

## Section I: Multiple-Choice Questions

Time: 45 minutes

60 questions

Directions: Each of the questions or incomplete statements below is followed by five suggested answers or completions. Select the one that is best in each case, and then fill in the corresponding oval on the answer sheet.

1. According to the language of the First Amendment, which institution of government cannot limit freedom of religion?
  - A. state legislatures
  - B. the executive branch
  - C. the Supreme Court
  - D. state courts
  - E. Congress
2. The Great Compromise, also known as the Connecticut Compromise, concerned
  - A. the power of the president
  - B. representation in Congress
  - C. continuation of the slave trade
  - D. the organization of the federal courts
  - E. the right to vote
3. The federal debt is best described as
  - A. the amount of money paid out to foreign countries
  - B. the difference between the money coming into the treasury and the money going out
  - C. the shortfall in the payment of federal income taxes
  - D. the total of all the money borrowed by the United States that remains unpaid
  - E. the money owed the states by the federal government
4. Which of the following statements about the cabinet is NOT valid?
  - A. The cabinet is too large to be an effective policymaking body.
  - B. The president can give officials other than the heads of the executive departments cabinet rank.
  - C. The cabinet is made up of close associates of the president who worked on the election campaign.
  - D. Recent presidents have made cabinet appointments with an eye toward diversity.
  - E. Cabinet members are primarily responsible for managing their departments.
5. Incumbent members of the House of Representatives are likely to get reelected when
  - A. Casework for the constituency is done well.
  - B. The country faces a foreign policy crisis.
  - C. The president from their party is not popular.
  - D. The economy is in recession.
  - E. They're faced with wealthy challengers.
6. Which provision of the Constitution is the Defense of Marriage Act based on?
  - A. Necessary and Proper Clause
  - B. Privileges and Immunities Clause
  - C. Tenth Amendment
  - D. Full Faith and Credit Clause
  - E. Supremacy Clause

7. The social welfare programs of the Great Society included
- I. Head Start
  - II. Peace Corps
  - III. Earned Income Tax Credit
  - IV. Model Cities
- A. I only
  - B. I and IV only
  - C. I and III only
  - D. II and IV only
  - E. I, II, and IV only
8. Redistricting, the redrawing of congressional district lines to reflect changes in population, is
- A. done every four years following the presidential election
  - B. the responsibility of the special commissions appointed by the governors of each state
  - C. a highly political process, with each party trying to protect its interests
  - D. subject to review by the Supreme Court before going into effect
  - E. the way a state's representation in the House increases or decreases
9. As primaries grew in importance in determining the party's presidential nominee,
- A. Fewer politicians decided to run for the office.
  - B. The media paid less attention to the primaries.
  - C. Raising money became increasingly important.
  - D. The party organization played a greater role in the campaigns.
  - E. Candidates took more moderate positions to appeal to more voters.
10. Term limits can't be imposed on members of Congress through legislation because
- A. Such action violates the separation of powers.
  - B. The expertise in Congress on policy matters is reduced.
  - C. It's prohibited under the Supremacy Clause.
  - D. It's tantamount to adding a qualification for serving in Congress.
  - E. Congress will never vote for such a law.
11. Under the Constitution, the federal government and the states
- A. cannot grant titles of nobility
  - B. can enter into any treaty or alliance
  - C. can extradite a person to a foreign country
  - D. can coin money
  - E. cannot impose tariffs on imports
12. All the following are legislative courts EXCEPT:
- A. U.S. Court of Federal Claims
  - B. U.S. Court of International Trade
  - C. U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims
  - D. U.S. Tax Court
  - E. U.S. territorial courts
13. The first expansion of the right to vote was the result of
- A. constitutional amendments ratified after the Civil War
  - B. state legislatures granting suffrage to women
  - C. Supreme Court decisions striking down Jim Crow laws
  - D. legislation passed by Congress after the Civil War
  - E. state legislatures eliminating property qualifications
14. The incumbency effect is more pronounced for members of the House than for members of the Senate because
- A. The franking privilege is not available in the Senate.
  - B. Senate challengers always outspend a senator running for reelection.
  - C. Senators consider themselves trustees rather than delegates.
  - D. Senators have less contact with their constituents than representatives do.
  - E. Senators spend less time campaigning for reelection than representatives do.

