• Why is it sometimes difficult for citizens to engage in policy voting?
  o Candidates can be intentionally vague about their issue stances.
  o In most states, citizens are not allowed to vote on policy issues.
  o Election officials prevent using policy-based voter guides in the voting booth.
  o The media tends to overwhelm voters with policy information.
  o Competing candidates usually have the same positions on issues.

• Reporters need news, and a good pollster can help them make their deadlines with stories that the campaign would like to see reported.
  o True
  o False

• How does party identification simplify the voting process?
  o It eliminates the need to produce a photo ID in order to vote.
  o It prevents third-party candidates from participating in elections.
  o It reduces the policy differences between the candidates.
  o It provides a cue as to which candidate a voter is more likely to prefer.
  o It enables voters to select from a wider array of candidates.

• Which of the following most clearly contributed to Barack Obama’s victory in the 2012 presidential election?
  o Voters agreed with Obama that tax rates should be kept at their current level.
  o Voters thought Obama’s policies were more likely to favor the middle class.
  o Voters agreed with Obama that the federal government is doing too much.
  o Voters agreed with Obama that health care policy needs a major overhaul.
  o Voters thought Obama’s policies would result in the self-deportation of illegal immigrants.

• Why do winning candidates claim a mandate even though political scientists generally discredit the mandate theory of elections?
  o Politicians think that political scientists do not understand how things actually work.
  o Winning candidates are not well versed in the political science literature.
  o Voters do not necessary prefer all of the winning candidate’s issue positions.
  o Claiming a mandate helps a winning candidate ease any hard feelings among the opponent’s supporters.
  o Winning candidates want to justify their policy proposals by claiming that the public supports them.

• Primaries emerged through reform efforts that sought to take nominations out of the hands of party bosses.
  o True
  o False

• Voter turnout in recent elections was highest for members of which of the following groups?
  o those 24 years old or younger
  o those with an advanced degree
  o women
  o non-Hispanic whites
  o men
• Which of the following is a cost of voting?
  o civic duty
  o political efficacy
  o becoming informed
  o gender
  o party identification

• The 2008 election was the first time that ________ voted at the same rate as whites.
  o young citizens
  o Hispanics
  o single citizens
  o African Americans
  o Asian Americans

• Of the following, who would be most likely to vote?
  o someone who sees few differences between the candidates
  o someone who thinks that both candidates are moderate
  o someone who thinks that both candidates are very conservative
  o someone with a high sense of political efficacy
  o someone with a low sense of civic duty

• Which of the following makes it harder to vote by increasing the costs associated with voting?
  o civic duty laws
  o the Motor Voter Act
  o vote-by-mail laws
  o voter ID laws
  o Election Day voter registration laws

• Which states tend to have higher voter turnout?
  o states with Election Day voter registration
  o states with large minority populations
  o states with voter ID laws
  o states with burdensome voter registration requirements
  o southern states

• Which of the following helps to explain why voter turnout is lower in the United States than in other democracies?
  o The United States hold elections midweek.
  o The United States hold fewer elections.
  o U.S. candidates tend to rely more heavily on public financing.
  o U.S. candidates tend to offer starkly different choices.
  o The United States elects fewer officeholders.
• The Founders created the Electoral College because they wanted the president to be selected by ______.
  o the states
  o ordinary Americans
  o voters
  o members of Congress
  o elites

• If you were running a campaign with a relatively unknown candidate, you would want to allow plenty of time for your candidate to ______.
  o visit major cities in California during the election campaign
  o travel extensively in New Hampshire in March
  o meet the people in small towns in Texas
  o travel extensively in Iowa before the caucuses
  o debate with likely opponents in Florida in January

• An investment candidates today MUST make is in ___.
  o television ads aimed at the 18-29 age group
  o professional pollsters to ensure compliance with all relevant election laws
  o a staff to set up and run technologies such as Facebook pages and Twitter accounts
  o a chartered jet for traveling from state to state
  o direct mail lists from previous campaigns

• Research on political campaigns suggest that one of the strongest strategies you could use to impact voters is to ______.
  o expect that your campaign ads will convert those who formerly favored another candidate
  o rely on the keen interest most citizens have in the election process to show your candidate’s true worth
  o appeal to long-term party affiliation
  o spend as much money as possible in the campaign
  o make sure your candidate is a challenger

• Suppose your candidate is in a tight election campaign and has limited time and money. What expenditures would pay off best in gaining electoral votes?
  o You should spend time and money in the states that have always voted for the party of your candidate.
  o You should spend both time and money in states with the largest populations.
  o You should spend both time and money in battleground states that may go for either party.
  o You should spend money equally in all states.
  o You should spend time in as many large states as you can.

