasteful spending that benefits a limited number of stakeholders.	

Question 4

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
3.B: Describe patterns and trends in data.	CON-5.B: Explain how the exercise of judicial review in conjunction with life tenure can lead to debate about the legitimacy of the Supreme Court's power.	The Court in Action
(A)	Incorrect. The data show that only 47 percent of Independents believe the Supreme Court should base its rulings on what the Constitution meant as originally written.	
(B)	Incorrect. The data show that only 26 percent of Democrats believe the Supreme Court should base its rulings on what the Constitution meant as originally written.	
(C)	Correct. The data show that the more consistently liberal a person is, the more that person is likely to believe that the Supreme Court should base its rulings on what the Constitution means in current times.	
(D)	Incorrect. The data show that the more consistently conservative a person is, the more that person is likely to believe that the Supreme Court should base its rulings on what the Constitution meant as originally written.	

Question 5

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
3.D: Explain what the data implies or illustrates about political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	CON-5.B: Explain how the exercise of judicial review in conjunction with life tenure can lead to debate about the legitimacy of the Supreme Court's power.	The Court in Action
(A)	Incorrect. The data in the chart show that 92 percent of those who are consistently conservative and 72 percent of those who are mostly conservative believe that the Supreme Court should interpret the Constitution based on what it meant as originally written, implying that justices should not consider public opinion and contemporary values in interpreting it.	
(B)	Correct. The data in the chart show that 92 percent of those who are consistently conservative and 72 percent of those who are mostly conservative believe that the Supreme Court should interpret the Constitution based on what it meant as originally written, affording justices little flexibility to adapt their interpretations to different times.	
(C)	Incorrect. The data in the chart show that 92 percent of those who are consistently conservative and 72 percent of those who are mostly conservative believe that the Supreme Court should interpret the Constitution based on what it meant as originally written and would not support members of the Supreme Court using their personal judgments to decide cases.	
(D)	Incorrect. The data in the chart show that conservatives do not support an active judiciary that would overrule the other branches of government. The data in the chart show that 92 percent of those who are consistently conservative and 72 percent of those who are mostly conservative believe that the Supreme Court should interpret the Constitution based on what it meant as originally written, affording justices little flexibility to adapt their interpretations to different times.	

Question 6

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
2.A: Describe the facts, reasoning, decision, and majority opinion of required Supreme Court cases.	LOR-3.A: Explain the implications of the doctrine of selective incorporation.	Selective Incorporation
(A)	Incorrect. Strict scrutiny is the test applied to laws that infringe on fundamental freedoms. The case of <i>McDonald v. Chicago</i> (2010) reflects the doctrine of selective incorporation, which determines whether the liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights should be applied to the states via the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.	
(B)	Correct. Selective incorporation is the method the Court used to determine which rights in the Bill of Rights should be applied to the states via the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.	
(C)	Incorrect. Stare decisis requires the application of precedent to a court's ruling, but the court had not previously ruled on the applicability of the Second Amendment to the states. The case of <i>McDonald v. Chicago</i> (2010) reflects the doctrine of selective incorporation, which determines whether the liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights should be applied to the states via the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.	
(D)	Incorrect. Literalism describes an approach to interpretation of the constitution, not a doctrine. The case of <i>McDonald v. Chicago</i> (2010) reflects the doctrine of selective incorporation, which determines whether the liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights should be applied to the states via the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.	

Question 7

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	PMI-2.C: Explain how Congress uses its oversight power in its relationship with the executive branch.	Holding the Bureaucracy Accountable
(A)	Incorrect. Committee markup is the process of debating and revising a bill prior to a committee vote. The scenario is an example of Congress exercising its power of oversight by holding hearings regarding the implementation of policy.	
(B)	Incorrect. Budget testimony is a process of debating budget priorities. The scenario is an example of Congress exercising its power of oversight by holding hearings regarding the implementation of policy.	
(C)	Correct. This is an example of Congress exercising its power of oversight by holding hearings regarding the implementation of policy.	
(D)	Incorrect. Impeachment is used for criminal wrongdoing, not policy disagreements. The scenario is an example of Congress exercising its power of oversight by holding hearings regarding the implementation of policy.	

Question 8

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	CON-3.C: Explain how congressional behavior is influenced by election processes, partisanship, and divided government.	Congressional Behavior
(A)	Correct. In the delegate model, representatives vote based on their constituents' policy preferences.	
(B)	Incorrect. In a trustee model, representatives vote based on what they think the best policy is, regardless of what their constituents may want. In the scenario, the representative votes based on the wishes of her constituents, which describes a delegate model of representation.	
(C)	Incorrect. In a politico model, a representative blends both the delegate model and the trustee model. In the scenario, the representative votes based on the wishes of her constituents, which describes a delegate model of representation.	
(D)	Incorrect. The committee chair is not a model that explains representative behavior. In the scenario, the representative votes based on the wishes of her constituents, which describes a delegate model of representation.	

Question 9

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
2.D: Explain how required Supreme Court cases apply to scenarios in context.	LOR-2.C: Explain the extent to which the Supreme Court's interpretation of the First and Second Amendments reflects a commitment to individual liberty.	First Amendment - Freedom of the Press
(A)	Incorrect. A president made this claim in <i>New York Times</i> but was unsuccessful. The Supreme Court ruled in <i>New York Times</i> that there is a heavy presumption against prior restraint.	
(B)	Incorrect. Judicial review refers to a court examining a law or action to determine its constitutionality. A court would not be required to review documents prior to publication. The Supreme Court ruled in <i>New York Times</i> that there is a heavy presumption against prior restraint.	
(C)	Correct. The Supreme Court ruled that there is a heavy presumption against prior restraint. In the <i>New York Times</i> case, the documents were related to studies about the Vietnam War while the war was still going on. Much less is at stake when the nation is not at war, so a court would most likely adhere to the precedent.	
(D)	Incorrect. The press could publish the documents whether acquired legally or illegally, and this issue does not represent the holding in <i>New York Times Co. v. United States</i> . The Supreme Court ruled in <i>New York Times</i> that there is a heavy presumption against prior restraint.	

Question 10

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
3.A: Describe the data presented.	PRD-2.E: Explain how the organization, finance, and strategies of national political campaigns affect the election process.	Campaign Finance
(A)	Incorrect. Although campaigns spent over \$2 billion, it was not from taxpayers. The information graphic suggests that three-fourths of advertisements focused on negative emotions.	
(B)	Incorrect. Although 3 million political ads were aired, it is unclear if these were from political action committees. The information graphic suggests that three-fourths of advertisements focused on negative emotions.	
(C)	Incorrect. More than 2 million political ads were aired, according to the information graphic. The information graphic suggests that three-fourths of advertisements focused on negative emotions.	
(D)	Correct. The information graphic suggests that three-fourths of advertisements focused on negative emotions.	

