

### **CONSTITUTIONAL FOUNDATIONS (chapter 2)**

The framers of the Constitution created a political system based on limited government. The original Constitution and the Bill of Rights were intended to restrict the powers of the national government. Later constitutional developments also limited the powers of state governments.

(a) Explain how each of the following limits the powers of the national executive.

- Federalism
- Checks and balances

(b) Explain how each of the following two provisions in the Bill of Rights limits the powers of the national government.

- Establishment clause
- Guarantee of a public trial

(c) Explain how each of the following limits the power of state governments.

- Citizenship clause of the Fourteenth Amendment
- Selective incorporation

(d) Explain how one of the following clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment has altered the balance of power between the state and national governments.

- Due process clause
- Equal Protection Clause

### **POLITICAL PROCESS (ELECTIONS) (chapter 9)**

Nominees for the presidency of the two major parties are chosen by delegates at national conventions. How these delegates are chosen varies across states and between the political parties.

a. Define each of the following methods used by states to choose delegates to party conventions.

- Open primary
- Caucus

b. Republican Party rules permit winner-take-all primaries. Describe one consequence of this rule for the Republican nomination process.

c. The Democratic Party has used superdelegates in the presidential nominating process since 1984. Explain why the use of superdelegates increases the influence of party leaders in the Democratic nomination process.

d. Explain why a candidate's strategy to win the nomination is often different from the strategy developed to win the general election.

### **Foreign Policy: Answer if your last name begins with A – I (chapters 11, 12, and 18.1)**

Conflicts between Congress and the President over war powers have their origin in the United States Constitution. In 1973 Congress passed the War Powers Resolution in an attempt to clarify the balance of powers between the two branches of government.

(a) Describe the primary constitutional conflict between Congress and the President over the decision to go to war.

(b) Describe two provisions of the War Powers Resolution that were designed to limit the President's power over war making.

(c) The War Powers Resolution has received mixed reviews, but Congress has other powers over war making.

Other than the constitutional power that you described in (a), identify and explain two other formal powers Congress has over war making.

### **Foreign Policy: Answer if your last name begins with J – Q (chapters 11, 12, and 18.1)**

Presidents are generally thought to have advantages over Congress in conducting foreign policy because of the formal and informal powers of the presidency.

a. Identify two formal constitutional powers of the President in making foreign policy.

b. Identify two formal constitutional powers of Congress in making foreign policy.

c. Identify two informal powers of the President that contribute to the President's advantage over Congress in conducting foreign policy.

d. Explain how each of the informal powers identified in (c) contributes to the President's advantage over Congress in conducting foreign policy.

### **Foreign Policy: Answer if your last name begins with R – Z (chapters 11, 12, and 18.1)**

Congress and the president both have a role in making foreign policy. Despite recent expansions in presidential power, there are still limits on presidential decision making in foreign policy.

(a) Describe two enumerated powers Congress has in making foreign policy.

(b) Describe two expressed powers the president has in making foreign policy.

(c) Explain how executive agreements expand the president's ability to implement foreign policy.

(d) Explain how one of the following can limit the president's ability to implement foreign policy.

- Elections
- Presidential approval ratings

## **The Bureaucracy (chapter 14)**

The United States Congress and the President together have the power to enact federal law. Federal bureaucratic agencies have the responsibility to execute federal law. However, in the carrying out of these laws, federal agencies have policy-making discretion.

- Explain two reasons why Congress gives federal agencies policy-making discretion in executing federal laws.
- For ALL of the bureaucratic agencies listed below. Identify the policy area over which it exercises policy-making discretion AND give one specific example of how it exercises that discretion.

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
- Federal Reserve Board

- Describe two ways in which Congress ensures that federal agencies follow legislative intent.

## **Judicial—Selective Incorporation (chapters 4 and 5)**

Many scholars and observers have argued that the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution has become the single most important act in all of United States politics.

- Identify which provision of the Fourteenth Amendment was applied in one of the following Supreme Court cases. For the case you select, explain the significance of the decision in United States politics.

- *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* (1954)
- *Baker v. Carr* (1962)
- *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke* (1978)

- Identify which provision of the Fourteenth Amendment was applied in one of the following Supreme Court cases. For the case you select, explain the significance of the decision in United States politics.

- *Mapp v. Ohio* (1961)
- *Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963)
- *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966)

## **Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (chapters 4 and 5)**

The Fourteenth Amendment protects civil rights and civil liberties.

- Describe the difference between civil rights and civil liberties.
- Identify the primary clause of the Fourteenth Amendment that is used to extend civil rights.
- Describe a specific legislative action that extended civil rights to each of the following.
  - Women
  - Persons with disabilities
- Identify the primary clause of the Fourteenth Amendment that is used to extend civil liberties.
- Explain how civil liberties were incorporated by the Supreme Court in two of the following cases.

- *Gideon v. Wainwright*
- *Mapp v. Ohio*
- *Miranda v. Arizona*

## **BONUS (+10 on test grade): CAMPAIGN FINANCE (chapter 9)**

The United States Congress has debated a variety of campaign finance reforms over the last decade. The proposals debated have included the following:

- Eliminating soft money
  - Limiting independent expenditures
  - Raising limits on individual contributions
- Select one of the listed proposals and do all of the following:
    - Define the proposal.
    - Describe an argument that proponents make in favor of the proposal.
    - Describe an argument that opponents make against the proposal.
  - Select a different listed proposal and do all of the following:
    - Define the proposal.
    - Describe an argument that proponents make in favor of the proposal.
    - Describe an argument that opponents make against the proposal.