**POLI 101: Introduction to Politics**

**Summer Semester 2015**

**Answered by: @y0us3f – 11973**

**And thanks to everyone who helped**

**General Rules all students must follow**:

**A**) All students **must** consult the textbook, the PowerPoint slides, and class discussion notes to prepare the answers to the questions;

**B**) Copying and pasting from internet-based sources (such as www.google.com) will be considered plagiarism and your grade will go down.

**C)** If two to three or more students write the same answers to any particular question or all the questions that will be considered plagiarism. Your responses to the questions must be different from responses by other students. Producing similar answers to the questions will bring down your final grade.

**Part – A: Short-answer Questions (20% marks); (any 5 of the following 6 questions will be put in the final exam and you are required to respond to all 5 questions):**

1. **What is political power? Elaborate the biological and rational explanations of why people follow authority figures.**

* Political power is the ability or capacity of an individual to get others do what that individual wants.
* Biological: Aristotle said that humans are political/social animals.
* Rational: They behave in the society when they think something is good for them, they’ll do it, and if they think something is bad for them, they won’t do it. “Among their interest.”

1. **Define positivism. Explain the theory of behavioralism that emerged in the post-World War II period to study politics.**

* Positivism: Theory that society can be studied scientifically and improved with the knowledge gained.
* Behavioralism: Developed post ww2 period. It means society can be studied scientifically and improved. The areas where this theory was applied included public opinion survey, voting behavior…etc

1. **Discuss Aristotle’s six-fold typology of government (draw the chart). Does his typology command any relevance in the modern context? (Explain why or why not).**

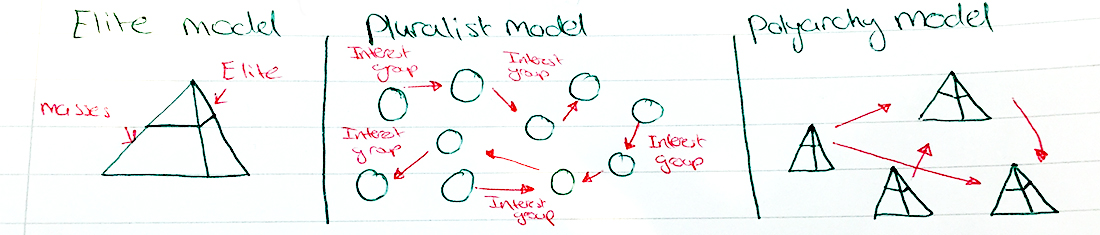
|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Ruled by | Legitimate form | Corrupt form |
| One | Monarchy | Tyranny |
| Few | Aristocracy | Oligarchy |
| Many | Polity | Democracy |

* Yes, for example, Kuwait can be called Oligarchy, Ruled by few, for their own interests.

1. **Briefly highlight the single-member districts and proportional representation electoral systems. Which electoral system do you prefer and why?**

* Single-member district:
* The whole country divided up into numerous electoral districts based on the number of people.
* Only one member is elected per electoral district.
* The candidate who either majority or a plurality of the votes wins the election.
* Proportional Representation:
* Several can be elected from a single electoral district.
* Candidates do not run elections directly, the different political parties do.
* To win seats in the parliament, any political party must win minimum percentage of votes, usually 5 to 7 percent.
* I prefer PR, because it can give every party its right if it deserve to win the sear, but in single-member district, one can win with most votes, but doesn’t reflect public opinion.

1. **Compare and contrast the elite, pluralist and polyarchy models of democracy (draw all three models). Which model do you find more applicable to explain how democracy really works in a country and why?**

****

* Elite: Decisions are made by tiny minority, gov. is in the hands of few.
* Pluralist: Interest groups make sure gov. listens to people.
* Polyarchy: Small groups of elites rule.
* I think that the pluralist model is the most applicable to explain how democracy really work, because according to pluralists, interest groups are the great avenues of democracy, making sure government listens to the people. Many argues that only pluralist society can be democratic.

1. **Define the three types of participant, subject and parochial political cultures. How is a political subculture different from a mainstream political culture?**

* Participant: people understand that they are citizens and pay attention to politics.
* Subject: people still understand that they are citizens and pay attention to politics, but they do so more passively.
* Parochial: many people do not much care that they are citizens of a nation.
* Political subculture is a minority subculture within the mainstream, there are elites and mass subcultures, elites are better educated and wealthier with more participatory. And every country has subcultures with differing takes on political culture.

**Section – B: Multiple Choice Questions (10% marks):**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is/are a collective political memory that influences individuals’ political actions.

a. Values

b. Political values

c. Political culture

d. Culture

e. Political opinion

2. Studies of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ look for basic, general values on politics and government.

a. politics

b. political culture

c. public opinion

d. political opinion

e. political values

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ look(s) for individuals’ views about specific leaders and policies.

a. Public opinion

b. Political culture

c. Political parties

d. All political scientists

e. American politics

4. Which of the following has *not* decreased confidence in the U.S. government?

a. the Vietnam War

b. Watergate

c. the First Gulf War

d. inflation in the 1960s and 1970s

e. the 2003 U.S. war in Iraq

5. Political culture changes

a. very quickly.

b. frequently.

c. with each generation.

d. every few decades.

e. very slowly.