15. The concept of strict scrutiny is applied by
- the OMB reviewing budget requests from federal agencies
  - the federal courts in discrimination cases where race is used as a classification
  - the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission when looking into disability-based discrimination
  - the Department of Defense in examining proposals for defense contracts
  - the House and Senate budget committees when considering the president's budget proposal
16. In *Clinton v. Jones*, the issue that the Supreme Court decided was
- whether a president could be sued while in office
  - if there were adequate grounds for impeachment
  - the constitutionality of the line-item veto
  - the validity of the sexual harassment claims against the president
  - whether sending troops to Bosnia was covered by the War Powers Act
17. Which political institution gets the most attention from the national media?
- Congress
  - municipal governments
  - state governments
  - the president
  - the Supreme Court
18. Which of the following positions is/are most likely to be included in a Democratic Party platform?
- the need to address the underlying causes of crime
  - support for right to life
  - stricter environmental protection
  - increased spending on missile defense
- I and II only
  - II and III only
  - III only
  - I and III only
  - I and IV only
19. The General Accountability Office is
- responsible for reviewing the accounting practices of federal agencies
  - an investigative arm of Congress that evaluates federal programs
  - part of the Executive Office of the President, headed by the chief accountant
  - an independent regulatory agency that establishes rules for the financial industry
  - the coordinator of economic policy between Congress and the White House
20. Newly elected members of Congress indicate the committees they prefer to serve on. Which is a logical choice for a new senator from Texas?
- Veterans' Affairs
  - Governmental Affairs
  - Energy and Natural Resources
  - Labor and Human Resources
  - Appropriations
21. All the following statements about school desegregation between 1950 and 1975 are true EXCEPT:
- Despite Supreme Court decisions, the pace of integration was very slow in the South.
  - In *Griffin v. County School Board of Prince Edward County* (known as *Brown II*), the Supreme Court relied on local school boards to develop desegregation plans.
  - The only method of desegregation that the Supreme Court recognized was busing.
  - School desegregation was an issue in the North even in the absence of laws requiring separate schools.
  - "White flight" from public schools was often a response to desegregation orders.
22. To win a libel judgment, a private person must show that
- The newspaper article contained false statements.
  - The newspaper knew that the statements were false and published them anyway.
  - The newspaper refused to print a retraction.
  - The words were spoken with malice.
  - The broadcast included misleading information.

Cases before the Supreme Court, 1980–1998									
Action	1980	1990	1995	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Appellate cases granted review	167	114	92	78	85	82	83	74	69
Pauper cases granted review	17	27	13	14	14	6	8	13	11
Original cases granted review*	24	14	11	8	9	8	7	6	4

\*Cases of original jurisdiction

Source: Statistical Abstract of the United States. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 2006.

