

# Unit 3 Take-Home Test (AP GaP)

Please complete these test items on the GradeCam form provided by your teacher. These are designed to be practice test items in preparation for the Midterm exam and for the AP exam. It is most beneficial if you use these as a true test of your understanding of the content. In other words, don't cheat (it doesn't count towards your grade!) and don't look up the answers (this won't test your learning or understanding of the content).

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1. In 1934, Congress created which body to regulate the use of the airwaves?
  - a. Federal Trade Commission
  - b. Equal Opportunity Commission
  - c. Federal Communications Commission
  - d. Department of Media Communications
2. In democracies, the primary interest of publicly owned media is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. reducing recidivism
  - b. serving the public interest
  - c. promoting the government
  - d. entertaining viewers
3. The primary interest of privately owned media is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. making a profit
  - b. serving the public interest
  - c. spreading propaganda
  - d. informing the public
4. How does the increasing focus of media conglomerates on making a profit affect television news?
  - a. The quality of news reporting has increased considerably in an attempt to sway more viewers and more advertisers.
  - b. A study of a set of major newspapers found that the total number of foreign news stories in U.S. newspapers doubled between 1985 and 2014.
  - c. Media organizations have cut back on their foreign bureaus and on international news.
  - d. Television news is increasingly viewed as a public service that benefits the media conglomerate by generating goodwill with viewers.
5. Which of the following is a consequence of the rise of television broadcasting?
  - a. Candidates are more capable of running for office on their own by appealing to people directly through TV.
  - b. Individuals have a greater need for political parties to help them make decisions.
  - c. Groups have greater access to spread their issues and messages to the public.
  - d. The American public is better informed about politics and Congress is basing its opinions more on public opinion.

6. The cozy relationship between politicians and the press in the twentieth century lasted until when?
- a. the Iran Hostage Crisis
  - b. World War II
  - c. the beginning of Franklin Roosevelt's presidency
  - d. the Vietnam War and Watergate
7. Investigative journalism may contribute to \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. public cynicism and negativity about politics
  - b. corporate ownership of the media
  - c. an increase in long-term media consumption rates
  - d. a legal environment that favors plaintiffs over defendants
8. As technology has enabled the media to pass along information with greater speed, news coverage has become \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. more homogenous
  - b. less thorough
  - c. more objective
  - d. less biased
9. Which of the following is a consequence of the rise of narrowcasting?
- a. Young adults are more likely than other age groups to use newspapers and broadcast media as news and information sources.
  - b. Young adults are less likely than other age groups to use newspapers and broadcast media as news and information sources.
  - c. Most Americans follow politics more frequently and with greater intensity than they follow popular culture.
  - d. Narrowcasting has encouraged less repetition of stories on cable news programs.
10. Top aides to President Clinton leaked his admission of an "inappropriate relationship" to the *New York Times* in order to gauge the public response to the revelation. Based on the public's response to this \_\_\_\_\_, Clinton went ahead and admitted the "inappropriate relationship" to the grand jury.
- a. beat
  - b. trial balloon
  - c. talking head
  - d. sound bite
11. Civil rights activists in the 1960s used the media to show Americans the injustice of the treatment of minorities, successfully placing the civil rights issue onto the \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. policy entrepreneur
  - b. policy agenda
  - c. press conference
  - d. news beat

12. The increased number of news and infotainment options has resulted in \_\_\_\_\_ in which media outlets focus on a particular interest and aim at a particular audience.
- a. infotainment
  - b. watchdog journalism
  - c. narrowcasting
  - d. selective exposure
13. What best explains the demise of party machines?
- a. congressional reforms that prevented private party meetings in “smoke-filled rooms”
  - b. Keynesian economic reforms that increased individual wealth
  - c. judicial reforms that ended the “pay to play” system of assigning public defenders
  - d. progressive reforms that instituted a merit-based hiring system
14. One of the consequences of two-party government is \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. greater fluidity of representation
  - b. the increased likelihood of coalition government
  - c. the increased likelihood of proportional representation
  - d. the moderation of political conflict
15. What important role do third parties play in American democracy?
- a. They bring new voters into the electorate.
  - b. They frequently win elections in crucial swing states.
  - c. They simplify citizens’ choices on Election Day.
  - d. They draft most legislation that is eventually enacted by one of the major parties.
16. One of the important purposes of the “Contract with America” was to \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. decrease split-ticket voting
  - b. increase confidence in the military
  - c. make politics user friendly for voters
  - d. reduce corruption in Congress
17. Which of the following third-party candidates is correctly matched with his key issue in his presidential run?
- a. George Wallace and a more compassionate criminal justice system
  - b. Ralph Nader and tax reduction
  - c. Ross Perot and the federal deficit
  - d. Strom Thurmond and a stronger national government
18. The New Deal coalition fell apart after nearly four decades of political control with the movement of \_\_\_\_\_ from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party.
- a. urbanites
  - b. Catholics and Jews
  - c. Asians and Hispanics
  - d. Southern conservatives