Question 11

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
3.D: Explain what the data implies or illustrates about political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	PRD-2.E: Explain how the organization, finance, and strategies of national political campaigns affect the election process.	Campaign Finance
(A)	Incorrect. While professional consultants are being used more frequently, this is not causally linked to the increase in campaign spending. Super PACs have been empowered by Supreme Court decisions to increase their spending on political advertisements, and they are most likely major contributors to the large amount of money that was spent in the 2012 election.	
(B)	Incorrect. While social media has been increasing its role in campaigns, most large donations are still being raised through traditional donation networks. Super PACs have been empowered by Supreme Court decisions to increase their spending on political advertisements, and they are most likely major contributors to the large amount of money that was spent in the 2012 election.	
(C)	Correct. Super PACs have been empowered by Supreme Court decisions to increase their spending on political advertisements, and they are most likely major contributors to the large amount of money that was spent in the 2012 election.	
(D)	Incorrect. Regulations on campaign spending have been weakened, but even if they were strengthened, they would not lead to a high amount of contributions. Super PACs have been empowered by Supreme Court decisions to increase their spending on political advertisements, and they are most likely major contributors to the large amount of money that was spent in the 2012 election.	

Question 12

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
4.A: Describe the author's claim(s), perspective, evidence, and reasoning.		PMI-5.G: Explain how various political actors influence public policy outcomes.	Groups Influencing Policy Outcomes
(A)	Incorrect. Chávez argues against relying on violence, writing that violence can only bring more harm to the movement and injure those involved in the cause. Instead, he argues that nonviolent action allows the movement to grow and to attract others to the cause.		
(B)	Incorrect. Chávez argues against relying on violence, writing that violence can only bring more harm to the movement and injure those involved in the cause. Instead, he argues that nonviolent action allows the movement to grow and to attract others to the cause.		
(C)	Incorrect. Chávez argues that relying on nonviolent action actually allows the movement to grow and to attract others to the cause, while relying on violence can only bring more harm to the movement and injure those involved in the cause.		
(D)	Correct. Chávez argues that relying on nonviolent action allows the movement to grow and to attract others to the cause, while relying on violence can only bring more harm to the movement and injure those involved in the cause.		

Question 13

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
4.B: Explain how the author's argument or perspective relates to political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.		LOR-2.B: Describe the rights protected in the Bill of Rights.	The Bill of Rights
(A)	Incorrect. The right to a fair trial does not support Chávez' argument. Of the provisions listed in the Bill of Rights, the right to assemble clearly supports the actions the Chávez is encouraging farmworkers to take.		
(B)	Correct. Of the provisions listed in the Bill of Rights, the right to assemble clearly supports the actions the Chávez is encouraging farmworkers to take.		
(C)	Incorrect. The right to bear arms does not support Chávez' argument. Of the provisions listed in the Bill of Rights, the right to assemble clearly supports the actions the Chávez is encouraging farmworkers to take.		
(D)	Incorrect. The right to an attorney does not support Chávez' argument. Of the provisions listed in the Bill of Rights, the right to assemble clearly supports the actions the Chávez is encouraging farmworkers to take.		

Question 14

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
4.C: Explain how the implications of the author's argument or perspective may affect political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	PRD-1.A: Explain how constitutional provisions have supported and motivated social movements.	Social Movements and Equal Protection
(A)	Incorrect. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. did not support the use of violence for his cause. Instead, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and César Chávez argued that to be successful, their causes needed to rely solely on nonviolent means.	
(B)	Incorrect. César Chávez did not support the use of violence as a way to advance his movement. Instead, both argued that to be successful, their causes needed to rely solely on nonviolent means.	
(C)	Correct. In both documents, the authors argue that to be successful, their causes need to continue to use nonviolent means.	
(D)	Incorrect. Both César Chávez and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. argued that their movements should consist solely of non-violent means of protest. Both advocated for the use of non-violence so that standards of equality would be met.	

Question 15

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	PMI-2.A: Explain how the bureaucracy carries out the responsibilities of the federal government.	The Bureaucracy
(A)	Incorrect. Political action committees (PACs) are organized for the purpose of raising and spending money to elect and defeat candidates and to pass or defeat ballot initiatives and legislation. PACs would therefore not be direct participants in the policy making process described in the scenario, which is about relationship between bureaucrats, congressional committees, and special interest groups that work together in one specific area of policy making. This scenario illustrates the concept of iron triangles.	
(B)	Correct. An iron triangle is a relationship between bureaucrats from an executive agency, a congressional committee, and a special interest group that work together in one specific area of policy making.	
(C)	Incorrect. Social movements may provide the impetus and momentum for policy changes, but these broad movements require organizations such as interest groups, elected representatives, and government officials to bring about policy adoption. The scenario is about the relationship between bureaucrats, congressional committees, and special interest groups that work together in one specific area of policy making, and it illustrates the concept of iron triangles.	
(D)	Incorrect. Political action committees (PACs) are organized for the purpose of raising and spending money to elect and defeat candidates and to pass or defeat ballot initiatives and legislation. PACs would therefore not be direct participants in the policy making process described in the scenario, which is about relationship between bureaucrats, congressional committees, and special interest groups that work together in one specific area of policy making. This scenario illustrates the concept of iron triangles.	

Question 16

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.D: Describe political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors illustrated in different scenarios in context.	CON-3.A: Describe the different structures, powers, and functions of each house of Congress.	Congress - The Senate and the House of Representatives
(A)	Incorrect. The due process clause guarantees that each citizen will not be deprived of liberty without due process. The necessary and proper clause provides Congress the power to pass laws pursuant to its general powers.	
(B)	Incorrect. The establishment clause prevents Congress from establishing a national religion. The necessary and proper clause provides Congress the power to pass laws pursuant to its general powers.	
(C)	Correct. Congress is not explicitly granted the authority to pass a law establishing a national ID, but it is given the power to address national security issues. The necessary and proper clause provides Congress the power to pass laws pursuant to its general powers.	
(D)	Incorrect. The commerce clause allows Congress to regulate interstate trade. The necessary and proper clause provides Congress the power to pass laws pursuant to its general powers.	

Question 17

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.B: Explain political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	PRD-3.A: Explain the media's role as a linkage institution.	The Media
(A)	Incorrect. Adopting a policy based on a financial contribution of special interest group is not in service of democracy. Decisions made in a democracy should consider the preferences of the population.	
(B)	Correct. A functioning democracy requires that citizens understand when and how to vote. Parties serve as the primary linkage institutions by which this process occurs in the United States.	
(C)	Incorrect. A House committee acting in coordination with a group in civil society is likely an action that will benefit society, but this is an action by members of Congress and not necessarily an activity that can be attributed to a party.	
(D)	Incorrect. The revolving door between members of Congress and lobbying firms is generally not viewed as an action supporting democracy.	