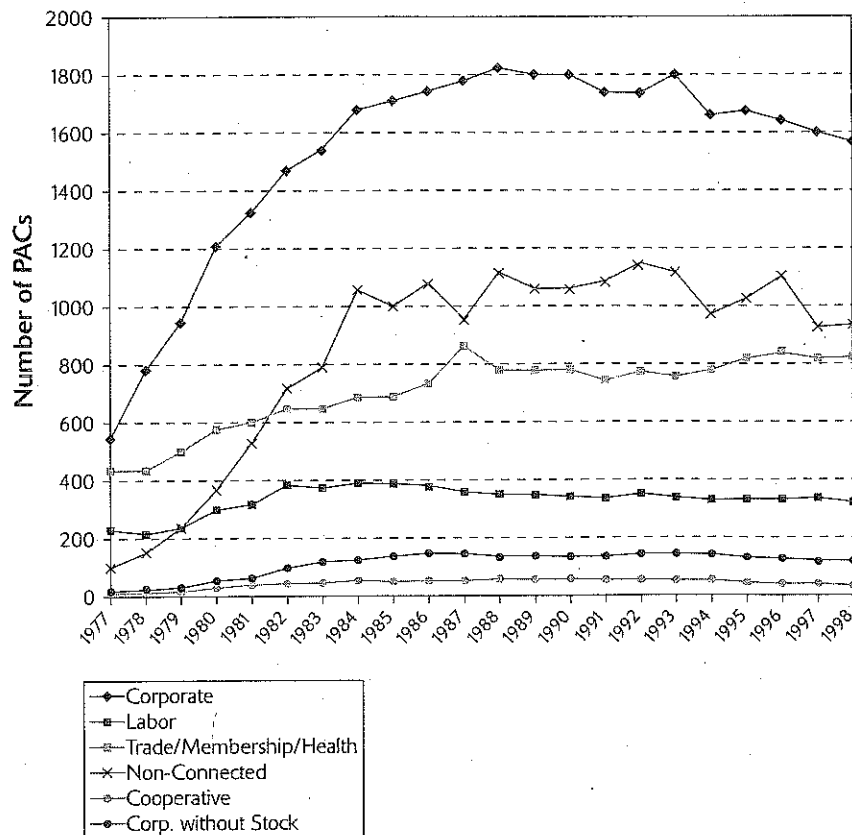
23. All the following statements are supported by the above table EXCEPT:
- The caseload of the Supreme Court has declined since the 1980s.
  - The number of *in forma pauperis* petitions that the Supreme Court receives has decreased.
  - The majority of the cases that the Supreme Court hears fall under its appellate jurisdiction.
  - The Supreme Court had its lightest caseload in almost 20 years in 2004.
  - Original jurisdiction cases are comparatively rare.
24. In order to get federal matching funds in presidential primaries, a candidate must
- file an application with the Federal Election Commission
  - pledge to accept donations only from individuals not political action committees
  - raise \$5,000 in each of 20 states in contributions of \$250 or less
  - agree not to use money to run negative campaign ads
  - commit to use part of the federal money for voter registration drives
25. President Reagan's ability to influence votes in Congress declined dramatically in 1988 because
- The country was turning away from his policies.
  - Congress was in Democratic hands.
  - The Republican leadership in Congress was weak.
  - The influence of lobbyists for liberal groups was too strong.
  - He was a lame-duck president.
26. The greatest asset that the representatives who met in Philadelphia had as they drafted the Constitution was
- business success
  - intellectual abilities
  - political experience
  - religious convictions
  - military exploits
27. The fact that the Senate is less centralized than the House is shown by
- the length of the member's terms
  - the absence of a Committee on Rules
  - its role in foreign policy
  - the authority to give "advice and consent"
  - the salary of its members
28. A claim of executive privilege, where the president refuses to divulge communications with advisors, is
- specifically granted in the Constitution
  - authorized under federal law
  - unconstitutional under a Supreme Court ruling
  - recognized when necessary to protect military/diplomatic information
  - used more by Democratic than Republican presidents

