

# Practice Test 1

## SECTION 1: MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

TIME 80 MINUTES

55 QUESTIONS

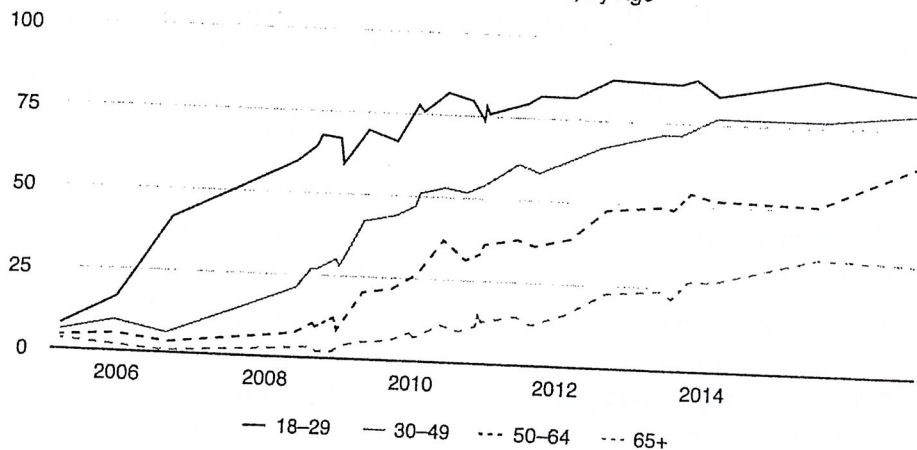
Please note that the order of the types of multiple-choice questions will be spread out on the actual test. Stimulus questions will not be the first 23 questions.

### Section 1 is Worth 50 Percent of the Test

**Directions:** Each of the following questions has four choices. Choose the best response and record your answer on the answer sheet on page 207. There will be no penalty for incorrect answers in the multiple-choice section. Answer as many multiple-choice questions in the time permitted, even if you are unsure of the correct answer.

Questions 1–2 refer to the following graph.

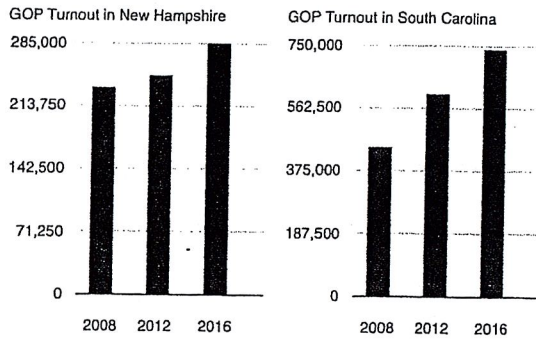
% of U.S. Adults Who Use at Least One Social Media Site, by Age



Source: Pew Research Center

- Which of the following choices represent the information provided in the chart?
  - U.S. adults who are the oldest use more social media sites than any other age group.
  - There was a sharp increase in the use of social media by all age groups from 2006 to 2008.
  - Adults between 18 and 29 use social media in higher percentages than adults between 50 and 65 and older.
  - In 2016, adults between 30 and 49 use social media in the same number as those between 18 and 29.
- Which of the following occurred as a result of the data presented in the graph?
  - Russian use of social media sites was aimed at adults 65 and over.
  - Candidates for office increasingly relied on social media to get their message out.
  - The U.S. government began to regulate social media sites.
  - Social media sites offered free advertisements to candidates running for office.

Questions 3–4 refer to the following graph.  
**GOP Primary Turnout in New Hampshire  
 and South Carolina**

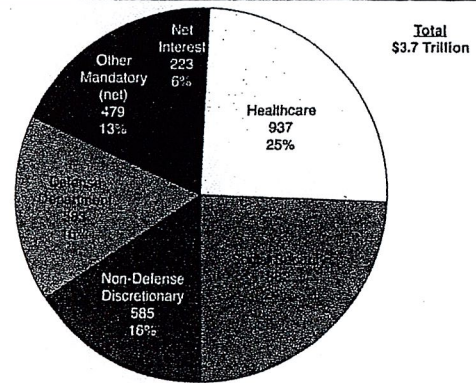


Source: *usnews.com*

- Which of the following best explains the movement found in the results of the graph?
  - Turnout by GOP voters in New Hampshire and South Carolina increased in each election cycle.
  - GOP voter turnout in New Hampshire saw a greater increase than in South Carolina from 2008 to 2016.
  - There has been a growing lack of interest in GOP primary voting in New Hampshire and South Carolina since 2008.
  - GOP voters were not enthusiastic about their candidate choices.
- Which of the following is an accurate statement about presidential elections in New Hampshire and South Carolina?
  - New Hampshire and South Carolina usually vote Republican in presidential elections.
  - New Hampshire usually votes Republican while South Carolina votes Democratic.
  - As early primary states, South Carolina and New Hampshire usually predict the eventual Republican nominee for president.
  - New Hampshire is the first caucus state in the nation to vote.

