

can get a sense of which party has more voters voting early. This will prompt candidates to adjust their strategy so that any deficit could be made up on Election Day. Choice (A) is incorrect because political advertising would increase the week before Election Day regardless of early voting trends. Choice (B) is incorrect because more ballots are usually challenged on Election Day. Choice (D) is incorrect because the debate commission sets up the schedule of presidential debates prior to when states set up their early voting schedule, and presidential debates take place after many states start early voting.

24. **(D)** Prior to the decision made by the Supreme Court in the *Citizens United* case, corporations were prohibited from using money for independent political advertisements. Choices (A) and (B) are incorrect because corporations are allowed to give soft money to political parties and hard money through their political action committees to candidates. Choice (C) is incorrect because unions are not allowed to collect dues from their members for political action. Unions are, however, able to set up political action committees to which union members can voluntarily contribute.
25. **(B)** No Labels aims to foster bipartisanship and political compromise, key features of pluralism. Pluralism is characterized by groups striving to achieve a centrist position and, although no one group is totally happy, a number of groups, as a result of the bargaining that goes on, agree on mutually acceptable positions. Choices (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect because elitist, trustee, and majoritarian models of democracy all have components that would go against the No Labels philosophy.
26. **(B)** A standing committee of the House of Representatives is a permanent committee of the House. Each standing committee has specific responsibilities in the legislative process. One aspect these committees have in common is that they meet and “mark up” bills before the proposed legislation goes to the floor. The mark-up process includes the addition of amendments, which are debated by the committee. Choice (A) is incorrect because the standing committee is made up of representatives from the Democratic and Republican parties. The majority party in a house of Congress has a majority on that house’s committees. Partisan bickering has become the norm at committee meetings. Choice (C) is incorrect because when the House and Senate pass legislation that needs to be reconciled, a new joint committee, called the conference committee, is formed. Choice (D) is incorrect because the majority is determined by which party has the majority of seats in the House of Representatives.
27. **(A)** There are a number of methods Congress can use to respond to a ruling that declares a law unconstitutional. One is rewriting the entire law. More often, the Supreme Court will rule parts of a law invalid and in that case Congress has to change only those parts. Another option Congress has is passing a constitutional amendment by a two-thirds majority in each house and then send it to the states where it would need approval from three-quarters of the state legislatures to pass it. Choice (B) is incorrect because only the president has the power to appoint Supreme Court justices, with Senate approval. Choice (C) is incorrect because according to the Constitution Supreme Court justices do not have term limits. Choice (D) is incorrect because laws that are passed by states are argued in state courts.
28. **(C)** Executive privilege is the doctrine that allows the president’s private conversations to remain confidential. When President Nixon argued that he had executive privilege when he was discussing sensitive matters that he recorded, the Supreme Court, using the separation of powers doctrine, ruled unanimously that Nixon had to release those tapes. Choice (A) is incorrect because the court also ruled that there was a limited right of executive privilege, and the president has to protect national security and other sensitive areas. Choice (B) is incorrect because even though the president wanted these tapes to remain private, there was no Fourth Amendment argument. Choice (D) is incorrect because Congress had already begun impeachment hearings before the case was heard.
29. **(D)** A five-term representative would have more opportunity to get political action committee money (PAC) money than would a first-term representative because a five-term representative would have built up