Question 18

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
4.B: Explain how the author's argument or perspective relates to political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.		PRD-2.D: Explain how campaign organizations and strategies affect the election process.	Modern Campaigns
(A)	Incorrect. The cartoon does not depict anything relating to social media but rather is a statement about how there is too much focus on candidate appearance by professional consultants.		
(B)	Incorrect. The cartoon does not depict anything relating to campaign costs but rather is a statement about how there is too much focus on candidate appearance by professional consultants.		
(C)	Incorrect. The cartoon does not depict anything relating to the duration of election cycles but rather is a statement about how there is too much focus on candidate appearance by professional consultants.		
(D)	Correct. The cartoon depicts President Lincoln, who is generally regarded as a successful president, meeting with a campaign consultant and being informed that he is not a good candidate.		

Question 19

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
4.B: Explain how the author's argument or perspective relates to political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.		MPA-3.C: Explain the roles that individual choice and state laws play in voter turnout in elections.	Voter Turnout
(A)	Incorrect. While some voters do consider party and ideology in making their decisions, the professional consultant in the cartoon refers to aspects of President Lincoln's appearance while presumably overlooking his more substantive qualities.		
(B)	Correct. Many voters focus on superficial qualities of candidates, leading the professional consultant in the cartoon to negatively comment on aspects of President Lincoln's appearance while presumably overlooking his more substantive qualities.		
(C)	Incorrect. Education and age can be important considerations for voters, but the professional consultant in the cartoon refers to aspects of President Lincoln's appearance while presumably overlooking his more substantive qualities.		
(D)	Incorrect. Some voters focus on issues, but the professional consultant in the cartoon refers to aspects of President Lincoln's appearance while presumably overlooking his more substantive qualities.		

Question 20

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
2.D: Explain how required Supreme Court cases apply to scenarios in context.	LOR-2.C: Explain the extent to which the Supreme Court's interpretation of the First and Second Amendments reflects a commitment to individual liberty.	First Amendment - Freedom of Speech
(A)	Incorrect. <i>Yoder</i> was a case about whether a state can force students to attend public school even if doing so violates a student's religious convictions. The scenario is more closely related to <i>Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District</i> (1969), in which the Supreme Court upheld the right of students to wear black armbands in protest of the Vietnam War.	
(B)	Incorrect. <i>Brown</i> was a case that ruled school desegregation was unconstitutional. The scenario is more closely related to <i>Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District</i> (1969), in which the Supreme Court upheld the right of students to wear black armbands in protest of the Vietnam War.	
(C)	Correct. In <i>Tinker</i> , students wore black armbands in protest of the Vietnam War. It was determined that the protest was protected by the First Amendment as free speech unless the school could demonstrate that such a protest interfered with the purpose of providing education. In the scenario, the school cites safety concerns, while the students likely argue in favor of free speech. Both of these arguments reflect the decision in <i>Tinker</i> .	
(D)	Incorrect. <i>Citizens United</i> was about the free speech rights of groups making independent expenditures in campaigns. The scenario is more closely related to <i>Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District</i> (1969), in which the Supreme Court upheld the right of students to wear black armbands in protest of the Vietnam War.	

Question 21

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.A: Describe political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	LOR-1.A: Explain how democratic ideals are reflected in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.	Ideals of Democracy
(A)	Incorrect. The size of a state delegation varies based on population, which means states as a whole are not represented equally in the House of Representatives. The fact that citizens directly elect members of the House of Representatives represents the idea that governments derive their power from the consent of the governed.	
(B)	Correct. The idea that citizens directly elect members of the House of Representatives demonstrates that they have given their approval to the government.	
(C)	Incorrect. This definition reflects elite democracy, and the procedure for the House of Representatives is not elite because they are popularly elected. The fact that citizens directly elect members of the House of Representatives represents the idea that governments derive their power from the consent of the governed.	
(D)	Incorrect. This is the definition of federalism, which does not reflect the structure or representation for the House of Representatives. The fact that citizens directly elect members of the House of Representatives represents the idea that governments derive their power from the consent of the governed.	

Question 22

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.A: Describe political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	LOR-1.B: Explain how models of representative democracy are visible in major institutions, policies, events, or debates in the U.S.	Types of Democracy
(A)	Incorrect. A participatory democracy is characterized by citizen activity in the democratic process. Pluralist democracy holds that the existence of interest groups provides individuals a way to come together and more effectively advocate for their public policy goals.	
(B)	Incorrect. While elitist democracy might include interest groups, it is better understood as a democratic system that limits participation of most groups from the policy-making process. Pluralist democracy holds that the existence of interest groups provides individuals a way to come together and more effectively advocate for their public policy goals.	
(C)	Incorrect. Majoritarian democracy simply argues that the majority should typically have their will respected, even to the point of depriving minority groups of their fundamental rights. Pluralist democracy holds that the existence of interest groups provides individuals a way to come together and more effectively advocate for their public policy goals.	
(D)	Correct. Pluralist democracy holds that the existence of interest groups provides individuals a way to come together and more effectively advocate for their public policy goals.	

Question 23

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
4.D: Explain how the visual elements of a cartoon, map, or infographic illustrate or relate to political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	CON-1.C: Explain the ongoing impact of political negotiation and compromise at the Constitutional Convention on the development of the constitutional system.	Ratification of the U.S. Constitution
(A)	Incorrect. Article I describes the powers of Congress. Article V details the amendment process shown in the diagram.	
(B)	Incorrect. Article II describes the power of the president. Article V details the amendment process shown in the diagram.	
(C)	Correct. Article V details the amendment process shown in the diagram.	
(D)	Incorrect. Article VI discusses debts, supremacy, oaths, and religious tests for office. Article V details the amendment process shown in the diagram.	

Question 24

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
4.D: Explain how the visual elements of a cartoon, map, or infographic illustrate or relate to political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.		CON-1.C: Explain the ongoing impact of political negotiation and compromise at the Constitutional Convention on the development of the constitutional system.	Ratification of the U.S. Constitution
(A)	Correct. The framers expected that people might want to change the Constitution but did not think that this change should be too easy or be without checks. They established several checks, including having both chambers of Congress as well as the states involved.		
(B)	Incorrect. The diagram does not illustrate anything related to this idea. The framers of the Constitution believed in limited government but were also concerned about giving too much power to the states.		
(C)	Incorrect. The diagram does not illustrate anything related to this idea. Also, a simple majority would not be enough to establish a constitutional amendment.		
(D)	Incorrect. Even though states are included in the amendment process, the diagram does not illustrate anything related to the idea of multiple access points. The primary purpose of federalism is to provide for a national government while also allowing the states to retain some power. The idea of multiple access points was not an important consideration for the framers, though it is usually considered a positive outcome of federalism.		

Question 25

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.		PRD-3.A: Explain the media's role as a linkage institution.	The Media
(A)	Incorrect. In this example, the media is playing the watchdog role through investigative journalism to inform the public about possible candidate wrongdoing or corruption. Horse race media coverage refers to the media's use of polling results to increase viewership during elections.		
(B)	Incorrect. In this example, the media is engaging in sensationalism and bias to hurt a candidate. Horse race media coverage refers to the media's use of polling results to increase viewership during elections.		
(C)	Incorrect. This is an example of candidate-centered campaigns, not horse race journalism, in which a candidate uses social media to announce her candidacy for president. Horse race media coverage refers to the media's use of polling results to increase viewership during elections.		
(D)	Correct. This is an example of horse race media coverage because the media is using polling results to show the popularity of candidates rather than focusing on candidate qualifications or policy issues.		

