

ANSWER KEY

Practice Test 1

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|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. C | 15. C | 29. D | 43. A |
| 2. B | 16. A | 30. B | 44. B |
| 3. A | 17. B | 31. D | 45. B |
| 4. C | 18. D | 32. C | 46. D |
| 5. A | 19. B | 33. A | 47. D |
| 6. B | 20. B | 34. A | 48. B |
| 7. B | 21. C | 35. C | 49. B |
| 8. A | 22. D | 36. A | 50. A |
| 9. C | 23. C | 37. D | 51. C |
| 10. A | 24. D | 38. A | 52. C |
| 11. D | 25. B | 39. B | 53. A |
| 12. B | 26. B | 40. C | 54. C |
| 13. D | 27. A | 41. C | 55. D |
| 14. B | 28. C | 42. B | |

ANSWERS EXPLAINED**Section 1: Multiple-Choice Questions**

1. **(C)** The chart refers to the percentage of U.S. adults who use at least one social media site by age. Those adults between 18 and 29 use social media sites more than any other group. In evaluating the information in the chart, it is clear that the use of social media by that age group increased more than the other groups between 2006 and 2016. Choices (A) and (B) are incorrect because those adults 50–65 had hardly any increase in their use of social media between 2006 and 2008. Choice (D) is incorrect because those adults 18–29 used social media more than any other age group, followed by those 30–49.
2. **(B)** One of the consequences of the increased use of social media by all age groups was the realization by political candidates that they could communicate directly with the subscribers of social media sites. For example, President Donald Trump has around 43 million followers on Twitter. He has maintained that, and as a result of the high number of followers, he could get his message out unfiltered and directly to them. Choice (A) is incorrect because even though Russia used social media sites, it was apparent that they aimed their message at those who used it the most, young people between 18 and 29. Choice (C) is incorrect because social media sites are not regulated by the government. Choice (D) is incorrect because social media sites also charged candidates if they chose to advertise on their sites.
3. **(A)** Tracking the turnout of Republican voters in New Hampshire and South Carolina is important because those states can be good barometers of which candidate will go on to win the Republican nomination for president. An election cycle is defined as every four years, and it was significant that Republican turnout increased in each cycle. Choice (B) is incorrect because there was a greater turnout of GOP voters in South Carolina than New Hampshire from 2008 to 2016. Choice (C) is incorrect because the increased turnout of GOP voters in New Hampshire and South Carolina reflects a greater interest in the candidates running in those primaries. Choice (D) is incorrect because the increase also reflects an increase in the enthusiasm of GOP voters in New Hampshire and South Carolina.
4. **(C)** Because New Hampshire and South Carolina are early primary states, a surge of Republican voter turnout shows enthusiasm for the winner of those primaries. New Hampshire voted for the eventual Republican nominee in 2008, 2012, and 2016. South Carolina voted for the eventual nominee in 2008 and 2016. Choice (A) is incorrect because, historically, New Hampshire is more of a swing state than South Carolina, and in the 2008, 2012, and 2016 elections New Hampshire voted Democratic. Choice (B) is incorrect because South Carolina is a reliable Republican state in presidential elections and it voted Republican in 2008, 2012, and 2016. Choice (D) is incorrect because Iowa holds the first caucus in the nation, while New Hampshire is a primary state.
5. **(A)** The 2015 federal budget fiscal year goes from September 30, 2015 to September 30, 2016. The budget funds the government and its largest percentage is mandatory spending that includes Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and appropriations for the military. Choice (B) is incorrect because Social Security is an example of mandatory spending. Choice (C) is incorrect because even without health care (part of which is discretionary), 59 percent of the spending is mandatory. Choice (D) is incorrect because the Defense Department budget represents 16 percent of spending while health care represents 25 percent of the spending budget.
6. **(B)** The Congress is ultimately responsible for passing the Federal Budget. A budget resolution is passed by both houses of Congress and then each house submits the resolution to the committee that is in charge of the specific area of the budget it represents. Once the committees vote on the appropriations, each house votes on separate budgets for the various government departments. A final bill is then sent to the president for signature. Choice (A) is incorrect because even though the president submits a budget proposal to

Congress, it is often dead on arrival. The president then lobbies Congress for the priorities that are most important. Choices (C) and (D) are incorrect because even though the bureaucracy and special-interest groups play roles in the budgetary process, they are not constitutionally responsible for passing the budget.