Questions 5–6 refer to the following pie chart.

U.S. Federal Spending—Fiscal Year 2015 (\$ Billions)

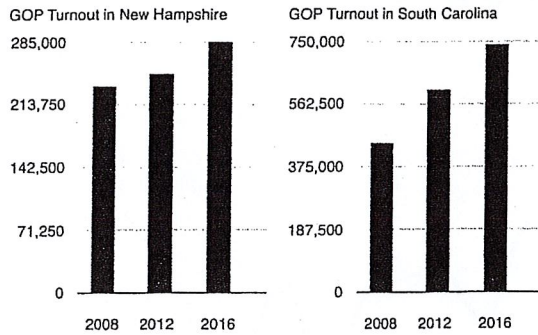


- Which of the following is an accurate statement about the pie chart?
  - There is a greater percentage of mandatory spending compared to non-mandatory spending.
  - An example of non-mandatory spending is Social Security.
  - The percentage of discretionary spending is equal to the percentage of mandatory spending.
  - The percentage of Defense Department mandatory spending is greater than health care spending.
- Which of the following best describes who has the power to create the amount of federal spending found in the chart?
  - The president
  - Congress
  - The bureaucracy
  - Special-interest groups



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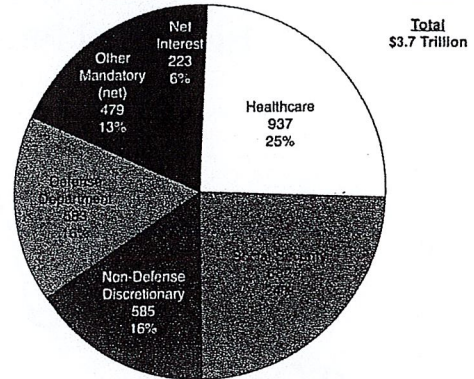


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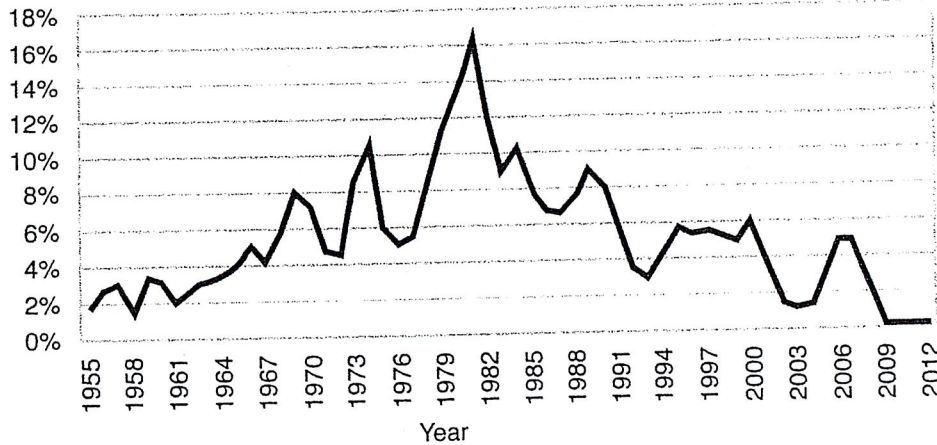


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Questions 7-8 refer to the following graph.

Federal Reserve Funds Interest Rate Charged to Banks

### Historical Federal Funds Rate



Source: Federal Reserve

7. Which of the following statements is accurate based on the information presented in the graph?

- (A) The United States economy was facing a very low inflationary period between 1979 and 1982.
- (B) The United States economy was facing a very high inflationary period between 1979 and 1982.
- (C) The United States economy was facing a very low unemployment rate in 2009.
- (D) The United States economy was facing a very high inflationary period between 2009 and 2012.

8. Which of the following reflects what a supporter of Keynesian economics would advocate as a response to high inflation in the United States?

- (A) The Federal Reserve lowering the prime interest rate so that the economy would be stimulated
- (B) The Federal Reserve raising the prime interest rate so that the economy would be stimulated
- (C) Congress passing a stimulus bill that also raises the national debt
- (D) The president issuing an executive order that would freeze wages and prices



Questions 9–10 refer to the following table.