Question 26

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	CON-4.B: Explain how the president's agenda can create tension and frequent confrontations with Congress.	Checks on the Presidency
(A)	Correct. Life tenure raises the stakes for all nominations to the judicial branch as it gives the opposing party of the president only one chance to prevent that judge from making important rulings on cases through the power of judicial review.	
(B)	Incorrect. Judicial appointees generally avoid making controversial statements to be confirmed. The scenario reflects the high stakes for policy outcomes in judicial nominations in which a nominee oftentimes faces strong opposition from the opposing political party of the president.	
(C)	Incorrect. The merit system applies only to federal workers and not to judicial nominees. The scenario reflects the high stakes for policy outcomes in judicial nominations in which a nominee oftentimes faces strong opposition from the opposing political party of the president.	
(D)	Incorrect. Because the president's nominee is hand-picked, presidents generally urge the Senate to quickly confirm the justice to the Supreme Court. The scenario reflects the high stakes for policy outcomes in judicial nominations in which a nominee oftentimes faces strong opposition from the opposing political party of the president.	

Question 27

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
2.D: Explain how required Supreme Court cases apply to scenarios in context.	PRD-2.E: Explain how the organization, finance, and strategies of national political campaigns affect the election process.	Campaign Finance
(A)	Incorrect. The <i>Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission</i> (2010) ruling does not prevent former campaign officials from making campaign donations. Instead, the Supreme Court ruled in <i>Citizens United</i> that political donations were free speech, which has allowed outside groups, such as super PACs, to spend unlimited amounts of money on political campaigns as long as they do not coordinate with political campaigns.	
(B)	Incorrect. The <i>Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission</i> (2010) does not force super PACs to abide by the "Stand by Your Ads" provisions. Instead, the Supreme Court ruled in <i>Citizens United</i> that political donations were free speech, which has allowed outside groups, such as super PACs, to spend unlimited amounts of money on political campaigns as long as they do not coordinate with political campaigns.	
(C)	Correct. In the <i>Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission</i> (2010) ruling, the Supreme Court ruled that political donations were free speech, which has allowed outside groups, such as super PACs, to spend unlimited amounts of money on political campaigns as long as they do not coordinate with political campaigns.	
(D)	Incorrect. The <i>Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission</i> (2010) ruling has allowed for unlimited contributions from donors, equating those donations as free speech, allowing outside groups, such as super PACs, to spend unlimited amounts of money on political campaigns as long as they do not coordinate with political campaigns.	

Question 28

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	MPA-2.B: Explain the quality and credibility of claims based on public opinion data.	Evaluating Public Opinion Data
(A)	Correct. The best recommendation for the polling firm to follow to improve their results would be to survey not only those who have landlines, but also those who have cell phones. This would allow the polling company to have access to a wider range of people for more accurate survey data.	
(B)	Incorrect. Surveying people over two days, instead of one, allows the firm to get a better idea of where people stand on the issue. A better way to improve their results would be for the polling firm to survey not only those who have landlines, but also those who have cell phones.	
(C)	Incorrect. The polling firm should not adjust the results of the sample based on political party because the goal of the survey is to see who predict who win the election, regardless of party. Instead, a better way to improve their results would be for the polling firm to survey not only those who have landlines, but also those who have cell phones.	
(D)	Incorrect. Using an Internet poll will not lead to reliable results, as those who tend to take Internet polls are those who independently seek them out, leading to unreliable results. Instead, a better way for the polling firm to improve its results would be to survey not only those who have landlines, but also those who have cell phones.	

Question 29

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
3.B: Describe patterns and trends in data.	PMI-4.A: Explain how ideologies of the two major parties shape policy debates.	Ideologies of Political Parties
(A)	Correct. The data show that those who earn \$75,000 or more likely than those with lower incomes to support smaller government and fewer services.	
(B)	Incorrect. The data show that those who identify as liberal are more likely to support big government than are those who identify as conservative.	
(C)	Incorrect. The data in the chart do not show any relationship between income and the likelihood of obtaining a college education.	
(D)	Incorrect. The data in the chart show that women support bigger government and more government services than men do.	

Question 30

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
3.D: Explain what the data implies or illustrates about political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	PMI-4.B: Explain how U.S. political culture (e.g., values, attitudes, and beliefs) influences the formation, goals, and implementation of public policy over time.	Ideology and Policy Making
(A)	Incorrect. The data from the chart indicate that more women than men would prefer an increase in government services. This would most likely translate into increased care for the elderly. The data from the chart clearly indicate that Republicans support smaller government and fewer regulations from the government on business.	
(B)	Incorrect. In general, liberals are more supportive of government funding of public transportation to connect citizens to employment opportunities. Instead, the data from the chart indicate that Republicans clearly support smaller government and fewer regulations from the government on business.	
(C)	Correct. The data from the chart indicate that Republicans clearly support smaller government and fewer regulations from the government on business. This coincides with the general belief system of the Republican Party that lack of government intervention in the economy promotes economic growth and increases wages.	
(D)	Incorrect. The data from the chart indicate that those with lower incomes support more public spending than do those with higher incomes. The data from the chart indicate that Republicans clearly support smaller government and fewer regulations from the government on business.	

Question 31

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.A: Describe political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	MPA-3.B: Describe different models of voting behavior.	Voting Rights and Models of Voting Behavior
(A)	Correct. Rational choice voting means that citizens engage in voting based on what they perceive to be in their own best interest.	
(B)	Incorrect. Citizens are engaging in party line voting when they vote based on the political party of the candidate. Rational choice voting means that citizens engage in voting based on what they perceive to be in their own best interest.	
(C)	Incorrect. Citizens are engaging in prospective voting when they vote based on predictions of how a candidate will perform in the future. Rational choice voting means that citizens engage in voting based on what they perceive to be in their own best interest.	
(D)	Incorrect. Citizens are engaging in retrospective voting when they vote based on the recent performance of the political candidates. Rational choice voting means that citizens engage in voting based on what they perceive to be in their own best interest.	

Question 32

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	LOR-3.B: Explain the extent to which states are limited by the due process clause from infringing upon individual rights.	Amendments - Due Process and the Rights of the Accused
(A)	Incorrect. A writ of habeas corpus is used to determine if there is enough evidence against an accused person to keep them in custody and hold them for trial. The exclusionary rule prevents improperly obtained evidence from being submitted in court.	
(B)	Correct. The exclusionary rule prevents improperly obtained evidence from being submitted in court.	
(C)	Incorrect. The Miranda warning must be read to an accused person when in custodial interrogation and include the right to counsel and protection against self-incrimination. The exclusionary rule prevents improperly obtained evidence from being submitted in court.	
(D)	Incorrect. Ex post facto laws are laws that punish someone for conduct that was not illegal at the time of the behavior in question. The exclusionary rule prevents improperly obtained evidence from being submitted in court.	