7. **(B)** During an inflationary period the Federal Reserve uses its monetary power authority to raise the interest rates that are charged to banks and ultimately passed on the public. From 1979 to 1982 the United States was facing one of its highest inflationary periods. In January 1980, inflation was 13.91 percent and unemployment was 6.3 percent. Inflation peaked in April 1980 at 14.76 percent. That is also the reason why choice (A) is incorrect. Choice (C) is incorrect because the United States unemployment rate peaked at 10 percent in 2010 after the recession of 2008. Choice (D) is incorrect because the United States had a very low inflationary period between 2009 and 2012. The inflation rate in the United States was 1.5 percent in 2010.
8. **(A)** A person who supports Keynesian economics believes in supply-side economics and would advocate the Federal Reserve to follow a monetary policy that would stimulate the free-market economy. Lowering the prime interest rate has a stimulating effect because it is cheaper to borrow money from the banks. Choice (B) is incorrect because the Federal Reserve would not raise the interest rates to stimulate the economy. Choice (C) is incorrect because a supporter of Keynesian economics would not favor a bill that would raise the national debt even if it stimulated the economy. Choice (D) is incorrect because a supporter of Keynesian economics would be against an executive order that would freeze wage and price controls. President Nixon did this in 1971 for 90 days in order to bring down the inflation rate, and people who believed in Keynesian philosophy were against it.
9. **(C)** Exit polls are taken after voters have completed voting. The voters represent a scientific sample that includes demographic information as well as geographic information. The results are very helpful in understanding why the candidate who won got support. The conclusions from exit polls help future candidates determine campaign strategy. The exit polls in presidential elections from 2000 to 2012 illustrate that there are consistent patterns for the Republican and Democratic candidates. Republicans have consistently won in the South. Choice (A) is incorrect because the East is a Democratic stronghold. Choice (B) is incorrect because the Midwest is a battleground and there is no consistency from election to election. Choice (D) is incorrect because the West is a Democratic stronghold.
10. **(A)** Political socialization is defined as those factors that help form a person's political and ultimately party identification. These factors include family, school, church, socioeconomic status, and ethnicity. The table illustrates that political socialization is the key factor in the way a person votes. Choice (B) is incorrect because even though African Americans are reliable Democratic voters, being taken for granted is a matter of opinion rather than fact, and the charge is usually made by critics of the Democratic Party. Choice (C) is incorrect because 18-29-year-old voters are becoming an increasingly Democratic vote. Choice (D) is incorrect because voting coalitions can change from election to election. For example, senior citizens moved from Democratic to Republican between 2000 and 2008.
11. **(D)** Federalist No. 51, written by James Madison, makes the argument that checks and balances should be included in the Constitution and that dividing power among the branches of government is the best means of achieving that goal. Choice (A) is incorrect because Madison makes the argument that each branch of government should be independent from each other. Choice (B) is incorrect because *The Federalist Papers* argue against government officials having the right to govern from a "higher authority." The Declaration of Independence says "all men are created equal and endowed by their Creator." Choice (C) is incorrect because *The Federalist Papers* argued that a bill of rights was not necessary in the new Constitution, but could later be approved as the first ten amendments.
12. **(B)** Federalist No. 51, "The Structure of the Government Must Furnish the Proper Checks and Balances Between the Different Departments," proposes the principle of Separation of Powers. Each branch of govern-

ment would have powers that can check the other. In the paper, Madison makes the argument that giving the necessary power to each branch would give the “necessary means and personal motives to resist encroachments of the others.” Choice (A) is incorrect because federalism refers to the division of power between the states and federal government. Choice (C) is incorrect because the Supremacy clause states that if a power of the state government comes into conflict with a power or law of the federal government, then the law or power of the federal government prevails. Choice (D) is incorrect because the filibuster is a rule of the Senate that enables senators to hold the floor until the Senate votes by a 60-vote margin to cut off debate.

13. **(D)** The highlighted quote from Federalist No. 51, “If men were angels, no government would be necessary,” is one of the most famous quotes of any of the Federalist papers. It refers to the philosophy that because the people are not perfect, those they would elect would also not be perfect and would need a check on their powers. Choice (A) is incorrect because the quote makes the point that since people are not angels, government is necessary, and those elected would not be perfect either. Choice (B) is incorrect because free elections are essential to our representative democracy. Choice (C) is incorrect because even though religion may be important, it is not the guiding principle of those who govern.
14. **(B)** Madison argues in Federalist No. 51 that there should be three independent branches of government that have checks on each other so that one branch does not become too powerful. Choice (A) is incorrect because checks and balances prevent majorities from threatening the rights of minorities. Choice (C) is incorrect because the three branches of government are independent of each other. Choice (D) is incorrect because minorities do not threaten the rights of the majority. Minority rights would be protected.
15. **(C)** The Defense of Marriage Act signed in 1996 by President Bill Clinton was passed by the Republican Congress in response to the possibility that states would begin to legalize same-sex marriage, forcing states that did not have that law to recognize such a marriage if a same-sex couple legally married in one state and moved into one of their states. The law defined marriage as a relationship between a man and a woman and gave states the right to deny rights and benefits of same-sex couples legally married in another state. Choice (A) is incorrect because even though the Full Faith and Credit clause of the Constitution requires states to recognize laws of other states, this law made an exception for same-sex marriage. Choice (B) is incorrect because a legal spousal union was defined as one between a man and a woman. Choice (D) is incorrect because under the “Don’t ask, don’t tell” policy, gays could serve in the military, and this policy is not addressed in this law.
16. **(A)** Opponents of the Defense of Marriage Act would make the legal argument that they are being denied equal protection under the law found in the Fourteenth Amendment. They would make the argument that all marriages should be treated the same way and it would be discriminatory to make same-sex marriage an exception. Choice (B) is incorrect because even though same-sex couples can marry in states that allow it, once that couple moves out of that state, the marriage and benefits would not be legal if the next state does not have same-sex marriage. Choice (C) is incorrect because opponents of the Defense of Marriage Act would also be against a constitutional amendment defining marriage as only between a man and a woman. Choice (D) is incorrect because opponents of the law would be in favor of same-sex married couples receiving federal benefits.
17. **(B)** The Full Faith and Credit clause of the United States Constitution guarantees that the United States has a legal responsibility to fulfill credit responsibilities. The clause also requires states to legally recognize laws of other states. Even though the main constitutional argument made to challenge the Defense of Marriage Act was equal protection under the Fourteenth Amendment, there was a valid argument that the Full Faith and Credit provision was also being violated because states could selectively not recognize legal marriages and deny benefits to same-sex couples. Choices (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect because those provisions were not used by the Supreme Court when they declared the law unconstitutional.

