1. The market controls economic decisions in a ______ economy.
   a. socialist
   b. totalitarian
   c. authoritarian
   d. capitalist

2. The key concept of the pluralist theory of democracy is
   a. citizen participation.
   b. elections.
   c. groups.
   d. the executive.

3. The doctrine that society is based on an agreement between government and the governed in which people agree to give up some rights in exchange for the protection of others is called
   a. elite democracy.
   b. social democracy theory.
   c. social contract theory.
   d. the state of nature.

4. The American concept of equality tends to consist of ensuring
   a. that the rules treat everyone the same.
   b. that the outcomes of the political process are relatively equal.
   c. that the rules favor those who have been mistreated in the past.
   d. maximum feasible political participation.

5. Compared with most countries, in the United States the range of the ideological spectrum is
   a. wider in regard to economic issues.
   b. narrower because of our shared political culture.
   c. wider in regard to social issues.
   d. narrower because of our belief that government should guarantee equal results for all citizens.

6. Americans' belief in freedom is defined as
   a. freedom from restraint by the government.
   b. freedom from the limitations created by poverty.
   c. freedom from the limitations created by lack of knowledge.
   d. freedom from the power of corporations.
7. The Declaration of Independence was first and foremost a(n)
   a. philosophical treatise.
   b. political document.
   c. attempt to persuade King George III to listen to the colonies.
   d. moral argument opposing slavery in the colonies.

8. The Great Compromise
   a. provided strong powers to the state governments.
   b. established a legislature with equal state representation in the Senate and representation by state population in the House.
   c. limited the importation of slaves for twenty years.
   d. created a confederate system of government.

9. In Federalist No. 10, James Madison warned against the dangers of
   a. bureaucrats.
   b. slavery.
   c. political elites.
   d. factions.

10. The central goal of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention was to
    a. increase the power of the national government.
    b. increase the power of the states.
    c. increase the power of the people.
    d. increase the democratic nature of the government.

11. The Supreme Court has interpreted the ____ clause of the Constitution so broadly that there are very few restrictions on what Congress can do.
    a. full faith and credit
    b. necessary and proper
    c. commerce
    d. establishment

12. The constitutional safeguard that places legislative, executive, and judicial powers in different hands is called
    a. checks and balances.
    b. federalism.
    c. separation of powers.
    d. bicameralism.

13. Federalism in the United States
    a. is a system badly in need of repair.
    b. was a compromise for how power should be distributed between the national and state governments.
    c. provides for strong state and local power compared to federal power.
    d. has outlived its usefulness as a framework for American politics.
14. The difference between civil rights and civil liberties is
   a. that civil rights involve government action to secure rights of citizenship, whereas civil liberties involve individual freedoms that limit the power of government.
   b. inconsequential, because the terms are used interchangeably in the United States.
   c. that civil rights involve speech, press, and religious freedom, whereas civil liberties involve voting.
   d. that civil rights limit the power of government, whereas civil liberties expand the power of government.

15. Which of the following statements best describes the constitutional right to privacy?
   a. A right to privacy is not clearly spelled out in the Constitution, but many people argue the right is implied.
   b. A right to privacy is spelled out explicitly in the Tenth Amendment.
   c. The founders did not support a right to privacy, as evidenced by the Bill of Rights.
   d. A right to privacy exists in the federal Constitution but not in most state constitutions.

16. The establishment clause guarantees
   a. that all citizens may freely engage in religious activities of their choice.
   b. that American government is based on Judeo-Christian values.
   c. that all churches shall have tax-exempt status.
   d. that government will not create and support an official state church.

17. The women's movement was most successful with a strategy of ____ in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
   a. changing laws state by state.
   b. threatening opposition politicians with electoral defeat.
   c. supporting strong female candidates for office.
   d. using the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment to argue in the courts for equal treatment.

18. Blacks were kept from exercising their rights in the South after Reconstruction by all of the following methods EXCEPT
   a. grandfather clauses
   b. Jim Crow laws
   c. literacy tests.
   d. civil suits.

19. In Brown v. Board of Education, the Supreme Court ruled unanimously that
   a. school districts should integrate within five years.
   b. segregated schools were inherently unequal because the very fact of segregation made blacks feel unequal.
   c. busing would be used to integrate schools.
   d. school integration was the responsibility of state governments.

20. The Americans with Disabilities Act was controversial because
   a. Republicans accused Democrats of making a political issue out of those with disabilities.
   b. many of the required changes in physical accommodations are extremely expensive to install.
   c. it instituted quotas for businesses regarding the hiring of those with disabilities.
   d. it allowed significant prejudice against those with disabilities.
21. _____ refers to a congressional committee's investigation of the executive and of government agencies to ensure they are acting as Congress intends.
   a. A markup
   b. Congressional oversight
   c. Committee interference with executive prerogative
   d. One of the enumerated powers of Congress

22. The primary responsibility for gathering information, taking testimony, and revising legislation in Congress falls to
   a. the Rules Committee.
   b. the majority party leadership.
   c. the members as a whole meeting on the floor.
   d. standing committees.

23. The number of representatives with voting privileges in the House of Representatives
   a. is currently set at 435 members.
   b. will expand to 500 members in 2012.
   c. changes every ten years following the census.
   d. remained at 325 members until 2000.

24. Presidents are limited to two full terms in office by
   a. an act of Congress.
   b. a Supreme Court decision that interpreted Article II of the Constitution.
   c. custom.
   d. constitutional amendment.