Question 33

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	MPA-3.C: Explain the roles that individual choice and state laws play in voter turnout in elections.	Voter Turnout
(A)	Incorrect. Although a voter might feel less effective, losing their registration would be an institutional barrier more than an psychological one.	
(B)	Incorrect. The scenario doesn't indicate that there would be any punishment for attempting to vote.	
(C)	Incorrect. The law only affects citizens who have been previously registered and not younger voters who just became eligible to register.	
(D)	Correct. There are some citizens who vote only on rare occasions. If they are removed from registration rolls, they will be denied the right to vote.	

Question 34

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	CON-4.A: Explain how the president can implement a policy agenda.	Roles and Powers of the President
(A)	Incorrect. Executive orders do not require or include any congressional action. They take effect at the president's discretion by means of the president's leadership over the executive branch.	
(B)	Correct. The scenario indicates that the president wanted a bill to be passed by Congress but failed. Presidents sometimes choose to wield their influence by issuing an executive order that can create sweeping changes to policy although it does create some risks as far as public perception.	
(C)	Incorrect. The scenario does not suggest that the Supreme Court made a decision requiring President Obama to act. It is also unlikely that the Supreme Court would require the president to issue an executive order.	
(D)	Incorrect. The Constitution gives Congress control over creating immigration policy. In this scenario, the president used executive power to expand the authority of the executive branch to create the policy after Congress failed to act.	

Question 35

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
2.D: Explain how required Supreme Court cases apply to scenarios in context.	LOR-2.C: Explain the extent to which the Supreme Court's interpretation of the First and Second Amendments reflects a commitment to individual liberty.	First Amendment - Freedom of Speech
(A)	Incorrect. <i>Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District</i> (1969) was about the protection of symbolic speech in schools. <i>Schenck</i> set the precedent for the “clear and present danger” test, which means that not all speech is automatically protected by the First Amendment.	
(B)	Incorrect. <i>Engel v. Vitale</i> (1962) was about the Establishment Clause in public schools. <i>Schenck</i> set the precedent for the “clear and present danger” test, which means that not all speech is automatically protected by the First Amendment.	
(C)	Incorrect. <i>New York Times v. United States</i> (1971) was about freedom of the press. <i>Schenck</i> set the precedent for the “clear and present danger” test, which means that not all speech is automatically protected by the First Amendment.	
(D)	Correct. This case set the precedent for the “clear and present danger” test, which means that not all speech is automatically protected by the First Amendment. The members of the group advocated for illegal physical confrontations with police officers which could present a danger to the public.	

Question 36

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
3.B: Describe patterns and trends in data.	CON-3.B: Explain how the structure, powers, and functions of both houses of Congress affect the policy-making process.	Structures, Powers, and Functions of Congress
(A)	Incorrect. Forty-six Republicans voted against the bill, but since this table illustrates a vote on a bill, it can be concluded that there was not a successful filibuster. A filibuster would have prevented a vote on this bill, but the information in the table shows that the bill passed with votes from Democrats along with Independents and some Republicans.	
(B)	Correct. A simple majority is required to pass most bills in the Senate. Without the votes of Independents and Republicans, the bill would have had only 45 votes in favor of it, which would not have been a majority.	
(C)	Incorrect. From this vote, it appears that the Independents align with the Democrats, but it is only one bill, so no conclusion can be drawn about this. The information in the table shows that the bill passed with votes from Democrats along with Independents and some Republicans.	
(D)	Incorrect. Generally, it is more difficult to pass a bill in the Senate because of the rules, not the chamber size. The information in the table shows that the bill passed with votes from Democrats along with Independents and some Republicans.	

Question 37

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
3.D: Explain what the data implies or illustrates about political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	CON-4.B: Explain how the president's agenda can create tension and frequent confrontations with Congress.	Checks on the Presidency
(A)	Correct. The bill would remove troops from the conflict with Yemen. The president, as commander-in-chief, sent troops into Yemen without congressional authorization, as the name of the bill suggests. The Senate voted in favor of the bill, which challenges presidential authority.	
(B)	Incorrect. Only Congress can declare war. The president can order troops into combat regions, but this power is limited without congressional authorization or a declaration of war. Congress can block funding for war, but this is not illustrated in the table. The passage of a bill withdrawing troops from an operation ordered by the president represents a check on the president's power to unilaterally conduct foreign policy.	
(C)	Incorrect. Cloture procedures that can end a filibuster are not relevant to this table. A filibuster would have prevented a vote on a bill. The passage of a bill withdrawing troops from an operation ordered by the president represents a check on the president's power to unilaterally conduct foreign policy.	
(D)	Incorrect. Senators represent entire states and thus do not serve in gerrymandered districts. The passage of a bill withdrawing troops from an operation ordered by the president represents a check on the president's power to unilaterally conduct foreign policy.	

Question 38

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
4.A: Describe the author's claim(s), perspective, evidence, and reasoning.		LOR-1.A: Explain how democratic ideals are reflected in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.	Ideals of Democracy
(A)	Incorrect. The passage does not argue for the necessity of a strong central government to maintain economic order, but it urges statesmen to keep out of the business affairs of private individuals. This perspective discourages the federal government from interfering by promoting certain industries.		
(B)	Incorrect. The passage does not address any connection between tax rates and the free market system, but it urges statesmen to keep out of the business affairs of private individuals. This perspective discourages the federal government from interfering by promoting certain industries.		
(C)	Correct. The passage urges statesmen to keep out of the business affairs of private individuals, arguing that state interference and regulation is harmful and useless. Such an argument would also discourage the federal government from interfering by promoting certain industries.		
(D)	Incorrect. The passage does not address the effect of civil liberties on the government's ability to regulate the economy, but instead it disagrees with a role for government in economic regulation. The passage urges statesmen to keep out of the business affairs of private individuals, a perspective that discourages the federal government from interfering by promoting certain industries.		

Question 39

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
4.B: Explain how the author's argument or perspective relates to political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	LOR-1.A: Explain how democratic ideals are reflected in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.	Ideals of Democracy
(A)	Incorrect. The passage does not address the idea of natural rights, but it encourages statesmen to stay out of the affairs of private individuals—an idea most closely related to the ideal of limited government.	
(B)	Incorrect. The passage does not address the idea of popular sovereignty, but it encourages statesmen to stay out of the affairs of private individuals—an idea most closely related to the ideal of limited government.	
(C)	Correct. The passage encourages statesmen to stay out of the affairs of private individuals, which is an idea most closely related to the ideal of limited government.	
(D)	Incorrect. The passage does not bring up the social contract between citizens and their government, but instead it encourages statesmen to stay out of the affairs of private individuals—an idea most closely related to the ideal of limited government.	