- a fundraising base in the years he or she had been in Congress. Choice (A) is incorrect because committee chairs are usually given to more senior members. Choice (B) is incorrect because there are no congressional term limits. Choice (C) is incorrect because any representative can offer amendments to legislation.
30. **(B)** The Supreme Court has ruled consistently that race should be taken into consideration when looking at affirmative action but it has also established that quotas to achieve affirmative action would be unconstitutional. This would apply to college admissions as well as majority-minority legislative districts. A college that mandates that ten percent of African-Americans be admitted is clearly a quota. Choice (A) is incorrect because bakery owners have made a religious liberty argument. Choice (C) is incorrect because a high school refusing to fund a bible club would be violating the First Amendment free exercise clause. Choice (D) is incorrect because there was no affirmative action issue when President Trump ordered the military to ban transgenders from serving. There was an equal protection issue.
31. **(D)** The iron-triangle network is a pattern of relationships between an agency in the executive branch, Congress, and special-interest groups lobbying that agency. If you review how the Department of Health and Human Services operates, you can visualize the iron-triangle concept. Its budget is reviewed; various congressional committees and interest groups such as insurance groups, senior citizen groups, and the medical community lobby for their groups; legislation is passed incorporating ideas and proposals from these groups. Choices (A), (B), and (C) are incorrect because they illustrate other relationships that do not describe the iron triangle.
32. **(C)** A key concept of the Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics curriculum is Selective Incorporation and Nationalization of the Bill of Rights through the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, which guarantees citizens of states protection from abuses by the state or federal governments. Therefore, if the police acquire evidence from a search without a valid warrant, that would be a violation of the Fourth Amendment. The Supreme Court cases *Wolff v Colorado* (1949) and *Mapp v Ohio* (1961) were Fourth Amendment search warrant evidence cases that established the incorporation of the Fourth Amendment through the Due Process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Choice (A) is incorrect because a captured foreign-born terrorist has due process rights if he is tried in the United States. Choice (B) is incorrect because if federal funds are given to charter schools that is a federal issue, not a state issue. Choice (D) is incorrect because a court can deny bail for accused repeat offenders.
33. **(A)** The president uses different techniques to further the policy agenda to various constituencies that include lawmakers, special-interest groups, and the public. The bully pulpit is used by the president when he is making a key statement pushing that agenda. It could be a press conference, a speech, Twitter, Facebook, and all the other media available to the president. Choice (B) is incorrect because the president uses a private meeting with the Joint Chiefs of Staff to either ask for advice or give a direct order. Choice (C) is incorrect because the president cannot fire a federal civil service employee for speaking out against a policy. Choice (D) is incorrect because the president does not lobby Supreme Court justices.
34. **(A)** *Schenck v United States* (1919), a required Supreme Court case, established the precedent that in times of a national emergency such as war, if there is a clear and present danger, a person's First Amendment speech rights could be limited. It uses the example of yelling "fire" in a movie theater as an example. Therefore, creating a panic in an amusement park would be a similar situation, thus violating that ruling. Choice (B) is incorrect because courts have found there is a constitutional right of assembly to march even in groups that are considered racist. Choice (C) is incorrect because courts have ruled people have the right to heckle a speech. Choice (D) is incorrect because a person has the right to distribute anti-American propaganda unless that material directly jeopardizes the ability of the United States to conduct its foreign policy.
35. **(C)** The 1974 Congressional Budget and Impoundment Act set limits on the practice of the president making budgetary decisions without the appropriate congressional checks, and the act also set up the

independent Congressional Budget Office. The constitutional basis of the law is the appropriations power of Congress. Choice (A) is incorrect because even though Congress could override a budget veto, that power was not the basis of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Act. Choice (B) is incorrect because the congressional power to borrow money was not the money the president was interfering with. Choice (D) is not correct because a continuing resolution extends the federal budget beyond a budgetary deadline which, if not extended, would result in a government shutdown.