19. Which of the following is a potential danger associated with open primaries?
- a. The other party can “raid” the primary to vote for the least viable candidate.
  - b. Open primaries may result in the election of more extreme candidates.
  - c. The presence of too many candidates on the ballot can confuse voters.
  - d. Open primaries give too much power to those who reside outside of the district.
20. How are critical elections and party realignments interrelated?
- a. A party realignment is a larger version of a critical election.
  - b. A party realignment is a smaller version of a critical election.
  - c. A party realignment occurs before one or more critical elections and may be characterized by gradual or dramatic change.
  - d. A party realignment occurs as a result of one or more critical elections and may be associated with a national crisis.
21. Richard Nixon’s \_\_\_\_\_ attempted to bring conservatives over to the Republican Party in what was a Democratic stronghold at the time.
- a. Southern strategy
  - b. Western strategy
  - c. suburban strategy
  - d. urban strategy
22. What does Ralph Nader’s 2000 presidential election bid illustrate regarding the role of third parties?
- a. third parties’ ineffective organization
  - b. third parties’ absence of media attention
  - c. third parties’ poor candidate choices
  - d. third parties’ potential to affect the outcome of the election
23. When can a party change its platform?
- a. after the census
  - b. at the start of each fiscal year
  - c. during its national party convention
  - d. every two years
24. What legislation would most likely be undesirable to a Blue Dog Democrat?
- a. decreased defense spending
  - b. ending Saturday mail delivery
  - c. legalization of gay marriage
  - d. nationalized public health care
25. European democracies have more parties in positions of political power than does the United States because of their use of \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. party platforms
  - b. winner-take-all systems
  - c. critical elections
  - d. proportional representation

26. When a case that an interest group is interested in comes before the Supreme Court, the group can \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. meet with judges to explain the group's policy preferences
  - b. file an *amicus curiae* brief in support of one side of the case
  - c. appeal the case to a higher court
  - d. legally offer monetary incentives to the justices as long as the interest group is not a party to the case
27. Which of the following is an example of a public interest lobby?
- a. a consumer rights group
  - b. a trade association
  - c. a labor union
  - d. a group representing alpaca ranchers
28. What do right-to-work laws uphold?
- a. *amicus curiae* briefs
  - b. workers' rights to collective goods
  - c. the requirement that workers in a union shop must join the union
  - d. workers' freedom to decline the opportunity to join a union
29. How did James Madison propose to overcome the problem of factions in *Federalist No. 10*?
- a. by adopting a system of direct democracy
  - b. by banning the formation of interest groups
  - c. by discouraging citizens from expressing their political views in public
  - d. by expanding their sphere of participation
30. Which of the following is a typical way for lobbyists to seek to influence members of Congress?
- a. by offering them money to vote a particular way
  - b. by filing *amicus curiae* briefs
  - c. by organizing protests and demonstrations on Capitol Hill
  - d. by providing specialized expertise
31. Which of the following is an activity that lobbyists regularly engage in?
- a. answering e-mails from elected officials' constituents
  - b. speaking on behalf of elected officials at press conferences
  - c. providing elected officials with innovative ideas for addressing a policy problem
  - d. providing legal counsel to interest groups in court cases
32. Why do interest groups typically offer selective benefits to their members?
- a. to foster greater diversity among group members
  - b. to encourage only the most committed supporters to become involved
  - c. to discourage members from joining more than one interest group
  - d. to overcome the free-rider problem

33. What does intensity contribute to the success of an interest group?
- a. Intensity often leads groups to advocate for more than they can realistically get, and the final result is that they get nothing.
  - b. Intense interest group members often scare away other potential members with less intense beliefs.
  - c. Politicians are more likely to listen to a group showing intensity.
  - d. Intensity weeds out the free riders in a group, resulting in a more heterogeneous group.
34. Which of the following statements about campaign contributions made by corporate PACs to candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives is true?
- a. In each race, corporate PACs direct their donations to support whichever candidate most closely shares their ideological values.
  - b. Corporate PACs give most of their contributions to Democrats.
  - c. A majority of corporate PAC contributions go to the candidates of whichever party controls the House.
  - d. Corporate PACs give most of their money to those running for open seats.
35. Why is the correlation between a group's financial resources and its lobbying success so weak?
- a. Lobbying is a competitive enterprise with big interests often facing off against one another.
  - b. Many interest groups do not know how to use their financial resources effectively.
  - c. Because elected officials don't want to appear biased, they often vote against their PAC contributors.
  - d. Regulations limit how much money an interest group can spend on lobbying.