Question 40

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
2.B: Explain how a required Supreme Court case relates to a foundational document or to other primary or secondary sources.	CON-2.B: Explain how the appropriate balance of power between national and state governments has been interpreted differently over time.	Constitutional Interpretations of Federalism
(A)	Incorrect. The court's holding in <i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i> did not limit the government's regulatory power but upheld the government's power to establish a national bank. Smith would likely disapprove of this as he argued in the passage that the government should interfere less in the functioning of the economy.	
(B)	Correct. In the passage, Smith argued for less government interference in the economy and would likely disapprove of the court's holding in <i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i> , which upheld the government's power to establish a national bank.	
(C)	Incorrect. The court's holding in <i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i> did not allow private businesses to make unlimited contributions to political campaigns but upheld the government's power to establish a national bank. Smith would likely disapprove of this as he argued in the passage that the government should interfere less in the functioning of the economy.	
(D)	Incorrect. Smith would likely disapprove of the court's decision to uphold the government's power to establish a national bank as he argued in the passage that the government should interfere less in the functioning of the economy.	

Question 41

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
4.C: Explain how the implications of the author's argument or perspective may affect political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	PMI-4.D: Explain how political ideologies vary on the government's role in regulating the marketplace.	Ideology and Economic Policy
(A)	Incorrect. Adam Smith does not deal with the idea of economic equality in the passage, but he would disapprove of any attempt to create equality that entailed government influence in the economy. Adam Smith's argument that statesmen should not regulate the business affairs of private individuals directly reflects the idea that the government should have a limited role in the operation of the economy.	
(B)	Incorrect. Adam Smith's argument that statesmen should not regulate the business affairs of private individuals directly reflects the idea that the government should have a limited role in the operation of the economy, and he would not advocate for a greater role of government in any kind of regulation.	
(C)	Correct. Adam Smith's argument that statesmen should not regulate the business affairs of private individuals directly reflects the idea that the government should have a limited role in the operation of the economy.	
(D)	Incorrect. Adam Smith's argument that statesmen should not regulate the business affairs of private individuals directly reflects the idea that the government should have a limited role in the operation of the economy, and he would not advocate for more government power over the economy through the creation of a central bank or federal reserve.	

Question 42

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	LOR-2.C: Explain the extent to which the Supreme Court's interpretation of the First and Second Amendments reflects a commitment to individual liberty.	First Amendment - Freedom of Speech
(A)	Correct. The law applies to all outdoor concerts, so the city is not singling out this particular event. This is an example of a time, place, and manner restriction because even though free speech protects the message of the concert, the manner by which they are promoting their message is in conflict with local laws.	
(B)	Incorrect. It is not possible to prevent a group from holding a peaceful and legal protest on the basis that the message is unpopular. If the signs are obscene, obscenity laws might apply, but that is not the same as time, place, or manner restrictions. Time, place, and manner restrictions on the First Amendment are applied when the form of speech or expression is in conflict with existing laws, such as a concert that may violate local noise ordinances.	
(C)	Incorrect. Fighting words and threats are not protected speech, and the individual may be arrested. However, this does not entail a time, place, or manner restriction. Time, place, and manner restrictions on the First Amendment are applied when the form of speech or expression is in conflict with existing laws, such as a concert that may violate local noise ordinances.	
(D)	Incorrect. Defamation is not protected speech, but it does not fall under the category of time, place, and manner restrictions. Time, place, and manner restrictions on the First Amendment are applied when the form of speech or expression is in conflict with existing laws, such as a concert that may violate local noise ordinances.	

Question 43

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.B: Explain political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	CON-2.A: Explain how societal needs affect the constitutional allocation of power between the national and state governments.	Relationship between the States and Federal Government
(A)	Incorrect. The system of concurrent powers means that there are many different parts of government with power over a specific issue, which would not enable a single part of government such as the executive branch to gain more control over the policy agenda. The system does afford several access points for citizens who are interested in policy change.	
(B)	Incorrect. States cannot pass laws that override federal laws. The system of concurrent powers means that there are many different parts of government with power over a specific issue, which affords several access points citizens who are interested in policy change.	
(C)	Correct. The system of concurrent powers means that there are many different parts of government with power over a specific issue, affording several access points to those citizens who are interested in policy change.	
(D)	Incorrect. The system of concurrent powers means that there are many different parts of government with power over a specific issue. This system would not affect the ability of congressional representatives to cultivate relationships with local power brokers. The system does afford several access points for citizens who are interested in policy change.	

Question 44

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.C: Compare political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	PMI-4.B: Explain how U.S. political culture (e.g., values, attitudes, and beliefs) influences the formation, goals, and implementation of public policy over time.	Ideology and Policy Making
(A)	Incorrect. While the Republican Party does favor broad tax cuts, the Democratic Party tends to support greater federal regulation of the economy to protect consumers and guard against corporate misconduct. The Democratic Party does, however, support increased social spending while the Republican Party usually prioritizes military and defense spending in the federal budget.	
(B)	Correct. The Democratic Party endorses increasing entitlement spending and in some cases, expanding benefits, while the Republican Party frequently prioritizes military and defense spending in the federal budget.	
(C)	Incorrect. While the Democratic Party does support same-sex marriage equality, the Republican Party takes a pro-life stance on abortion and reproductive rights. The Democratic Party does support increased social spending while the Republican Party usually prioritizes military and defense spending in the federal budget.	
(D)	Incorrect. The Democratic Party supports increasing funding for federal student loan programs, not decreasing it, though the Republican party does favor greater public school choice and voucher programs. The Democratic Party does, however, support increased social spending while the Republican Party usually prioritizes military and defense spending in the federal budget.	

Question 45

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.C: Compare political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	CON-4.B: Explain how the president's agenda can create tension and frequent confrontations with Congress.	Checks on the Presidency
(A)	Correct. The president's power to veto bills passed by Congress serves as a check on the legislature by limiting its ability to enact the laws it passes. The requirement that all judicial nominees be confirmed by the Senate represents a check on the executive branch by not allowing the president unilaterally to appoint federal judges.	
(B)	Incorrect. Though the House of Representatives can pass articles of impeachment against members of the executive branch, it is Congress, not the president, that controls the budget and thus can limit or approve funding for wars. Rather, the legislative branch is checked by the president's veto power, and the executive branch is checked by the process of Senate confirmation for judicial appointees.	
(C)	Incorrect. Congress can remove members of the president's cabinet through the process of impeachment, but the Supreme Court's power of judicial review represents a check on the legislative branch by the judicial branch, not by the executive branch. Rather, the legislative branch is checked by the president's veto power, and the executive branch is checked by the process of Senate confirmation for judicial appointees.	
(D)	Incorrect. States cannot nullify federal laws, and this would not represent a check on the legislative branch by the executive branch. Though the Supreme Court can declare presidential actions such as executive orders to be unconstitutional, this represents a check on the executive branch by the judicial branch, not by the legislative branch. Rather, the legislative branch checks the executive branch by the process of Senate confirmation for judicial appointees and is checked in turn by the president's power to veto bills passed by Congress.	