29. The New Hampshire presidential primary is important because
- A. It's an early test of candidate support.
  - B. The candidates get to meet many people face to face.
  - C. The focus is on issues rather than the candidates' personalities.
  - D. The media coverage is less intense than it is in other primaries.
  - E. The state represents a good cross section of the country.
30. Which of the following activities is the Speaker of the House NOT responsible for?
- A. presiding over the House of Representatives
  - B. participating in determining presidential disability
  - C. appointing members to committees
  - D. assigning bills to committees
  - E. determining who will serve in party leadership posts
31. While interest groups testify before Congress and meet with the staff of a federal agency, how do they influence the courts?
- A. They speak directly with judges about their concerns.
  - B. They try to determine how Supreme Court justices are leaning from their law clerks.
  - C. They organize letter-writing campaigns against unfavorable Supreme Court decisions.
  - D. They file briefs with the Supreme Court to get their views before the justices.
  - E. They call for the impeachment of a federal judge who consistently rules against their position.
32. Under the Constitution as ratified, members of the Senate were
- A. chosen by the state legislatures
  - B. appointed by the governor
  - C. elected by the people
  - D. selected by the House of Representatives
  - E. chosen through the Electoral College
33. Which of the following statements about organized labor is true?
- A. Unions can't establish political action committees.
  - B. Union membership has declined in recent years.
  - C. Unions support right-to-work laws.
  - D. There is little the president can do to prevent a major strike.
  - E. Unions support free trade agreements to boost U.S. exports.
34. An important distinction between a categorical grant and a block grant is that
- A. States must provide matching funds for a block grant.
  - B. States have more freedom in determining how to use block grants.
  - C. Block grants are more numerous than categorical grants.
  - D. Categorical grants have comparatively few restrictions.
  - E. Block grants are targeted to very specific program goals.
35. A conference committee is responsible for
- A. investigating an issue such as illegal campaign contributions
  - B. providing oversight of the operations of a federal agency
  - C. working out the differences between the House and Senate version of a bill
  - D. providing information to members on broad policy areas
  - E. examining the administration's budget proposal
36. The most publicized issue under Title IX of the Education Act of 1972 is
- A. busing to achieve public school integration
  - B. affirmative-action programs in university faculty hiring
  - C. gender discrimination in collegiate athletic programs
  - D. access to public schools for the disabled
  - E. equal pay for women teachers in public schools

37. The Contract with America refers to
- A. the 2000 Democratic Party platform
  - B. Ralph Nader's campaign slogan for the Green Party
  - C. the Republican legislative agenda in 1994, the year the party gained control of Congress
  - D. the strong economic ties between the United States and the European Union
  - E. the foreign aid package that the Bush Administration proposed for Africa
38. The cooperative federalism model was a response to
- A. the need to pass civil rights legislation
  - B. the increasing number of immigrants coming into the country
  - C. conditions in the South after the Civil War
  - D. the end of the Cold War
  - E. the economic conditions that the United States faced during the Depression

39. Polls show that most reporters, in both print and electronic journalism, consider themselves
- A. liberals
  - B. moderates
  - C. conservatives
  - D. libertarians
  - E. apolitical
40. Which of the following is NOT a controversial issue in the development of the nation's energy policy?
- A. the cost of renewable energy sources
  - B. the need to diversify energy resources
  - C. the safety of nuclear power
  - D. the impact of energy development on the environment
  - E. regulation of the energy industry

