Chapter 19 Practice Test

Indicate whether the statement is true or false.

___ 1. A representative sample is needed in order for a poll to be accurate.
   a. True
   b. False

___ 2. The results of polls cannot be used to craft bills.
   a. True
   b. False

___ 3. One reason a poll may be inaccurate is because it is not worded clearly.
   a. True
   b. False

___ 4. Polls are often used to aid in campaigning.
   a. True
   b. False

___ 5. Political socialization is the process through which individuals learn their political beliefs.
   a. True
   b. False

___ 6. Interest groups are unique to American society.
   a. True
   b. False

___ 7. Some interest groups are faith-based.
   a. True
   b. False

___ 8. People may join interest groups to show their political efficacy.
   a. True
   b. False

___ 9. Individuals may impact government policy by joining public interest groups.
   a. True
   b. False

___ 10. Citizens must be adults to make a political impact on their community.
    a. True
    b. False

___ 11. Interest groups may gain support through advertising.
    a. True
    b. False
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12. Political action committees are designed to provide legal support for a political candidate.
   a. True
   b. False

13. Elected officials only use scientific methods to identify public opinion.
   a. True
   b. False

14. PACs and SuperPACs spend money to gain access to lawmakers and influence election outcomes.
   a. True
   b. False

15. Mass media and the Internet have a very small impact on political culture.
   a. True
   b. False

16. People may join interest groups for economic and social reasons.
   a. True
   b. False

17. Most interest groups in the United States focus on election results.
   a. True
   b. False

18. Lobbyists can have a strong effect on public policy.
   a. True
   b. False

19. An interest group is made up of people who share common goals and organize themselves to influence the government.
   a. True
   b. False

20. Public opinion has little to no influence on American democracy.
   a. True
   b. False

Indicate the answer choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

21. A public opinion poll is accurate if it is based on a
   a. a biased sample.  
   b. a random sample.
   c. a representative sample.  
   d. the universe.
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22. Which event expressed by the media or on the Internet is most likely to influence the opinion of the public?
   a. a public opinion poll
   b. footage of a rally or riot
   c. footage of students learning in school
   d. the wording of the Bill of Rights

23. Which of the following interest groups is concerned with the environment?
   a. Business Roundtable
   b. National Council of La Raza
   c. Sierra Club
   d. United Auto Workers

24. Public officials are often responsive to public opinion because
   a. it is the law that they meet every public need.
   b. they are competing with officials from other political areas.
   c. they are not allowed to express their own views.
   d. they want to help the citizens who elected them.

25. Which of the following interest groups is concerned with the fair treatment of minorities?
   a. League of United Latin American Citizens
   b. National Farmers Union
   c. National Rifle Association
   d. National Wildlife Federation

26. An affiliated PAC might raise money to support
   a. a candidate running for office.
   b. disaster relief.
   c. environmental reform.
   d. the issue of tax reform.

27. What role would the Supreme Court have in the actions of interest groups?
   a. They may change laws that govern the actions of lobbyists.
   b. They may change the way the government receives money from interest groups.
   c. They may determine whether a group has acted improperly.
   d. They may make new rules that limit the actions of interest groups.

28. What makes people feel they may be able to have an impact on the government and government policy?
   a. government policies
   b. opinion polls
   c. political efficacy
   d. political socialization

29. Which of the following is one sign of an accurate poll?
   a. electronic administration
   b. face-to-face administration
   c. large representative sample
   d. large sampling error
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30. By interviewing a member of an interest group, someone can learn
   a. about the goals of all interest groups.
   b. how the group’s founding documents and the Constitution compare.
   c. the group’s main focus and goals.
   d. the way the group will vote on issues in the future.

31. Which of these polls can potentially use the most scientific methods?
   a. a poll with no sampling error  b. a push poll
   c. a straw poll               d. an exit poll

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>campaign</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Letter writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Television commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>E-mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Social media</td>
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</table>

32. Which row of the chart describes the method used by interest groups to reach the largest number of citizens to inform them of their cause?
   a. 1  b. 2
   c. 3  d. 4

33. How are interest groups and political parties similar?
   a. Both try to attract a wide range of people with varying ideas.
   b. Both are only concerned with a few specific issues.
   c. Both nominate candidates for office.
   d. Both try to influence government.

34. Under which Constitutional right does campaign finance fall?
   a. freedom of speech  b. freedom of the press
   c. right to assembly  d. right to petition

35. Public policy is most often shaped and impacted by
   a. individual activists.  b. individual voters.
   c. interest groups.      d. news organizations.

36. How did Alexis de Tocqueville view American civic interest groups after coming from French society?
   a. The interest groups were too varied in their scope.
   b. There were too many interest groups to be effective.
   c. They interfered with the democratic process.
   d. They were positive for democracy.
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37. Which of the following groups is most likely to shape a person’s political socialization when it comes to expressing opinions about worker pay?
   a. labor unions b. environmental clubs
   c. school organizations d. religious leaders

38. People who believe they can have an impact on government and public policy have political
   a. opinions. b. culture.
   c. socialization. d. efficacy.

39. Public interest groups can help
   a. change government structure. b. shape public policy.
   c. solve most political problems. d. weaken the democratic process.

40. What is a disadvantage of lawmakers using public opinion polls?
   a. They may use them to create new laws.
   b. They may use them too often and be accused of waffling.
   c. They may use them to decide how to vote.
   d. They may use them to decide where to campaign.