18. **(D)** The U.S. Constitution empowers the Congress to carry out the census in “such manner as they shall by Law direct” (Article I, Section 2). Congress passed a law in 1954 requiring the census to be taken every ten years. Choice (A) is incorrect because the law was already in place. Choice (B) is incorrect because it is a constitutional provision and congressional act that mandates census every ten years. Choice (C) is incorrect because state legislatures receive the information from the Census Bureau and then make decisions regarding future elections based on population changes shown on the map.
19. **(B)** The map shows population increases and decreases from 2000 to 2010. State legislatures must create new legislative districts based on the population changes in the state. This process is called reapportionment. It affects state and congressional districts. Choice (A) is incorrect because the Census Bureau, not Congress, determines the number of congressional districts per state after each census is completed. States that gain or lose people can gain or lose Electoral College votes in the next presidential election because the number of Electoral College votes is determined by the number of congressional districts (435) plus two for every State’s senators (100) plus three for the District of Columbia, totaling 538. Choice (C) is incorrect because population changes do not necessarily mean the state will automatically lose federal funding. Choice (D) is incorrect because states pass voter-ID laws regardless of whether they have population increases or decreases.
20. **(B)** This 1916 political cartoon titled “The ‘Americanese’ Wall—As Congressman Burnett would build it” represented the anti-Chinese immigrant movement. It advocated a congressional law requiring Chinese immigrants to pass a literacy test that measures a minimum degree of education. Choice (A) is incorrect because immigrants were against this law and though the cartoon depicts an immigrant saluting Uncle Sam, it was not because the immigrant agreed that a literacy test should be a condition for admittance. Choice (C) is incorrect because the “build the wall” slogan was one used by Donald Trump in the 2016 presidential election. Choice (D) is incorrect because even though literacy tests were used as a requirement for voting, this cartoon illustrated that the purpose of the test would be a requirement for Chinese immigration even if they did not vote.
21. **(C)** President Obama issued the executive order allowing children of undocumented immigrants to remain in the country legally and pursue jobs or their education. Congress refused to pass this into law, so the order was challenged. A federal appeals court ruled in 2013 that Obama’s action was unconstitutional, but the ruling never resulted in the revocation of the order. That was done by the Trump administration in 2017. Trump’s executive order was a good example of increased use of presidential authority. Choice (A) is incorrect because Obama wanted Congress to pass a law protecting children of undocumented immigrants. Congress never did. When President Trump rescinded the order, he gave Congress six months to pass the law which they never did because a federal court delayed the implementation of Trump’s executive order. Choice (B) is incorrect because undocumented immigrants were already in the United States, and President Obama was opposed to additional undocumented immigrants. Choice (D) is incorrect because states do not have deportation power.
22. **(D)** There has been a significant increase in the number of states allowing early voting and in number of people voting early in presidential elections. This is because states like North Carolina allow early voting by mail or in person. The graphic outlines the 2016 voter registration dates that include the early-voting schedule. Because of the ease of early voting, there was a significant increase of early voters in North Carolina. Choice (A) is incorrect because voting by mail, an early-voting provision, is designed to make voting more convenient. Choice (B) is incorrect because whatever rules applied to same-day voting on Election Day also applied to early voting. Choice (C) is incorrect because if you vote early and then something significant occurs, you cannot take your vote back.
23. **(C)** Campaign strategy has had to adapt to the increased number of states that have adopted early voting and the increased number of voters who take advantage of early voting. When candidates track the number of people who have voted early (based on records from local boards of elections), candidates