PAC Count, 1977 to 1998

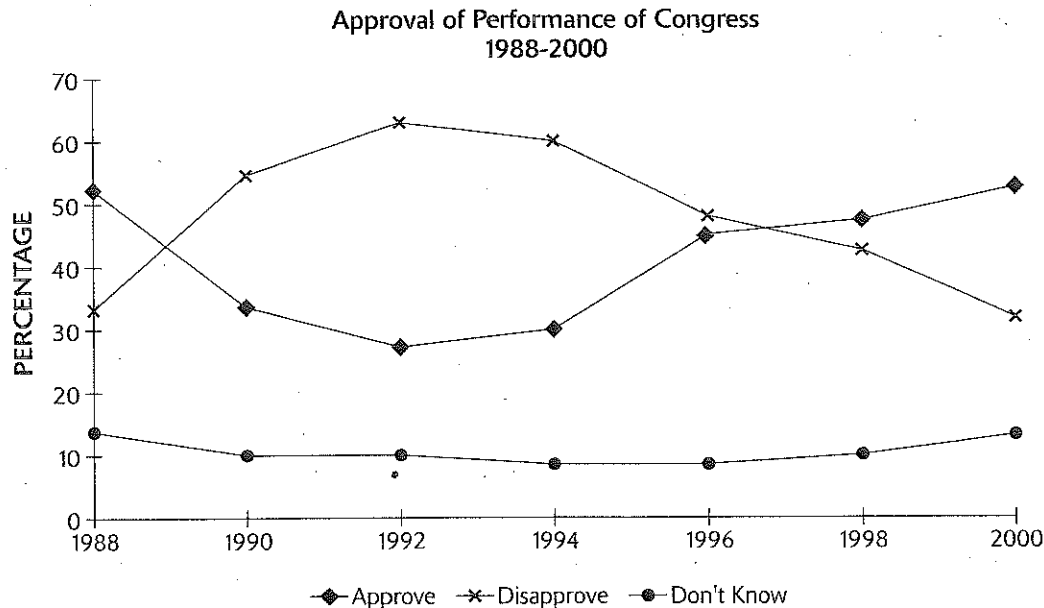


Source: Federal Election Commission.

41. The graph on the preceding page indicates that
- A. Overall, the number of PACs has declined in this time period.
  - B. Groups that don't represent economic interests have the smallest number of PACs.
  - C. Labor PACs contributed the most money to congressional campaigns.
  - D. All U.S. public corporations have a PAC.
  - E. The most dramatic growth was in cooperative PACs.
42. All the following statements about the party platform are valid EXCEPT:
- A. The candidate is bound by the platform if elected.
  - B. The platform provides a guide to voters on the issues.
  - C. The platform is adopted at the national party convention when the presidential candidate is formally nominated.
  - D. The individual issues covered in the platform are known as planks.
  - E. The platform does not touch on controversial issues.
43. The key factor in retrospective voting is
- A. party affiliation
  - B. candidate appeal
  - C. candidate/party performance
  - D. self-interest
  - E. media coverage
44. Congressional oversight, the process of monitoring the operations of federal agencies, is primarily carried out by
- A. committee staff dealing with agency staff
  - B. committee hearings on budget and performance issues
  - C. committee chairs contacting agency heads
  - D. the White House congressional liaison speaking with committee members
  - E. the committee chair contacting the president
45. The theoretical justification for the break with Great Britain presented in the Declaration of Independence drew heavily on the ideas of
- A. James Madison
  - B. Thomas Hobbes
  - C. John Locke
  - D. John Marshall
  - E. Adam Smith
46. A drastic and never implemented solution to the fact that Congress seemed unable to control spending was
- A. legislation that required caps on spending
  - B. a change in how the federal budget was prepared
  - C. a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget
  - D. an executive order that made federal agencies cut their budgets by 10 percent
  - E. the elimination of federal agencies that did not meet budget targets
47. Arguments in support of eliminating the Electoral College include which of the following?
- I. The Electoral College is biased in favor of big states.
  - II. The Electoral College is undemocratic because the winner of the popular vote may not become president.
  - III. The electors do not represent the American people as a whole.
  - IV. The Electoral College gives an unfair advantage to wealthy candidates.
- A. I only
  - B. II only
  - C. II and IV only
  - D. I, II, and III only
  - E. I and II only

48. What do *Griswold v. Connecticut* and *Cruzan v. Director, Missouri Department of Health* have in common?
- A. Both were early decisions on abortion.
  - B. Both struck down state laws prohibiting physician-assisted suicide.
  - C. Congress tried to get around both decisions through legislation.
  - D. Both dealt with the right of privacy.
  - E. The Supreme Court rejected precedent in both cases.
49. During the Cold War, the expansion of the Soviet Union into Europe was checked by
- A. United Nations peacekeepers
  - B. SEATO
  - C. the European Union
  - D. CENTO
  - E. NATO
50. All the following statements about nominating federal officials are valid EXCEPT:
- A. The Senate rarely fails to confirm a president's nominee for the cabinet.
  - B. Delays in the confirmation process of presidential nominees are not uncommon.
  - C. The president can try to bypass the Senate by making an appointment when Congress is not in session.
  - D. Cabinet nominees get more scrutiny by the Senate than nominees for the Supreme Court do.
  - E. The president has the option of withdrawing a nomination that generates strong opposition.
51. Which of the following social programs is paid for by taxes on employers only?
- A. Supplemental Security Income
  - B. unemployment insurance
  - C. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
  - D. Medicare Part B
  - E. Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance
52. The military-industrial complex, which President Eisenhower warned against when he left office, refers to
- A. the close relationship between the Department of Defense and defense contractors
  - B. the planned economy of the Soviet Union that gave priority to military spending
  - C. the large civilian and military bureaucracy of the Pentagon
  - D. the fact that many corporate executives served in the military
  - E. the idea that spending on defense does not result in a decline in spending on consumer goods





