

AP Government

AMI 6-10

AMI - 6

Directions: Respond to all parts of the FRQ below.

There are several different approaches to representation within a democratic political system.

- (a) Define direct democracy.
- (b) Define republican form of government.
- (c) Describe one reason the framers of the United States Constitution chose a republican form of government over a direct democracy.
- (d) Describe each of the models of congressional representation.
 - Trustee model (attitudinal view)
 - Delegate model (representational view)
- (e) Explain why a member of Congress might sometimes act as a trustee (attitudinal view) rather than a delegate (representational view).

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- ___ 1. Congress adopted the War Powers Resolution to
- give the president additional powers in case of military emergencies
 - delineate a clear chain of command in the event of nuclear war
 - criticize the president for declaring war without authorization from Congress
 - enable the president to commit troops to United Nations peacekeeping forces
 - limit the president's authority to commit troops overseas
- ___ 2. Which of the following types of committee deals with broad areas of public policy and can be found in both houses of Congress?
- Rules
 - Select
 - Joint
 - Standing
 - Conference
- ___ 3. Which of the following explains why any attempt to reduce Social Security benefits is difficult?
- The Supreme Court has ruled that benefits are constitutionally required.
 - Interest groups concerned with Social Security are ineffective.
 - The global economy makes government insurance programs necessary.
 - There are many voters who support Social Security.
 - Government cannot predict the number of new retirees each year.
- ___ 4. Which of the following describes the president's Cabinet?
- It consists of career civil servants with decades of experience in government service.
 - Its members have varying levels of influence on presidential decisions.
 - Its members hold office for fixed terms that coincide with the president's.
 - Its members must be selected from among current or former members of Congress.
 - Its members are required to approve presidential policy decisions.
- ___ 5. The development and persistence of the two-party system in the United States is best accounted for by
- the Twelfth Amendment
 - proportional representation
 - multimember legislative districts
 - single-member legislative districts
 - strong party loyalty of elected representatives
- ___ 6. The concept of realignment refers to changes in
- the United States system of international alliances
 - the social bases of the parties' voting support
 - the media's criticism of the president and Congress
 - spending priorities in the federal budget
 - the rate of voter participation
- ___ 7. Much of the steady increase in federal government expenditures since 1960 has been caused by
- increases in entitlement programs
 - higher interest rates caused by an increase in the discount rate
 - the provisions of the Gramm-Rudman- Hollings Act
 - increased purchases of United States government securities by foreign investors
 - the growth of the United States trade imbalance

- ___ 8. Establishing the boundaries of United States congressional districts to give one party an advantage over another party is referred to as
- raiding
 - apportionment
 - reapportionment
 - gerrymandering
 - filibustering
- ___ 9. Congress is most likely to exert oversight of the executive bureaucracy in which of the following ways?
- Directly selecting the head of an executive agency
 - Impeaching the head of an executive agency
 - Using the Court to block implementation of proposed regulations
 - Controlling an executive agency's annual budget
 - Changing the term length of heads of independent regulatory commissions
- ___ 10. Which of the following statements about voting behavior in national elections is most accurate?
- Men are more likely to vote than are women.
 - Blue-collar workers are more likely to vote than are professionals.
 - Those with less than a high school education are more likely to vote than are college graduates.
 - Democrats are more likely to vote than are Republicans.
 - Senior citizens are more likely to vote than are college students.
- ___ 11. Which of the following best explains why the winner of a presidential election usually claims to have a mandate from voters?
- The president's party often wins a majority of seats in Congress by riding the president's coattails.
 - The allocation of electoral votes in the winner-take-all system exaggerates the margin of victory.
 - Presidents are allowed to implement their legislative agendas without interference during their first term.
 - The new president is allowed to replace a significant number of justices on the Supreme Court.
 - The incoming president automatically gains control of Congress.
- ___ 12. Typically, presidential candidates implement their campaign strategies by
- applying their resources evenly among the states, because they must win popular votes in a majority of the states to be elected
 - focusing on larger, competitive states, because they might tip the balance of the electoral college
 - focusing on small states, because these states have proportionally more electoral votes than more populous states have
 - ignoring the electoral college, because the popular vote determines the outcome of the election
 - ignoring the electoral college, because more states are moving away from the winner-take-all system
- ___ 13. The supremacy clause in the Constitution states that
- federal law takes precedence over state law when the laws conflict
 - only Congress may declare war
 - the Senate should have a greater role in foreign affairs than does the House of Representatives
 - the federal government has the right to regulate interstate commerce
 - the Supreme Court has the power to overturn decisions of lower courts
- ___ 14. A policy that sets emission standards for automobiles is an example of
- regulatory policy
 - judicial policy
 - fiscal policy
 - distributive policy
 - monetary policy