<b>Voter Exit Polls in Presidential Elections 2000–2008</b>			
<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2008</b>
Percentage of all voters voting for Democratic candidate	48	48	53
Republican candidate	48	51	45
Third-party candidates	4	1	2
Percentage of men voting for Democratic candidate	43	44	49
Republican candidate	54	55	48
Third-party candidates	3	1	3
Percentage of women voting for Democratic candidate	54	51	56
Republican candidate	43	48	43
Third-party candidates	3	1	1
Percentage of whites voting for Democratic candidate	55	41	43
Republican candidate	42	58	55
Third-party candidates	3	1	2
Percentage of African Americans voting for Democratic candidate	90	88	95
Republican candidate	9	11	4
Third-party candidates	3	3	2
Percentage of Hispanics voting for Democratic candidate	62	53	67
Republican candidate	35	44	31
Third-party candidates	3	3	2
Percentage of 18- to 29-year-olds voting for Democratic candidate	48	54	66
Republican candidate	47	45	32
Third-party candidates	5	1	2
Percentage of 65 and over voting for Democratic candidate	51	47	45
Republican candidate	47	52	53
Third-party candidates	2	1	2
Percentage of voters from the East voting for Democratic candidate	56	56	59
Republican candidate	40	44	40
Third-party candidates	4	-	1
Percentage of voters from the Midwest voting for Democratic candidate	48	48	54
Republican candidate	49	51	44
Third-party candidates	3	1	2
Percentage of voters from the South voting for Democratic candidate	43	42	45
Republican candidate	56	58	54
Third-party candidates	1	-	1
Percentage of voters from the West voting for Democratic candidate	49	50	57
Republican candidate	47	49	40
Third-party candidates	4	1	3

9. Based on the information in the table, which geographic area was most closely aligned with the Republican candidates for president in 2000–2008?
- (A) Voters from the East
  - (B) Voters from the Midwest
  - (C) Voters from the South
  - (D) Voters from the West
10. Based on the information in the table, which of the following is an accurate statement about demographic trends from 2000 to 2008?
- (A) Political socialization is a contributing factor in determining party identification.
  - (B) The African-American vote has been taken for granted by the Democratic party.
  - (C) Younger voters are turning more Republican.
  - (D) Voting coalitions stay the same from election to election.
11. Which of the following best represents the point of view in Federalist No. 51?
- (A) Each branch of government should be dependent on each other.
  - (B) Those in power get the right to govern from a higher authority.
  - (C) The best security against the concentration of power would be a Bill of Rights.
  - (D) Dividing power helps to check the power of government.
12. Which of the following constitutional provisions is reflected in Federalist No. 51?
- (A) Federalism
  - (B) Separation of powers
  - (C) Supremacy clause
  - (D) The Senate filibuster
13. Why did Madison claim that “if men were angels, no government would be necessary”?
- (A) Madison believed the goodness of people would ensure that government would make good policies.
  - (B) Madison believed there was no need for free elections.
  - (C) Madison believed religion would guide the wisdom of those who governed.
  - (D) Madison believed it was the nature of those who governed to need a check on their power.
14. What could have happened if the ideas expressed in Federalist No. 51 were ignored?
- (A) Majorities would not have threatened the rights of minorities.
  - (B) There would not have been three branches of government.
  - (C) The legislature, executive branch, and judiciary would have been independent from each other.
  - (D) Minorities would have threatened the rights of the majority.

**Questions 11–14 refer to the following passage.**

“It is equally evident, that the members of each department should be as little dependent as possible on those of the others, for the emoluments annexed to their offices. Were the executive magistrate, or the judges, not independent of the legislature in this particular, their independence in every other would be merely nominal. But the great security against a gradual concentration of the several powers in the same department, consists in giving to those who administer each department the necessary constitutional means and personal motives to resist encroachments of the others. The provision for defense must in this, as in all other cases, be made commensurate to the danger of attack. Ambition must be made to counteract ambition. The interest of the man must be connected with the constitutional rights of the place. It may be a reflection on human nature, that such devices should be necessary to control the abuses of government. But what is government itself, but the greatest of all reflections on human nature? If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary.”

—James Madison, Federalist No. 51



Questions 15-17 refer to the following passage.