Question 46

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.C: Compare political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	LOR-2.C: Explain the extent to which the Supreme Court's interpretation of the First and Second Amendments reflects a commitment to individual liberty.	First Amendment - Freedom of Religion
(A)	Incorrect. While the free exercise clause does reflect a belief in the protection of religious freedom, the founders did not establish Christianity as a national religion under the establishment clause. The establishment clause prevents Congress from establishing a national religion.	
(B)	Correct. The establishment clause states that Congress cannot make laws respecting a specific religion, while the free exercise clause affirms that no laws can be enacted to limit an individual's right to free exercise of their religious beliefs and practices.	
(C)	Incorrect. While the establishment clause does establish a line of separation between church and state by prohibiting Congress from making laws respecting a specific religion, the free exercise clause, which guarantees an individual's right to free exercise of their religious beliefs and practices has indeed been incorporated to the states.	
(D)	Incorrect. The establishment clause does not ensure that all children must attend public school regardless of religious views. Children can attend religious schools, and in the case of <i>Wisconsin v. Yoder</i> , the Supreme Court held that Amish students could not be required to attend school in contradiction to their religious beliefs. The free exercise clause also does not protect school-led prayer under its mandate to permit free exercise of religious beliefs and practices. The establishment clause's prohibition against the establishment of an official religion also prohibits this sort of activity.	

Question 47

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.C: Compare political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	PMI-5.D: Explain how structural barriers impact third-party and independent candidate success.	Third-Party Politics
(A)	Incorrect. While the major parties do sponsor primaries and caucuses, the last time a third party replaced one of the major parties was in 1856, when the Republican Party replaced the Whig Party. However, the electoral college does favor the major-party candidates, while third-party candidates are hindered by winner-take-all voting districts, as they rarely win a plurality of the popular vote.	
(B)	Correct. Both statements are true. The electoral college rules in all states except Nebraska and Maine do favor the major-party candidates, because it is very difficult for a third-party candidate to win a plurality in a given state. The same is true with winner-take-all voting districts for congressional elections, because third-party candidates seldom win a plurality of the popular vote.	
(C)	Incorrect. While it is true that the major parties often adopt issues championed by third parties, third parties qualify for federal public funding for presidential elections only if they won at least five percent of the popular vote in the previous presidential election. However, the electoral college does favor the major-party candidates, while third-party candidates are hindered by winner-take-all voting districts, as they rarely win a plurality of the popular vote.	
(D)	Incorrect. Balance the ticket refers to choosing a running mate from the same party but from a different geographic region or demographic group to bring more widespread appeal to the campaign; therefore, a major-party nominee would not be inclined to choose a third-party running mate. It is true that one factor limiting third-party electoral success is that voters do not believe third-party candidates can win. However, the electoral college does favor the major-party candidates, while third-party candidates are hindered by winner-take-all voting districts, as they rarely win a plurality of the popular vote.	

Question 48

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
1.C: Compare political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.		CON-3.C: Explain how congressional behavior is influenced by election processes, partisanship, and divided government.	Congressional Behavior
(A)	Incorrect. Gerrymandering sometimes facilitates gridlock because it increases polarization in the House of Representatives. Partisanship does not, however, usually facilitate action. Partisanship oftentimes leads to delay because parties often act to prevent the other party from acting.		
(B)	Incorrect. Ideological news sources facilitate gridlock because they tend to push public opinion farther from the center, which makes compromise difficult. The bicameral legislature generally facilitates gridlock because it means that a bill must pass two chambers rather than just one, which creates delay and sometimes prevents a bill from being passed.		
(C)	Incorrect. The bully pulpit allows the president to rally public support for policies, which facilitates action rather than gridlock. Judicial review can facilitate action when a ruling requires a government institution to do something. Judicial review might also facilitate gridlock if it prevents a government institution from doing something.		
(D)	Correct. Checks and balances limit the ability of one branch of government to carry out its responsibilities and thus facilitate gridlock. Executive orders are a power exercised by presidents to initiate an action in the bureaucracy, and thus they facilitate action.		

Question 49

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
4.A: Describe the author's claim(s), perspective, evidence, and reasoning.		CON-2.A: Explain how societal needs affect the constitutional allocation of power between the national and state governments.	Relationship between the States and Federal Government
(A)	Incorrect. According to the data presented on the map, Mississippi (MS) has a higher rate of uninsured people than Michigan (MI).		
(B)	Incorrect. According to the data presented on the map, Hawaii (HI) has a lower rate of uninsured people than Alaska (AK).		
(C)	Incorrect. According to the data presented on the map, Idaho (ID) has a lower rate of uninsured people than Wyoming (WY).		
(D)	Correct. According to the data presented on the map, Texas (TX) has a higher rate of uninsured people than New Jersey (NJ).		

Question 50

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
4.D: Explain how the visual elements of a cartoon, map, or infographic illustrate or relate to political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.	CON-2.A: Explain how societal needs affect the constitutional allocation of power between the national and state governments.	Relationship between the States and Federal Government
(A)	Incorrect. The Constitution does not grant the states the exclusive right to determine health-care policy. Instead, federalism allows for health-care policies to be implemented differently across states, explaining why some states have more uninsured citizens than others.	
(B)	Correct. Federalism allows for policies to be implemented differently across states, explaining why some states have more uninsured citizens than others.	
(C)	Incorrect. The Tenth Amendment's reservation of powers to the states does not serve as an explanation for why there are differences in insurance rates across states. Instead, federalism allows for health-care policies to be implemented differently across states, explaining why some states have more uninsured citizens than others.	
(D)	Incorrect. The incorporation of the Fourteenth Amendment does not serve as an explanation for why there are differences in insurance rates across states. Instead, federalism allows for health-care policies to be implemented differently across states, explaining why some states have more uninsured citizens than others.	

Question 51

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
3.A: Describe the data presented.	MPA-3.C: Explain the roles that individual choice and state laws play in voter turnout in elections.	Voter Turnout
(A)	Incorrect. In 1988 and 1992, voters 65 and older were more likely to vote for the Democratic candidate than voters 18–29 were.	
(B)	Correct. The line graph shows that the 65+ line is above the 18–29 line by about 2 percent. Above the line graph, the number "-2%" is indicated. This means that voters 18–29 voted for the Democratic candidate 2% less than voters 65 and older.	
(C)	Incorrect. In 1972 and 1984, voters 65 and older preferred the Republican candidate more than voters 18–29 did.	
(D)	Incorrect. In the 2012 election, 18–29-year-old voters did prefer the Democratic candidate. However, the gap was 16% and not 8%.	

Question 52

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
3.C: Explain patterns and trends in data to draw conclusions.		PMI-5.C: Explain why and how political parties change and adapt.	How and Why Political Parties Change and Adapt
(A)	Incorrect. The voting age is set at 18 years old at the national level by the Twenty-Sixth Amendment. Even if states lowered the voting age, it would be unlikely to affect the information displayed in the line graph.		
(B)	Incorrect. There is no information in the line graph on the evolution of voting behavior of a specific generation over time.		
(C)	Correct. An increase in support for Democrats suggests that younger voters were more liberal after 2000. Generational effects often influence voting behavior. Events and cultural trends after 2000 likely had a strong influence on younger voters, causing them to become more liberal.		
(D)	Incorrect. There is no information in the line graph about the political positions of younger voters' parents.		