36. **(A)** The Sixth Amendment guarantees the rights of criminal defendants, including the right to a public trial without unnecessary delay, the right to a lawyer, the right to an impartial jury, and the right to know who your accusers are and the nature of the charges and evidence against you. The required court case *Gideon v Wainwright* (1963) established that even if you cannot afford an attorney, you will be provided one. Part of the Miranda warnings is that a person has the right to an attorney while being questioned. Choice (B) is incorrect because finding evidence without a search warrant is a violation of the Fourth Amendment. Choice (C) is incorrect because a jury trial is guaranteed by the Seventh Amendment. Choice (D) is incorrect because it is legal in many cases (even though there is a right to privacy) according to the Fourth Amendment for police to use stop-and-frisk.
37. **(D)** The president issues a signing statement after signing a bill that has aspects the president wants to clarify, disagree with, or explain. Even though James Monroe issued the first signing statement, George W. Bush and Barack Obama used this tool on bills when they wanted to clarify the reason for their signing. Choice (A) is incorrect because the Supreme Court does not give advisory rulings on signed laws. Choice (B) is incorrect because once the bill is passed, the only way to send it back to Congress is if the president vetoes the bill. Choice (C) is incorrect because the Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional the line item that gave the president authority to veto parts of budget bills. Choice (D) is incorrect because a pocket veto occurs when a bill fails to become law because the president does not sign it and cannot return the bill to Congress within a ten-day period because Congress is not in session. It has the same effect as a regular veto and, after Congress returns, the legislators can still try to override it.
38. **(A)** By definition, political socialization is the process whereby people obtain their political values. These values, such as party identification, views on abortion, and attitudes toward affirmative action, come from a variety of sources—primarily from parents, but also schools, peer groups, and churches. Choices (B), (C), and (D) are incorrect because they do not fit the definition.
39. **(B)** The definition of an interest group is a linkage group that is a public or private organization, affiliation, or committee with as its goal the dissemination of its membership's viewpoint. The result will be persuading public policy makers to respond to the group's perspective. The special-interest group's goals are carried out in the form of lobbyists and political action committees. The lobbyists who work for these groups have the greatest success if the president and members of the president's party support the bill. Choices (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect because lobbyists would have a more difficult job getting the legislation passed if the public was against it, if bureaucratic agencies were against it, or it had previously been defeated by Congress.
40. **(C)** When a representative recommends an appointment to a military school, that Congressman is providing constituent service. Another example of constituent service is how the representative's office handles and responds to voters' concerns. Choices (A), (B), and (D) are incorrect because those models refer to voters' trust in their representatives to make decisions that the representatives feel are in the best interests of their constituents (Trustee model, choice (A)), representatives are the most political in this model utilizing both the trustee model and delegate model to make decisions (Politico model, choice (B)) and voters electing their representatives as their delegates and expecting the representatives to vote on the basis of what their constituents believe (Delegate model, choice (D)).

41. **(C)** When looking at political polls, we should evaluate them by these factors: who conducts the poll—there is a real difference between a candidate who reports polling results and a neutral organization that conducts a poll; the sample size—make sure that a random sample was obtained, if a clear distinction is made regarding the population sample; when the poll was conducted, the poll methodology, the sampling error, which gives the poll statistical validity (plus or minus 3 percent is usually an acceptable standard); and how clearly the polling questions were worded. In this question, the polling sample was the same for both polls, and both polls asked the same question. The only difference was the margin of error. Even though plus or minus 3.5 percent gives a more accurate result than plus or minus 5.5 percent, in this case because of the results both polls could show the same job approval if you add or subtract the margin of error. Choice (A) is incorrect because there is no evidence cell phones were not used. Choices (B) and (D) are incorrect because the polls do not reflect those choices.
42. **(B)** Majority-minority congressional districts were created by primarily southern states in order to satisfy the requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which mandated the U.S. attorney general to monitor how the states conducted their elections, making sure minorities were able to register and vote without obstacles. In addition, states had to create equitable voting districts that fairly represented their population. Some districts were so gerrymandered, resulting in such an imbalance of African-American residents, that the other districts ensured the election of primarily white candidates. The Supreme Court in *Shaw v Reno* found this to be unacceptable (choice (A)). Choices (C) and (D) had nothing to do with the issue raised by the question.
43. **(A)** The Articles of Confederation contained a provision for the government to borrow money and the Constitution had the provision that Congress could declare war. Choice (B) is incorrect because the Articles of Confederation was for a one-house legislature. Choice (C) is incorrect because the Articles of Confederation allowed states to coin their own money. Choice (D) is wrong because the Articles of Confederation had a provision that required laws to be passed by a two-thirds majority.
44. **(B)** Both required First Amendment cases had different outcomes. *Schenck* established that if there is a clear and present danger in a time of war, speech can be restricted. *Tinker* established that during a time of war, students would still be able to protest by wearing black armbands because it represented a form of symbolic speech. Choice (A) is incorrect because the fighting-words doctrine was a different case. Choice (C) is incorrect because *Schenck* was never in the army, and the *Tinker* case did not allow students to be suspended for wearing armbands. Choice (D) is incorrect because the draft remained in place. The three choices in the *Tinker* decision were all results of that case.
45. **(B)** The formal powers of the president are described in Article 2 of the Constitution. They are also referred to as expressed powers. The informal powers of the president are duties or actions that are not listed in the Constitution. A formal power of the president is the veto power, and an informal power is being head of the president's political party. Choice (A) is incorrect because Congress has the power to declare war, and the power to appoint ambassadors is a formal power. Choice (C) is wrong because both executive orders and issuing signing statements are informal powers. Choice (D) is incorrect because both commander in chief and making treaties are formal powers.
46. **(D)** Special-interest groups and political parties are both linkage organizations. Even though they both have a significant impact on the policy process, their goals and manner in which they affect policy differ. Special-interest groups provide Congress important information by either lobbying Congress or testifying before congressional committees. Political parties run campaigns for candidates running for office who ultimately vote on legislation. Choice (A) is incorrect because there is no membership fee to join a political party. Choice (B) is wrong because there is no formal vote that most special-interest groups take on their platforms and political parties have many issues that they advocate. Choice (C) is

