

## chapter one study guide

### Multiple Choice

Identify the letter of the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

#### MAIN IDEAS

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Among the broad purposes of the United States government spelled out in the Preamble to the Constitution is the obligation to
- keep the executive and legislative branches of government separate.
  - create an autocratic form of government.
  - defend the country against Americans who oppose its policies.
  - provide for justice and the people's general welfare.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Locke, Harrington, Hobbes, and Rousseau would most likely agree that
- the state developed out of force.
  - those of royal birth should rule the state.
  - the state exists to serve the will of the people.
  - government should be eliminated.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The theory underlying modern democracies was developed to challenge the idea that
- those of royal birth have absolute authority to rule.
  - the people as a whole are the sole source of political power.
  - the head of a family, clan, or tribe has the natural right to govern.
  - the strongest person or group has the right to control others by force.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The dominant political unit in the world today is the
- government.
  - nation.
  - Constitution.
  - state.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. A federal government is one in which
- all power is concentrated in the central government.
  - limited powers are assigned to a central agency by independent states.
  - power is divided between a central government and local governments.
  - powers are divided between a legislative branch and an executive branch.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Which of the following statements is NOT true of parliamentary government?
- The executive is chosen by the legislature.
  - The legislature is subject to the direct control of the executive.
  - The prime minister and cabinet are part of the legislative branch.
  - The prime minister and cabinet must resign if they lose the support of a majority of the legislature.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The individual 50 States lack which basic characteristic of a state?
- government
  - sovereignty
  - Constitution
  - defined population
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. The Internet seems especially suited to satisfy which of these needs in a democracy?
- to control the lives of citizens
  - to be informed about the many different institutions and policies of the government
  - the need for accurate, and always reliable, information on which to base decisions
  - the need for an uneducated elite to run the government
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Which of the following is among the characteristics of a state?
- population
  - territory
  - government
  - all of the above

- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Which of the following statements about sovereign states is NOT true?
- a. Sovereign states decide their own foreign and domestic policies.
  - b. Sovereign states can determine their own form of government.
  - c. A county or city is considered sovereign because it is subordinate to a larger form of government.
  - d. Sovereign states have supreme power within their own territories.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. In a democracy, the will of the majority
- a. cannot be changed or improved upon.
  - b. is not open to compromise.
  - c. rarely leads to satisfactory policy decisions.
  - d. cannot be used to deprive rights to a member of a minority group.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. All political powers in a state are concentrated at the central level under which form of government?
- a. federal
  - b. confederate
  - c. unitary
  - d. executive
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Which of the following is among the purposes of government outlined in the Preamble to the Constitution?
- a. defending the nation against foreign enemies
  - b. insuring order and domestic tranquility
  - c. promoting the general welfare of the citizens
  - d. all of the above
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Which statement about the social contract theory is NOT true?
- a. The state was created voluntarily by a free people.
  - b. The state is a natural extension of people's family structure.
  - c. Governmental powers are granted by the people.
  - d. Governmental powers may be limited by the people.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Which of the following illustrates the concept of equality of opportunity?
- a. Public schools may not exclude students because of their sex or race.
  - b. Citizens must obey the tax laws but may work to change them.
  - c. Government may limit the beliefs and ideas of individuals.
  - d. Senators consider testimony both for and against Supreme Court nominees.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Which of the following statements about the Internet is false?
- a. The Internet makes it easier to gain knowledge about government.
  - b. The Internet gives individuals the power to entertain and inform themselves.
  - c. The Internet led to widespread on-line voting in the 2000 elections.
  - d. The Internet contains information that is not always reliable.

### **INTERPRETING TABLES**

*Use the chart to answer the following questions.*

Forms of Government						
Country	Where is the power?		What is the relationship between the legislative and executive branches?		Who can participate?	
	Unitary	Federal	Parliamentary	Presidential	Democracy	Dictatorship
 Botswana	✓		✓		✓	
 Brazil		✓		✓	✓	
 Costa Rica	✓		✓		✓	
 Cuba	✓		✓			✓
 France	✓			✓	✓	
 India		✓	✓		✓	
 Syria	✓			✓		✓
 United States		✓		✓	✓	

- \_\_\_ 17. Government in which power is limited to a single person or very small group exists in
- Cuba.
  - Costa Rica.
  - the United States.
  - Brazil.
- \_\_\_ 18. Which form of government does Cuba, Costa Rica, and France have in common?
- parliamentary
  - democratic
  - unitary
  - dictatorial
- \_\_\_ 19. Which characteristic do the United States and Botswana have in common?
- Both countries are democratic.
  - Both countries have a presidential form of government.
  - Both countries have a unitary form of government.
  - Both countries have parliamentary governments.
- \_\_\_ 20. All of the following countries are democracies EXCEPT
- France.
  - India.
  - Syria.
  - Brazil.
- \_\_\_ 21. In which two countries do dictatorships exist?
- Cuba, France
  - Brazil, India
  - Cuba, Syria
  - Botswana, Costa Rica
- \_\_\_ 22. Which statement about the countries of Brazil and Syria is TRUE?
- Both countries are controlled by dictatorships.
  - Both countries have a presidential form of government.
  - Both countries are democratic.
  - Both countries have a unitary or centralized government.
- \_\_\_ 23. All of the following have unitary forms of government EXCEPT
- Botswana.
  - the United States.
  - France.
  - Cuba
- \_\_\_ 24. In which country can the executive branch be forced from office for failing to win the legislature's support on a major issue?
- the United States
  - Syria

b. Brazil

d. India

## Matching

### IDENTIFYING KEY TERMS

Match each item with the correct statement below. You will not use all the terms.