6. Churches, clubs, businesses, and soccer leagues are all elements of

a. political culture.

b. political trust.

c. civic engagement.

d. civil society.

e. democracy.

7. Understanding politics and knowing how to accomplish something politically is known as

a. political participation.

b. political efficacy.

c. political competence.

d. political knowledge.

e. political trust.

8. Political efficacy is

a. the same as being politically powerless.

b. feeling that one has no input in the political system.

c. feeling that elites have the most influence on the political system.

d. feeling that most citizens have access to the political system.

e. feeling that one has at least a little input in the political system.

9. Almond and Verba argue that the following are the existing general political cultures:

a. participant and subject

b. participant and parochial

c. parochial, subject, and democratic

d. subject, democratic, and efficacious

e. participant, subject, and parochial

10. Which of Almond and Verba’s political cultures is present in the U.S. and Britain?

a. participant

b. subject

c. parochial

d. democratic

e. efficacious

11. According to Almond and Verba, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ political culture is the least democratic and has a population that has neither the desire nor ability to participate in politics.

a. subject

b. parochial

c. participant

d. authoritarian

e. competent

12. Subject political culture is almost non-existent in the modern context

a. True

b. False

13. Evidence of a decaying American political culture is

a. increased inflation.

b. increased participation in conflicts abroad.

c. decreased voter turnout.

d. increased number of people bowling.

e. steady levels of volunteerism and organization membership.

14. A minority culture with strong differentiating qualities based on race, ethnicity, or language that exists within a mainstream culture is a(n)

a. ignored subculture.

b. elite subculture.

c. mass subculture.

d. excluded subculture.

e. minority subculture.

15. Which of the following *is not* a minority subculture?

a. Quebecois in Canada

b. Hindus in India

c. Bengalis in East Pakistan until 1971

d. Basques in Northern Spain

e. Roman Catholics in Northern Ireland

16. There is a strong relationship between economic development and culture of a country.

a. True

b. False

17. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ teaches political values and specific usages within the political context.

a. Socialization

b. Political culture

c. Political socialization

d. Culture

e. Public opinion

18. Which of the following is the strongest source of political socialization?

a. school

b. peer groups

c. mass media

d. family

e. government

19. Governments engage in overt socialization through

a. family.

b. education.

c. peer groups.

d. mass media.

e. civil society.

20. What source of socialization works through the use of parades with flags and soldiers, proclamations of top leaders, and hosting prestigious sporting events such as the Olympics?

a. government

b. civil society

c. education

d. powerful subculture

e. mass media

21. Which of the following countries have engaged in *overt* political socialization?

a. China and Canada

b. England and France

c. U.S. and England

d. China and France

e. the U.S. and South Korea

22. What source or sources of political socialization have the potential to override the efforts of schools, as we saw in the case of Eastern European countries in the transition to Communism?

a. family

b. religion

c. family and religion

d. religion and peer groups

e. peer groups and mass media

23. Subject political culture refers to a political system where people are

a. indifferent to politics and take the least interests in what the government does

b. actively involved in politics

c. people are over-politicized

d. people are conscious of politics but leave politics up to the elites of the country

24. Parochial political culture means

a. people take the least interest in politics and have no expectations from the government

b. people want the government to take care of their interests

c. people prefer political violence

d. people want their government to fight other countries

25. In political culture the term ‘values’ means

a. excellent ideas to run good political parties

b. views people deeply hold

c. the blueprint to capture political power

d. national political program to ensure effective government

26. “Culture wars” in American political context means

a. lack of coordination between the Democrats and the Republicans

b. conservatives vs. liberals political polarization

c. political differences between the Blacks and the Whites

d. President Obama’s victory in the 2008 presidential election

27. In general, poorer countries are more religious than rich countries

a. True

b. False

28. The elites in a country are people with

a. hold on political power

b. the business community

c. poets and artists

d. higher income, better education and more influence

29. Who controls politics in a country?

a. the mass people

b. the elites

c. the military

d. the political parties

30. More educated people usually participate more in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

a. politics

b. money-making

c. cultural production

d. travelling

e. elementary teaching

31. Integration of subcultures into mainstream political cultures ensures -----------------------------. a. increasing conflicts and violence

b. equal political participation by all citizens

c. national unity and solidarity

d. none of the above

32. Part of American political culture is a dislike of --------------------------------

a. big government and high taxes.

b. a powerful Senate that restraints the president

c. unaccountable members of the House of Representatives

d. control over resources in foreign countries

33. The Indian caste system is embedded in its political culture.

a. True

b. False

34. Political opinion changes more slowly than political culture.

a. True

b. False

35. An individual possesses political efficacy if he or she is familiar with politics and how to accomplish things politically.

a. True

b. False

36. The rule of anticipated reactions theory explains why U.S. voter turnout is the lowest of all industrialized democracies.

a. True

b. False

37. The ‘sleeping dogs theory’ projects American voters as indifferent to and inactive in politics

a. True

b. False

38. In general, richer countries have more religious populations.

a. True

b. False

39. Wealthier, more educated elites are more likely to vote than the less educated, less wealthy masses.

a. True

b. False

40. Minorities can be integrated into mainstream society voluntarily or through overt measures of political socialization. The U.S. has traditionally pursued the latter.

a. True

b. False