incorrect because political parties nominate candidates for office and special-interest groups endorse candidates.

47. **(D)** The presidential powers listed in the Constitution are (choice (A)) commander in chief, the pardon power (Choice C), and the power to veto legislation (choice (D)). Senate powers are approving, by a two-thirds vote, treaties a president makes. Choices (A), (B), and (C) are not Senate powers. The Senate cannot directly override an executive order. A senator can introduce legislation that addresses an issue raised in a presidential executive order. The Senate approves Supreme Court nominees, the president appoints them. The House of Representatives initiates appropriation legislation.
48. **(B)** Third-party candidates often act as spoilers, especially in presidential elections. This happened in the 2000 election when Ralph Nader ran on the Green Party ticket, and Al Gore won the popular vote, but lost the vote in the Electoral College. Supporters of third-party candidates believe there are no real differences between the two major parties, so many want to register a protest vote. Choice (A) is incorrect because there has not been an increase in third-party registration. There has been an increase in people registering as independents. Choice (C) is incorrect because third-party candidates do not have the resources to win presidential elections. Choice (D) is incorrect because voter registration has increased since the Motor Voter Act was passed.
49. **(B)** The definition of a recession is when the Gross Domestic Product goes negative for two consecutive quarters. The Federal Reserve, through its monetary policies, has a number of options to combat inflation or to try to bring the country out of a recession. Lowering the discount rate also lowers the interest rate. Therefore, people would find it easier to borrow money and then spend it on goods and services. This would help the country get out of a recession. Choices (A), (C), and (D) would result in tighter money which is used to combat inflation but not recessions.
50. **(A)** The definition of free enterprise, is a belief in a system that encourages competition. The definition of equality of opportunity is that government should provide opportunities for people to succeed either through assistance programs or affirmative action programs. Supply-side economics is a component of the free-enterprise system because it favors those who produce goods and services. Choices (B), (C), and (D) would all be favored by people who believe in equality of opportunity.
51. **(C)** The required Supreme Court case *New York Times Company v U.S.* (1971) arose when the *New York Times* printed The Pentagon Papers, a classified study of the Vietnam War that contradicted what past administrations claimed were the reasons the United States escalated the war. President Nixon ordered the attorney general to get an injunction for the *Times* to cease publication based on national security concerns. The Supreme Court ruled against the United States saying that First Amendment rights gave the newspaper the right to print this story. Choice (A) is incorrect because the guarantee a reporter can protect the anonymity of sources is based on state laws and other judicial decisions. Choice (B) is incorrect because it is a false statement, prior review being a form of censorship that violates the First Amendment. Choice (D) is incorrect because the clear and present danger doctrine did not apply to the case.
52. **(C)** Executive privilege is a doctrine that allows the president to protect private conversations and other materials generated from the president that the president feels are confidential and should not be given to the Congress, courts, or the public. In most cases, executive privilege is protected, and courts have been reluctant to direct the president or advisors to the president to reveal these conversations or hand over materials. This doctrine was challenged when President Nixon refused to hand over Watergate-related tapes, and the Supreme Court said executive privilege did not apply. Choice (A) is incorrect because the president can be tried while in office, either through the impeachment process or civilly. Choice (B) is incorrect because the president does not have to reveal who he meets with and would not have to claim