Question 53

Skill		Learning Objective	Topic
1.B: Explain political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors.		PMI-5.B: Explain the function and impact of political parties on the electorate and government.	Political Parties
(A)	Correct. The emphasis on candidate-cantered campaigns reduces the role of political parties in campaign management.		
(B)	Incorrect. Candidate-centered campaigns do not decrease the number of third-party candidates on the ballot. Candidate-cantered campaigns reduces the role of political parties in campaign management.		
(C)	Incorrect. Candidate-centered campaigns do not necessarily reduce the amount of money contributed to campaigns. Candidate-cantered campaigns reduces the role of political parties in campaign management.		
(D)	Incorrect. Candidate-centered campaigns do not necessarily lead to a decrease in voter outreach and mobilization. Candidate-cantered campaigns reduces the role of political parties in campaign management.		

Question 54

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	CON-5.B: Explain how the exercise of judicial review in conjunction with life tenure can lead to debate about the legitimacy of the Supreme Court's power.	The Court in Action
(A)	Incorrect. The Department of Justice is within the executive branch; therefore, its budget does not affect the judiciary. However, a president declaring certain detainees to be enemy combatants in order to get around a court decision demonstrates an effort by the executive to avoid a check on power by the judiciary.	
(B)	Correct. The Supreme Court relies on its legitimacy as an institution to have its decisions respected. Oftentimes, presidents and others affected by the Court's decisions can find ways around those decisions. This reduces the effect of the decisions.	
(C)	Incorrect. Legislation is passed by Congress, and the veto affects the power of Congress, not the judiciary. However, a president declaring certain detainees to be enemy combatants in order to get around a court decision demonstrates an effort by the executive to avoid a check on power by the judiciary.	
(D)	Incorrect. An executive order on immigration does not directly affect the judiciary. However, a president declaring certain detainees to be enemy combatants in order to get around a court decision demonstrates an effort by the executive to avoid a check on power by the judiciary.	

Question 55

Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1.E: Explain how political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors apply to different scenarios in context.	LOR-3.B: Explain the extent to which states are limited by the due process clause from infringing upon individual rights.	Amendments - Due Process and the Rights of the Accused
(A)	Incorrect. The Fourth Amendment protects the accused from unreasonable search and seizure which is not an issue in the scenario. The Fifth Amendment protects the accused from self-incrimination and the Sixth Amendment guarantees the right to counsel.	
(B)	Correct. The Fifth Amendment protects the accused from self-incrimination and the Sixth Amendment guarantees the right to counsel both of which are referenced in the scenario.	
(C)	Incorrect. The Eighth Amendment protects the accused from cruel and unusual punishment which is not mentioned in the scenario. The Fifth Amendment protects the accused from self-incrimination and the Sixth Amendment guarantees the right to counsel.	
(D)	Incorrect. The Fourth Amendment protects the accused from unreasonable search and seizure, and the Eighth Amendment protects the accused from cruel and unusual punishment. Neither are issues related to the scenario. The Fifth Amendment protects the accused from self-incrimination and the Sixth Amendment guarantees the right to counsel.	

Answer Key and Question Alignment to Course Framework

Multiple-Choice Question	Answer	Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
1	A	1.B	CON-1.B	Challenges of the Articles of Confederation
2	D	2.A	CON-2.B	Constitutional Interpretations of Federalism
3	B	1.E	CON-3.B	Structures, Powers, and Functions of Congress
4	C	3.B	CON-5.B	The Court in Action
5	B	3.D	CON-5.B	The Court in Action
6	B	2.A	LOR-3.A	Selective Incorporation
7	C	1.E	PMI-2.C	Holding the Bureaucracy Accountable
8	A	1.E	CON-3.C	Congressional Behavior
9	C	2.D	LOR-2.C	First Amendment - Freedom of the Press
10	D	3.A	PRD-2.E	Campaign Finance
11	C	3.D	PRD-2.E	Campaign Finance
12	D	4.A	PMI-5.G	Groups Influencing Policy Outcomes
13	B	4.B	LOR-2.B	The Bill of Rights
14	C	4.C	PRD-1.A	Social Movements and Equal Protection
15	B	1.E	PMI-2.A	The Bureaucracy
16	C	1.D	CON-3.A	Congress - The Senate and the House of Representatives
17	B	1.B	PRD-3.A	The Media
18	D	4.B	PRD-2.D	Modern Campaigns
19	B	4.B	MPA-3.C	Voter Turnout
20	C	2.D	LOR-2.C	First Amendment - Freedom of Speech
21	B	1.A	LOR-1.A	Ideals of Democracy
22	D	1.A	LOR-1.B	Types of Democracy
23	C	4.D	CON-1.C	Ratification of the U.S. Constitution
24	A	4.D	CON-1.C	Ratification of the U.S. Constitution
25	D	1.E	PRD-3.A	The Media
26	A	1.E	CON-4.B	Checks on the Presidency
27	C	2.D	PRD-2.E	Campaign Finance
28	A	1.E	MPA-2.B	Evaluating Public Opinion Data

Multiple-Choice Question	Answer	Skill	Learning Objective	Topic
29	A	3.B	PMI-4.A	Ideologies of Political Parties
30	C	3.D	PMI-4.B	Ideology and Policy Making
31	A	1.A	MPA-3.B	Voting Rights and Models of Voting Behavior
32	B	1.E	LOR-3.B	Amendments - Due Process and the Rights of the Accused
33	D	1.E	MPA-3.C	Voter Turnout
34	B	1.E	CON-4.A	Roles and Powers of the President
35	D	2.D	LOR-2.C	First Amendment - Freedom of Speech
36	B	3.B	CON-3.B	Structures, Powers, and Functions of Congress
37	A	3.D	CON-4.B	Checks on the Presidency
38	C	4.A	LOR-1.A	Ideals of Democracy
39	C	4.B	LOR-1.A	Ideals of Democracy
40	B	2.B	CON-2.B	Constitutional Interpretations of Federalism
41	C	4.C	PMI-4.D	Ideology and Economic Policy
42	A	1.E	LOR-2.C	First Amendment - Freedom of Speech
43	C	1.B	CON-2.A	Relationship between the States and Federal Government
44	B	1.C	PMI-4.B	Ideology and Policy Making
45	A	1.C	CON-4.B	Checks on the Presidency
46	B	1.C	LOR-2.C	First Amendment - Freedom of Religion
47	B	1.C	PMI-5.D	Third-Party Politics
48	D	1.C	CON-3.C	Congressional Behavior
49	D	4.A	CON-2.A	Relationship between the States and Federal Government
50	B	4.D	CON-2.A	Relationship between the States and Federal Government
51	B	3.A	MPA-3.C	Voter Turnout
52	C	3.C	PMI-5.C	How and Why Political Parties Change and Adapt
53	A	1.B	PMI-5.B	Political Parties
54	B	1.E	CON-5.B	The Court in Action
55	B	1.E	LOR-3.B	Amendments - Due Process and the Rights of the Accused