25. Inherent powers are the
   a. presidential powers not explicitly stated in the Constitution.
   b. unwritten abilities of judges to issue contempt citations and bench warrants.
   c. congressional powers to control the legislative process.
   d. constitutional responsibilities of the cabinet members.

26. Divided government occurs when
   a. one party controls the presidency while the other party controls at least one house of Congress.
   b. the vice president must cast the deciding vote as president of the Senate.
   c. the presidency and the Supreme Court are controlled by different parties.
   d. the three branches of government are unable to work together to solve problems.

27. Compared to the modern president, the president envisioned by the framers was
   a. more involved in foreign affairs.
   b. focused entirely on state politics.
   c. focused entirely on domestic issues.
   d. much less powerful.
28. The fifteen departments that make up the major subdivisions of the federal government also represent
a. government corporations
b. the executive bureaus.
c. the president's cabinet.
d. independent agencies.

29. The power of the courts to determine the constitutionality of laws is called judicial
a. review.
b. mandate.
c. supremacy.
d. invalidation.

30. Which of the following statements concerning jurisdiction is false?
a. Original jurisdiction refers to the authority of a court to first try a case.
b. About half the cases in the United States are heard by federal courts.
c. Appellate jurisdiction refers to those cases a court hears on appeal.
d. Almost all the cases heard by the Supreme Court come to it on appeal.

31. The Supreme Court is deeply involved in politics in each of the following ways EXCEPT
a. by contributing to the campaigns of congressional allies.
b. how members choose which cases to hear.
c. how members make decisions.
d. the effects of its decisions.

32. Which of the following statements is true about the dual court system?
a. All federal judges are appointed, and all state judges are elected.
b. Most cases are heard in the state courts.
c. The state supreme courts have final say when a case includes a federal question.
d. Cases often begin in the federal system but are sent to the state courts on appeal.

33. The portion of the population selected to participate in a poll is known as the
a. population.
b. public.
c. deliberative group.
d. sample.

34. Unscientific polls that are often conducted by newspapers and politicians to determine who is ahead in a political race are called ______ polls.
a. straw
b. interest
c. tracking
d. exit

35. Internet polls are
a. highly reliable.
b. reliable if they are conducted by professional pollsters.
c. unreliable.
d. reliable only if the right types of questions are asked.
36. The process of socialization
   a. teaches us tolerance for the political values of other nations.
   b. trains us to support and obey the existing political system.
   c. teaches us to think independently and critically.
   d. is the primary function of a college education.

37. A preliminary election held for the purpose of choosing a party's nominee is a:
   a. recall election
   b. primary
   c. general election
   d. run-off

38. Which of the following statements is NOT true about the American party system?
   a. American parties are more ideologically extreme than many of their European counterparts.
   b. American parties have recently increased their party discipline.
   c. American party organizations are decentralized.
   d. The lack of success of third parties in the United States is the result of election rules.

39. A(n) ______ is a meeting held by local party members to choose political candidates:
   a. open primary
   b. blanket primary
   c. caucus
   d. closed primary

40. It is often said that there is a liberal bias in the media. Many studies, however, report that it is not necessarily a "liberal" bias, but that there is bias in the media's coverage of politics. What is it?
   a. agenda setting
   b. telling us what to think about
   c. politics over substantive policy coverage
   d. all of the above

41. Interest groups perform all of the following roles in politics EXCEPT
   a. representing their members' views to government.
   b. electing members to public office.
   c. providing an avenue for citizen participation in politics.
   d. educating policymakers regarding issues important to the interest group.

42. Interest groups are formed with the common goal of
   a. reforming the electoral process.
   b. opposing other interest groups.
   c. electing their members to political office.
   d. altering public policy.
43. _____ are interest groups that try to influence government to produce collective goods or services that benefit the general public.
   a. Public interest groups
   b. Government interest groups
   c. Economic interest groups
   d. Foreign interest groups

44. When a group provides a collective good or service,
   a. entrepreneurial leaders find ways to limit the benefits strictly to group members.
   b. the group's membership is likely to increase.
   c. the group can divide costs to each person for providing the good.
   d. the group will inevitably confront the free rider problem.

45. Social protests are used by groups that
   a. have no respect for the law.
   b. are in a hurry to bring change and do not want to use more traditional methods.
   c. are shut out of more traditional avenues of political action.
   d. have the sympathy of the public.

46. The single biggest factor accounting for how people decide to vote is
   a. gender.
   b. candidate characteristics.
   c. party identification.
   d. the issues.

47. Swing voters are
   a. the 50 percent of the electorate who are in play during each election.
   b. people who have not made up their minds at the start of the campaign.
   c. so unpredictable that candidates are better off ignoring them.
   d. such a miniscule part of the electorate that they can be ignored safely.

48. All of the following statements concerning the Electoral College are true EXCEPT
   a. The rules of the Electoral College give all the states importance in presidential elections.
   b. Critics argue that the Electoral College is undemocratic.
   c. Critics argue that a close election could be decided by a few faithless electors.
   d. It distorts candidates' campaign strategies.

49. How does a candidate win in the Electoral College?
   a. He/she must receive two-thirds of the electoral votes.
   b. He/she must receive an outright majority of all electoral votes
   c. The results of the Electoral College are considered and another vote is then taken in Congress to confirm the votes.
   d. He/she must receive three-fourths of all electoral votes.
50. A trend has emerged in the last twenty years or so in which states move their primary elections or caucuses earlier in the presidential election year in order to increase their significance nationwide. This process has become known as
a. frontloading.
b. leap-frogging.
c. intensifying.
d. opening the process.