executive privilege. Choice (D) is incorrect because a president does not use executive privilege as means to win over public opinion.

53. **(A)** Because many bureaucrats are appointed for longer terms than the president or are civil service employees, they have a continuity of service that the president lacks. That gives the bureaucrat an advantage in the policy-making process. Choice (B) is incorrect because the public has little direct connection to bureaucrats. Choice (C) is incorrect because the president controls the budgetary process. Choice (D) is incorrect because Congress has oversight of bureaucracies.
54. **(C)** Presidential appointment of ambassadors, cabinet-level personnel, and federal justices is a power granted by the Constitution. The Senate must approve those appointments after the appropriate committee holds hearings. This process is called “advise and consent.” As a result of this process it becomes more difficult for a president to make appointments. During the first hundred days of the Trump administration, the Democrats were able to delay many of Trump’s cabinet appointments. Choice (A) is incorrect because the process is held up in committee hearings. Choice (B) is incorrect because staff appointments do not have to be confirmed by the senate. Choice (D) is incorrect because the House does not review presidential appointments.
55. **(D)** Judicial activism is defined as a court ruling congressional legislation unconstitutional or expanding the rights of individuals through court decisions. Liberal activists support this philosophy if the decision expands rights. A court that declares a law unconstitutional that restricts access to obscene sites on the Internet is an example of this type of activism. Choices (A), (B), and (C) are all cases that restrict rights.

## Section 2: Free-Response Questions

### Explanation and Discussion of Question 1: Short Answers with Scenario Question

This question is based on a press release from the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence chairman, Representative Devin Nunes, and Committee on Oversight and Government Reform chairman Trey Gowdy, announcing a joint inquiry into the Obama administration regulatory approvals related to the U.S. uranium industry and possible wrongdoing related to those approvals.

**Part A** asks you to describe from where Congress gets its authority to address the issues raised in the passage. Congress, through its oversight power, is able to call witnesses, subpoena material, and draw conclusions regarding the issue of whether there was any wrongdoing connected to the Uranium One mining company deal with Russia and any other related matters connected to Russian acquisition of U.S. uranium. Article 1 of the United States Constitution gives Congress lawmaking authority and the authority to make its own rules. Over the years, both the House and Senate have organized their legislative processes through a system made up of permanent standing committees, joint committees, and select committees. Congressional oversight is a key responsibility of these committees.

**Part B** asks you to use the information provided in Part A and explain how congressional authority can be affected by the minority members on the committee. Every committee in the House has representation from both the Republican and Democratic parties. Since the Republican party now has the majority in the House, they have a majority on these committees and can call witnesses and subpoena material by a majority vote. The Democratic minority has a ranking member who is supposed to work in a bipartisan manner with the chairperson of the committee. The minority could affect the workings of the committee by getting the public to support their positions. This is accomplished by votes and statements made during committee hearings and appearances on political talk shows speaking out against the positions taken by the majority. The minority can also call on special-interest groups sympathetic to their position to apply pressure on the majority to stop its investigation. In this case Democrats strongly oppose the Uranium One inquiry because they believe the Republicans have called for the investigation based on false and misleading information.