41. A poll that takes place as voters leave the primary elections is
   a. a push poll. b. a random sampling poll.
   c. a straw poll. d. an exit poll.

42. Which of the following is a sign of an inaccurate poll?
   a. clear wording b. confusing interpretation
   c. large sampling error d. representative sample

43. Which of the following is an argument for gun control?
   a. Gun violence has increased over the past decade.
   b. Most gun owners are responsible, law abiding citizens.
   c. The Second Amendment guarantees the right to bear arms.
   d. There are laws that limit the sale of guns in certain states.

44. Which of these polls tries to influence a person’s answers?
   a. a poll with no sampling error b. a push poll
   c. a straw poll d. an exit poll

45. One way interest groups learn about public opinion is
   a. asking government officials. b. conducting polls.
   c. educating voters. d. influencing voters.
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46. A SuperPAC is different from a PAC because it
   a. can accept unlimited funds but not to a specific campaign.
   b. can accept unlimited funds to any specific campaign.
   c. can only accept limited funds for a specific campaign.
   d. cannot accept funds unless they are designated to a campaign.

47. To determine whether some forms of campaign finance are illegal or violate First Amendment rights, the decision must go through the
   a. House of Representatives.   b. president.
   c. Senate.                    d. Supreme Court.

48. Interest groups conduct polls to determine
   a. opinions of government officials.   b. public opinion.
   c. public policy.                  d. the outcomes of elections.

49. What is likely to be the most effective order of involvement that a citizen can choose to help change government policies?
   a. Communicate with interest groups, then lawmakers, then private companies.
   b. Communicate with lawmakers, then try to influence interest groups.
   c. Communicate with private companies, then lawmakers, then interest groups.
   d. Get involved in interest groups, then communicate with lawmakers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Interests</th>
<th>National Association of Manufacturers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Interests</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Civil Rights</td>
<td>National Organization of Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ideological Interests</td>
<td>American Conservative Union</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

50. Which interest group could be added to the chart in the row “Environmental Interests”? 
   a. Americans for Democratic Action
   b. Environmental Defense Fund
   c. Human Rights Campaign
   d. U.S. Chamber of Commerce

51. Why is social networking one good way to reach people involved in interest groups?
   a. Members of the network have knowledge of technology.
   b. Members of the network have similar education levels.
   c. Members of the network have similar interests.
   d. Members of the network have the same opinions.
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52. Which of the following interest groups is concerned with economic interests?
   a. Amnesty International
   b. League of United Latin American Citizens
   c. National Association of Manufacturers
   d. National Rifle Association

53. What is the goal of lobbyist groups in reaching public officials and influencing them?
   a. They want to change Constitutional law.
   b. They want to earn a position in government.
   c. They want to influence public policy.
   d. They want to limit the government’s role in Americans’ lives.

54. A person’s political culture is shaped most by his or her
   a. economic potential.
   b. education.
   c. international neighbors.
   d. personal experiences.

55. Which method of influencing Congress is most likely to happen near elections?
   a. campaign finance
   b. drafting of bills
   c. lobbying for political support
   d. requesting government regulations

56. What is the fastest way to conduct and interpret a public opinion poll?
   a. door-to-door polling
   b. exit polling on Election Day
   c. in the newspaper
   d. over the Internet

57. Which of the following communication tools is the fastest way to reach all members of an interest group?
   a. e-mail
   b. official letter
   c. scheduled meeting
   d. website

58. A person can become politically socialized by
   a. following local and federal laws.
   b. reading new laws that are passed.
   c. talking with peers and family members.
   d. writing and conducting political polls.

59. The NAACP is an interest group concerned with
   a. civil rights.
   b. economic interests.
   c. environmental interests.
   d. labor practices.

60. What kind of poll uses leading questions in order to encourage a particular answer from respondents?
   a. exit poll
   b. push poll
   c. straw poll
   d. random poll
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a. commodity  b. representative sample

c. civil society  d. exit poll

e. peer group  f. biased sample

g. lobbyist  h. interest group

i. political culture  j. sampling error

61. polling that involves interviewing voters as they leave the polling place and asking them for whom they voted

62. a paid representative of an interest group who contacts government officials on behalf of the interest group

63. a group of people who share common goals and organize to influence government and policy

64. a set of basic values and beliefs about a nation and its government that most citizens share

65. a small group of people who are typical of the larger group being studied

66. the complex network of voluntary associations that exist outside of the government

67. people who respond to a straw poll

68. a measurement of how much the sample results might differ from the sample universe

69. an individual’s close friends, religious group, clubs, and work groups

70. a product or good that is sold for profit, such as an agricultural product

a. straw poll  b. political socialization

c. random sampling  d. mass media

e. grassroots lobbying  f. political efficacy

6. universe  h. public opinion

i. public interest group  j. push polling

71. the ideas and attitudes that a significant number of Americans hold about government and political issues

72. all the means for communicating information to the general public, such as newspapers, magazines, radio, TV, and the Internet

73. method of polling in which the wording of questions “pushes” respondents toward a particular answer or view

74. a type of interest group whose members focus their work on influencing policies that they believe affect the general public, not just themselves

75. the process by which individuals learn their political beliefs and attitudes from family, school, friends, coworkers, or other sources

76. a technique in which everyone in a group has an equal chance of being selected

77. an unscientific attempt to measure public opinion

78. a person’s belief that he or she can have an impact on government and policy

79. the group of people that is to be studied

80. political advocacy efforts carried out by the general public and members of interest groups, sometimes under the guidance of their professional lobbyists