- a. constitution
- b. executive power
- c. unitary government
- d. parliamentary government
- e. presidential government
- f. legislative power

- \_\_\_ 25. A \_\_\_ is the body of fundamental laws setting out the principles, structures, and processes of government.
- \_\_\_ 26. A \_\_\_, often described as a centralized government, is one in which all powers held by the government belong to a single, central agency.
- \_\_\_ 27. Under a system of \_\_\_, the government must resign if defeated by the legislature on an important issue.
- \_\_\_ 28. \_\_\_ is the power to make law and frame public policies.

### IDENTIFYING KEY TERMS

Match each item with the correct statement below. You will not use all the terms.

- a. judicial power
- b. democracy
- c. Federal Government
- d. legislative power
- e. confederation

- \_\_\_ 29. The power to interpret laws, determine their meaning, and settle disputes within a society is known as \_\_\_.
- \_\_\_ 30. Independent states that agree to form a(n) \_\_\_ may still retain their separate identities.
- \_\_\_ 31. The structure of a \_\_\_ requires that power be divided between a state's central and local levels of government.

## Essay

### CRITICAL THINKING

32. **Recognizing Ideologies** Two broad purposes of American government—insuring domestic tranquility and securing the blessings of liberty—sometimes come into conflict. Considering this, do you agree or disagree with Benjamin Franklin's view: "They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety"? Explain your reasons.
33. **Identifying Central Ideas** What ideas did the social contract theory contribute to the development of the American system of government?
34. **Making Comparisons** Is democracy more or less efficient as a form of government than dictatorship? Explain the reasons for your answer.
35. **Expressing Problems Clearly** Which of the basic concepts of democracy do you think would be LEAST well served in a direct democracy? Explain the reasons for your answer.

## **Other**

### **IDENTIFYING KEY TERMS**

*Use each key term in a sentence that shows the meaning of the term.*

36. dictatorship
37. executive power
38. oligarchy
39. mixed economy
40. democracy
41. government
42. presidential government
43. public policy
44. division of powers

**chapter one study guide**  
**Answer Section**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**

1. D
2. C
3. A
4. D
5. C
6. B
7. B
8. B
9. D
10. C
11. D
12. C
13. D
14. B
15. A
16. C
17. A
18. C
19. A
20. C
21. C
22. B
23. B
24. D

**MATCHING**

25. A
26. C
27. D
28. F
  
29. A
30. E
31. C

**ESSAY**

32. Agree: Securing liberty is not just one among several coequal purposes—it is the primary purpose of government in the United States. If we begin to barter it away for bits of perceived tranquility or safety, then we erode the standard by which to measure the limits and prerogatives of government. Liberty and tranquility will become interchangeable and indistinguishable. Disagree: Liberty is not absolute in a democracy; rather, it must be tempered by decision making for the public good. The people as a whole, or their representatives, have the right to decide in favor of laws they feel protect them from danger or harm, provided these laws merely limit—but do not eliminate—individual freedoms.
33. The social contract theory puts forward the idea that the state is created voluntarily by a free people and exists only to serve its will. From this theory developed the concepts of popular sovereignty, limited government, and individual rights, which form the basis of American democratic government.
34. Dictatorship appears to be more efficient than democracy in terms of the speed and ease with which public policies can be created and implemented. The time-consuming processes associated with democracy—free and open elections of representatives, debate, and compromise—does not exist in a dictatorship and cannot impede the will of those in power. However, democracy may, over time, prove the more efficient because it is continually informed and guided by the will of the people. A democratic government is far less likely than a dictatorship to fold under the weight of passive opposition or violent overthrow.
35. The concept of compromise as a means of making public-policy decisions would probably fare the worst in a direct democracy. People could not or would not put in endless hours taking part in every decision and weighing every viewpoint relating to every decision that affect their lives. The sheer number and complexity of public problems to be solved make direct democracy impractical at any but the smallest units of government.

## **OTHER**

36. Possible sentence: In a dictatorship those who rule cannot be held responsible to satisfy the will of the people.
37. Possible sentence: The power to execute, enforce, and administer law is known as executive power.
38. Possible sentence: An oligarchy is a government in which a small, usually self-appointed elite holds ruling power.
39. Possible sentence: An economy in which private enterprise exists in conjunction with government regulation and promotion is called a mixed economy.
40. Possible sentence: The people as a whole are the sole source of power in a democracy.
41. Possible sentence: Society makes and enforces its policies through the institution of government.
42. Possible sentence: The executive branch and legislative branch of a presidential government are independent, coequal, and have separate powers.
43. Possible sentence: The course of action a government decides to take are set forth in its public policy.
44. Possible sentence: A division of powers between the central government and their local government is the major feature of a federal government.