Source: The American National Election Studies ([www.electionstudies.org](http://www.electionstudies.org)). The ANES Guide to Public Opinion and Electoral Behavior. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan, Center for Political Studies [producer and distributor].

53. Which of the following statements is supported by the graph?
- The approval rating of Congress declined during a period of divided government.
  - Congress's standing declined during the impeachment of President Clinton.
  - There was a significant improvement in public support for Congress when the Republicans gained control of the House and the Senate.
  - Americans thought Congress performed very well during the Persian Gulf War.
  - As the 2000 election approached, the public became uncertain of where it stood with Congress.
54. The 1993 Federal Employees Political Activities Act liberalized the provisions of the
- Pendleton Act
  - Hatch Act
  - National Labor Relations Act
  - Whistleblower Protection Act
  - Fair Labor Standards Act
55. The purpose of a filibuster is to
- add non-germane amendments to a bill
  - prevent a bill from coming to a vote
  - force a committee to report a bill out
  - end debate on a bill in the Senate
  - have a roll-call vote in the House
56. No poll is 100 percent accurate. This is reflected in the concept of a
- sampling error
  - question bias
  - random sample
  - margin of error
  - ideological bias
57. In what way did the Supreme Court decision in *Buckley v. Valeo* help the presidential aspirations of Ross Perot in 1992?
- The amount of money a corporation could contribute to a candidate increased.
  - It became easier for a candidate to get on the ballot in all 50 states.
  - Limits on the money individuals could contribute to their own campaigns were eliminated.
  - Federal matching funds were approved for presidential primaries.
  - Soft money could not be used for issue ads.

58. As the head of a political party, the responsibilities of the president include
- I. appointing the majority or minority members in Congress
  - II. raising money for the party and individual candidates
  - III. selecting the chair of the party's national committee
  - IV. campaigning for the party's candidates
- A. I and II only
  - B. II and III only
  - C. III and IV only
  - D. I, II, and III only
  - E. II, III, and IV only
59. The 1974 reform of the budget process did all the following EXCEPT:
- A. It limited the president's ability not to spend money appropriated by Congress.
  - B. It gave the Office of Management and Budget responsibility for developing the administration's budget.
  - C. It established budget committees in both the House and the Senate.
  - D. It set the calendar for the completion of the federal budget.
  - E. It created the Congressional Budget Office to advise Congress during budget deliberations.
60. The form of government outlined in the Virginia Plan gave the power to veto state laws to the
- A. national legislature
  - B. national executive
  - C. national judiciary
  - D. Council of Revision
  - E. state governors

IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS SECTION ONLY. DO NOT WORK ON ANY OTHER SECTION IN THE TEST.