- ___ 15. The idea that judges ought to freely strike down laws that are inconsistent with their understanding of the Constitution is known as
- original intent
 - judicial restraint
 - judicial activism
 - judicial review
 - stare decisis
- ___ 16. Of the following, the most significant difference between the Constitution of 1787 and the Articles of Confederation was that the Constitution
- made states sovereign over the national government, while the Articles were based on national sovereignty
 - was difficult to amend, while the Articles included an easier process requiring approval by a simple majority of states
 - provided for a presidential system of government, while the Articles provided for a parliamentary system of government
 - created a dominant national executive, while the Articles established a dominant national legislature
 - provided for a strong national government with many powers, while the Articles created a weak central government with few independent powers
- ___ 17. The term “bicameralism” refers to the
- establishment of two legislative chambers that have different structures and rules
 - members of the House of Representatives having two-year terms
 - president having veto power over both chambers of Congress
 - members of the House and Senate having to appease their mutual constituencies
 - checks that Congress has over the federal bureaucracy
- ___ 18. Children are most likely to adopt the party identification
- of their parents
 - of the president
 - of their friends
 - of their teachers
 - endorsed by the media
- ___ 19. The media’s effect on public opinion can best be described as
- influencing older citizens’ opinions of incumbents
 - affecting the public’s views on domestic policy only
 - influencing which issues the public sees as important
 - changing well-educated people’s views on foreign policy
 - influencing the public’s views on controversial issues only
- ___ 20. When people vote for some candidates from one party and other candidates from another party, it is called
- dealignment
 - realignment
 - republicanism
 - ticket splitting
 - caucusing

Directions: Respond to all parts of the FRQ below.

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS TO THE FEDERAL JUDICIARY BY SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS, 2000–2011 (in percent)						
President	African American	Hispanic	Asian American	White	W omen	Men
Barack Obama	22%	11%	8%	59%	46%	54%
George W. Bush	7%	9%	1%	82%	22%	78%

Source: Alliance for Justice, August 2011 Percentages do not add up to 100.

Presidents consider many factors when nominating candidates to the federal courts, and getting their nominees confirmed is often difficult.

- (a) Using the chart above, describe ONE similarity between President Barack Obama’s judicial appointments and those made by President George W. Bush.
- (b) Using the chart above, describe TWO differences between President Barack Obama’s judicial appointments and those made by President George W. Bush.
- (c) Explain why a president’s party affiliation accounts for differences in presidential appointments to the judiciary.
- (d) Describe one way a president can increase the chances of having judicial nominations to federal courts confirmed.

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- ___ 1. The doctrine of stare decisis is significant for which of the following reasons?
- It establishes the jurisdiction of federal courts in litigation involving two or more states.
 - It is the principle that affirms that courts are bound by prior decisions.
 - It is the policy by which the Supreme Court decides which of the appellate cases it will hear.
 - It directs states to provide a lawyer for people who cannot pay for their own legal defense.
 - It holds high courts responsible for determining the constitutionality of proposed legislation before it becomes law.
- ___ 2. The expansion of the executive branch since 1939 has affected the separation of powers by
- increasing presidential control over the legislative process
 - increasing the power of the media as a result of more frequent presidential press conferences
 - reducing the power of the Supreme Court through the use of executive orders
 - giving more power to interest groups than to parties
 - making senatorial approval of presidential appointees ceremonial
- ___ 3. The most significant trend in federal-state relations during the 1980s was
- giving the federal government control over social welfare programs
 - bringing about greater equality in the provision of social services in different states
 - limiting state governments' ability to assess income taxes
 - expanding the authority of county and municipal governments at the expense of state governments
 - shifting the responsibilities and costs for many programs to state governments
- ___ 4. Congress has the constitutional power to control the judicial branch by
- determining the size of the Supreme Court
 - nominating the chief justice of the Supreme Court
 - limiting the length of judicial terms
 - reducing the salary of judges while they are sitting
 - altering the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court
- ___ 5. Which of the following is most important for getting an accurate measure of public opinion in a survey?
- Surveying only cell phone users
 - Selecting a random sample
 - Asking leading questions
 - Contacting only registered voters
 - Conducting the survey online
- ___ 6. Which of the following clauses in the Constitution justifies the "implied powers doctrine" ?
- The necessary and proper clause
 - The privileges and immunities clause
 - The contract clause
 - The debts and engagements clause
 - The executive power clause
- ___ 7. Interest groups use political action committees (PACs) to
- provide expertise to members of Congress when they are writing legislation
 - lobby the executive bureaucracy when they are considering new rules and regulations
 - raise and spend money on election campaigns
 - generate research that can be used to influence public opinion
 - hire policy experts who will promote their views in the media
- ___ 8. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service will spend money appropriated by Congress to maintain wildlife refuges. This action is an example of
- the power of the filibuster
 - congressional oversight of the bureaucracy
 - bureaucratic implementation of law
 - an unfunded mandate