**Defense of Marriage Act (1996)**

**An Act to define and protect the institution of marriage. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the "Defense of Marriage Act."**

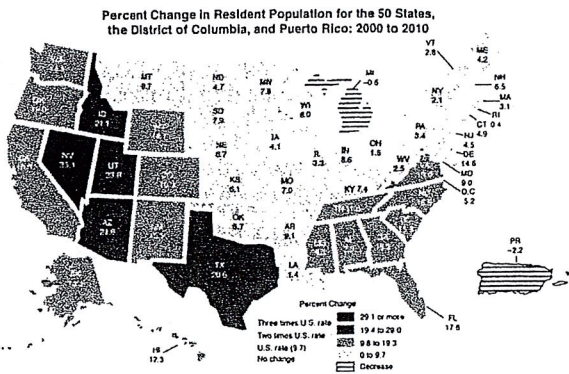
"No State, territory, or possession of the United States, or Indian tribe, shall be required to give effect to any public act, record, or judicial proceeding of any other State, territory, possession, or tribe respecting a relationship between persons of the same sex that is treated as a marriage under the laws of such other State, territory, possession, or tribe, or a right or claim arising from such relationship."

Definition of "marriage" and "spouse" "In determining the meaning of any Act of Congress, or of any ruling, regulation, or interpretation of the various administrative bureaus and agencies of the United States, the word 'marriage' means only a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife, and the word 'spouse' refers only to a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or a wife."

15. Which of the following explains the purpose of this law?
- (A) Marriages from one state must be recognized as legal in other states.
  - (B) Marriage is defined as any relationship between spouses.
  - (C) States can deny rights and benefits of same-sex couples married in another state.
  - (D) Gay people cannot serve in the military.
16. Opponents of this law would make which of the following arguments?
- (A) Same-sex couples whose marriages are not recognized are being denied equal protection under the law.
  - (B) Same-sex couples can still get married in states that allow it.
  - (C) Congress should pass a constitutional amendment defining marriage as a relationship between a man and a woman.
  - (D) Same-sex couples who get married should be prohibited from receiving federal and state benefits.
17. Which constitutional provision is the basis for the Supreme Court ruling this law unconstitutional?
- (A) The reserved power clause of the Tenth Amendment
  - (B) The Full Faith and Credit clause of Article IV Section 1
  - (C) The Necessary and Proper clause of Article 1 Section 8
  - (D) The Freedom of Association clause of the First Amendment



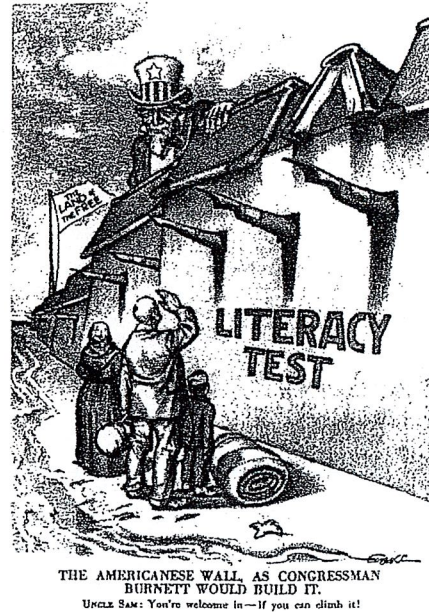
Questions 18–19 refer to the following map.



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

18. The map shows the percent change in resident population for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico 2000–2010. Which of the following explains why these changes are reported every ten years?
- (A) Congress passed a law in 2000 directing the census bureau to measure the population growth of the United States.
  - (B) The Supreme Court ruled that population changes must be reported every ten years.
  - (C) State legislatures requested this information from the Census Bureau.
  - (D) The Constitution requires a census to be taken, and Congress passed a law establishing a ten-year interval between census taking.
19. Which of the following happens after this map is released?
- (A) Congress decides how many electoral votes each state has in the next presidential election.
  - (B) States must reapportion their legislative and congressional districts.
  - (C) States with population decreases lose federal funding.
  - (D) States with population increases pass new voter-identification laws.

Questions 20–21 refer to the following cartoon.



Source: Alamy stock photo

20. Which of the following illustrates the main idea of the cartoon?
- (A) Immigrants are saluting Uncle Sam to gain admittance to the United States.
  - (B) Congress should pass legislation mandating educational standards for immigrants.
  - (C) “Build the wall” was a campaign slogan used to gain political support for anti-immigration legislation.
  - (D) Literacy tests should be used if immigrants want to vote.
21. When President Obama issued an executive order, Deferred Acton for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), exempting children of undocumented immigrants from being deported under specific conditions, which of the following statements explains why he issued the order?
- (A) Obama believed presidents needed congressional authority to issue the order.
  - (B) Obama believed undocumented immigrants should be allowed to enter the United States with their children.
  - (C) Obama believed in a more expansive presidency to achieve policy goals.
  - (D) Obama wanted to prevent states from deporting undocumented immigrants.