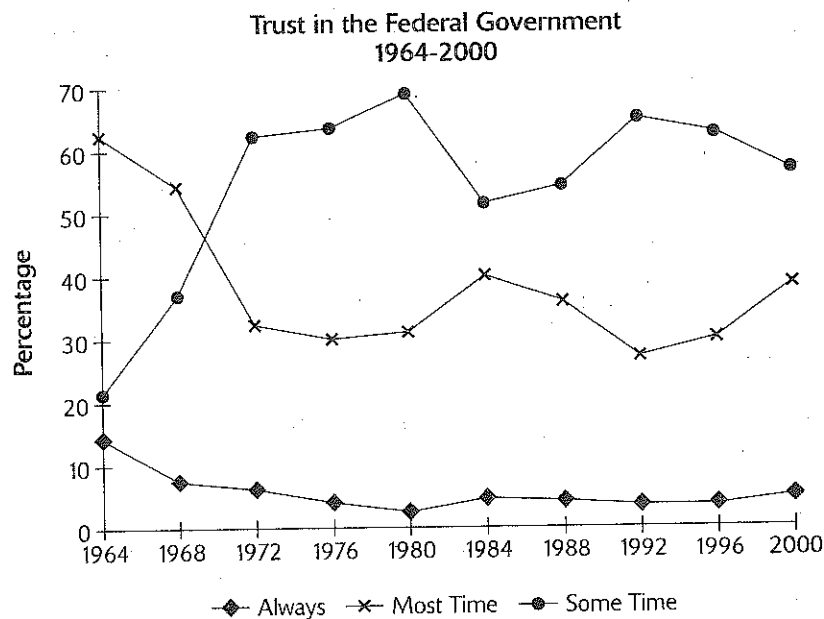
## Section II: Free-Response Questions

Time: 100 minutes

4 questions

**Directions:** You have 100 minutes to answer all four of the following questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. Spend approximately one-fourth of your time (25 minutes) on each question. Illustrate your essay with substantive examples where appropriate. Be sure to number each answer in the same way the question is numbered below.

1. Political attitudes, including the way an individual votes, are shaped by a variety of factors, some early in life, some later.
  - a. Discuss the impact of two of the following on political attitudes.
    - Family
    - Education
    - Media
  - b. Discuss the impact of two of the following on voting patterns.
    - Race/ethnicity
    - Age
    - Gender
  
2. Independent regulatory agencies play an important role in controlling a sector of the economy in the public interest.
  - a. Identify two independent regulatory agencies and describe the functions of each.
  - b. Describe two ways in which an independent regulatory agency is similar to an independent executive agency or a cabinet department and two ways in which it is different from an independent executive agency or cabinet department.



Source: The American National Election Studies ([www.electionstudies.org](http://www.electionstudies.org)). The ANES Guide to Public Opinion and Electoral Behavior. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan, Center for Political Studies [producer and distributor].

3. Based on the chart on the preceding page and your knowledge of U.S. politics during the period 1964 to 2000, perform the following tasks:
- Identify three trends that are supported by the data.
  - For two of the trends you've identified, discuss two factors that explain each trend.
4. African Americans and women successfully relied on the Supreme Court and Congress to expand their rights. Discuss how the federal government has responded to discrimination in two of the following areas:
- Age
  - Disability
  - Sexual orientation

IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS SECTION ONLY. DO NOT WORK ON ANY OTHER SECTION IN THE TEST.



## Answer Key

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### Section I: Multiple-Choice Questions

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|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. E  | 21. C | 41. A |
| 2. B  | 22. A | 42. A |
| 3. D  | 23. B | 43. C |
| 4. C  | 24. C | 44. B |
| 5. A  | 25. E | 45. C |
| 6. D  | 26. C | 46. C |
| 7. B  | 27. B | 47. E |
| 8. C  | 28. D | 48. D |
| 9. C  | 29. A | 49. E |
| 10. D | 30. B | 50. D |
| 11. A | 31. D | 51. B |
| 12. B | 32. A | 52. A |
| 13. E | 33. B | 53. C |
| 14. D | 34. B | 54. B |
| 15. B | 35. C | 55. B |
| 16. A | 36. C | 56. D |
| 17. D | 37. C | 57. C |
| 18. D | 38. E | 58. E |
| 19. B | 39. A | 59. B |
| 20. C | 40. B | 60. A |

### Section II: Free-Response Questions

Student essays and analyses begin on page 224.