- E. an independent expenditure
- ___ 9. The framers of the Constitution designed which of the following to be LEAST responsive to public opinion?
- A. The office of the president
 - B. The courts
 - C. Congress
 - D. The electoral college
 - E. Political parties
- ___ 10. Which of the following identifies the formal procedure for ending a filibuster?
- A. Oversight
 - B. Logrolling
 - C. Pocket veto
 - D. Cloture
 - E. Discharge petition
- ___ 11. Which of the following best accounts for the lack of success generally encountered by minor political parties in electing members to the House or Senate?
- A. Political action committee (PAC) contributions are restricted by law to the two major parties.
 - B. General elections in the United States are based on the winner-take-all principle.
 - C. House and Senate rules exclude members of minor parties from organizing coalitions with the major parties.
 - D. The public has great faith in the two major political parties.
 - E. Some states outlaw minor political parties.
- ___ 12. Interest groups are protected under the Constitution by the
- A. provisions of Article I, Section 8
 - B. First Amendment
 - C. Ninth Amendment
 - D. Tenth Amendment
 - E. Fourteenth Amendment
- ___ 13. The Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution, the Equal Rights Amendment, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 were all directed toward the goal of
- A. protecting the rights of minority children in the schools
 - B. overcoming discrimination based on sexual orientation
 - C. racial justice
 - D. equality for women
 - E. affirmative action
- ___ 14. If Congress wanted to effect a change in the Social Security payroll tax, to what congressional committee would the task initially be assigned?
- A. House Appropriations Committee
 - B. Senate Appropriations Committee
 - C. House Ways and Means Committee
 - D. House Rules Committee
 - E. Senate Finance Committee
- ___ 15. Which of the following statements is supported by the information in the table?
- A. Strong Democrats were more likely to vote their party identification than were strong Republicans.
 - B. Independents were less likely to vote than were party identifiers.
 - C. There was no difference among Independents voting for candidates of either party.
 - D. Partisanship was a good predictor of the way a person voted.
 - E. The number of strong Democrats was less than the number of strong Republicans.
- ___ 16. Which of the following concepts refers to the beliefs about government and politics that people in the United States hold most deeply?
- A. Ethnic pride
 - B. Party identification
 - C. Policy attitude
 - D. Group identity
 - E. Political culture

- ___ 17. The practice in Congress whereby Representative A promises to vote for Representative B's legislation, provided that Representative B will support Representative A's legislation, is referred to as
- A. personal casework and services
 - B. partisan discipline
 - C. logrolling
 - D. pork barrel legislation
 - E. filibustering
- ___ 18. A writ of habeas corpus refers to
- A. a person's right to know the reasons for his or her imprisonment
 - B. a person's right to not be charged for an action committed before that action was a crime
 - C. a person's right to trial by jury
 - D. the protection against cruel and unusual punishment
 - E. a demand from one state to extradite a suspect from another state
- ___ 19. Which of the following is true of voter turnout in the United States?
- A. Three-fourths of the electorate votes in a presidential election.
 - B. The South votes in larger numbers than does any other region of the country.
 - C. Men vote in larger numbers than do women.
 - D. There is no relationship between the age of the voter and participation rates.
 - E. The voter-participation rate is one of the lowest of any industrialized nation.
- ___ 20. Which of the following amendments to the Constitution most likely provides the basis for a driver to challenge the constitutionality of police use of sobriety checkpoints in enforcing drunk driving laws?
- A. The First Amendment right to petition the government for a redress of grievances
 - B. The Fourth Amendment protection against unreasonable search and seizure
 - C. The Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination
 - D. The Eighth Amendment protection against cruel and unusual punishment
 - E. The Tenth Amendment right of states to powers not given to the national government

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AMI - 10

Directions: Respond to all parts of the FRQ below.

Political parties play important roles in United States elections and government institutions. Over the past several decades, the influence of political parties in elections has declined while their strength in Congress has increased.

- (a) Describe two important functions of political parties in United States elections.**
- (b) Describe one important role political parties play within Congress to promote the party's public policy agenda.**
- (c) Explain how each of the following factors has weakened the influence of political parties over the political process.**
 - Direct primaries**
 - Candidate-centered campaigns**
- (d) Explain how party polarization has strengthened party influence in Congress.**