• One of the downsides to the American system of elections and campaigns is that ______.
  o candidates are forced by special interest groups to make promises they cannot keep
  o almost anyone can come out of nowhere to win a nomination
  o only candidates with considerable personal wealth can run
  o the candidate who wins the popular vote always wins in the Electoral College
  o a person who might be an excellent candidate could be discouraged from running

• Of the following people, who is most likely to participate in a presidential caucus?
  o a party activist
  o someone who lacks political efficacy
  o a single mom
  o someone who works the night shift
  o someone who is very busy
Which of the following would be the most likely to increase voter turnout in the United States?
- putting the federal government in charge of registering voters
- holding elections on Wednesdays
- electing more officeholders
- minimizing the differences between the parties
- holding more elections

Which of the following statements indicates a high level of political efficacy?
- "I don't think public officials care much what people like me think."
- "One vote can make a difference; I want my vote to be the difference maker."
- "I should vote to honor those who sacrificed their lives to make America free."
- "Voting in the United States is so easy that there is no excuse for not voting."
- "Democracy is only democratic if citizens participate in the process."

The proportion of senators who are up for election at any one time is...
- 20 percent.
- one third.
- one half.
- two thirds.
- 100%, because the entire Senate is up for reelection every six years

A floating voter is someone who ________.
- is elated at the outcome of an election
- has a sense of civic duty
- registers to vote on Election Day
- has political efficacy
- is not loyal to a specific political party

Which of the following has made it easier for contemporary voters to choose the best person for the office, regardless of party?
- advances in information technology
- voter ID laws
- increased polarization in Congress
- the media's tendency to focus on policy issues
- relaxed voter registration requirements

Which of the following best describes how Mitt Romney presented himself in the 2012 presidential election?
- a "maverick" who is not afraid to cross party lines when necessary
- a social conservative who always follows church doctrine
- a successful businessman who can apply his skills to fixing the economy
- a bold visionary who knows a lot about foreign policy
- an experienced member of Congress who knows how to get things done

An institutional obstacle to voting was removed with...
- the passage of the National Voter Registration Act (1994) or the "motor voter" act.
- the development of Internet voting.
- political party's get-out-the-vote drives.
- the increasing number of Latinos who are deciding to vote.
- the passage of so-called "disenfranchisement" laws.
• Which of the following best characterizes the influence of the news media on public opinion in the United States?
  o They alter the public's views on issues.
  o They affect which issues the public thinks are important.
  o They determine how citizens will vote.
  o They are most able to influence people with the highest level of education.
  o They are most able to influence the urban sectors of society.

• Which of the following is consistent with the mandate theory of elections?
  o A functional democracy mandates electoral participation by a large number of voters.
  o Barack Obama's claim that his victory in the 2012 means that the public wants to raise taxes on the wealthy.
  o The belief that elections are generally about personality and charisma rather than issues and policies.
  o Voter turnout is higher when citizens are required to vote and are fined if they fail to do so.
  o Mitt Romney's claim that Obama won the 2012 presidential election because he had given gifts to various constituency groups.

• What is the phenomenon that people's beliefs often guide what they pay attention to and how they interpret events?
  o frontloading
  o discriminatory perception
  o selective perception
  o scorekeeping
  o agenda setting

• In states with caucuses, ________.
  o the state legislature selects the state's delegates to the national conventions
  o supporters of candidates attend a series of open meetings to express presidential preferences
  o party leaders select delegates according to their own candidate preferences
  o candidates appoint supporters to serve as delegates
  o delegates are chosen through the general election of a candidate

• One impact of the Internet on political campaigns is that ________.
  o more people have had to rely on TV to get their news
  o more people are making political donations
  o fewer people are making political donations
  o more people are engaged in the campaign process
  o fewer people are using the Internet as a source of campaign information

• To run an efficient campaign, a candidate needs ____.
  o a travel agent
  o someone who can run a video camera for candid campaign footage
  o a campaign manager
  o a dedicated blogger
  o a number of volunteers
• Which of the following best describes Barack Obama's campaign message in the 2012 election?
  o "I'm the reason the economy is doing so well."
  o "I did as well as could have been expected under the circumstances."
  o "I'm a champion for the working class."
  o "It's time for a change, and I'm the agent of change you're looking for."
  o "I deserve another chance to clean up my mistakes."

• If the president was selected by popular vote instead of by the Electoral College, which of the following cities would a presidential campaign be least likely to visit?
  o New York, New York
  o Chicago, Illinois
  o Columbus, Ohio
  o Laramie, Wyoming
  o Miami, Florida

• Which of the following group's were least likely to vote for Barack Obama in 2012?
  o Jews
  o whites
  o Hispanics
  o those without a religious affiliation
  o younger voters

• One of the biggest challenges facing Barack Obama's 2012 reelection campaign was overcoming ________.
  o his pledge to serve only one term
  o the faltering economy
  o restrictions on corporate spending in elections
  o the decline in support from African Americans
  o the unpopularity of the war in Afghanistan

• Which of the following was one of the requirements of the Federal Election Campaign Act?
  o All candidates for the presidency must list the organizations that donated more than $1 million to their campaigns.
  o All candidates for federal office must disclose who contributed money to their campaigns.
  o Candidates for Congress must disclose how much money they received in contributions.
  o Contributions from individuals must be limited to $1 million per candidate.
  o All candidates for all elections must disclose how they spent their campaign contributions.

• Because states are the key battlegrounds of campaigns, candidates often find themselves _____.
  o promising to bring jobs to every state
  o tailoring their appeals to the particular interests of a state
  o unsure where they are campaigning on any given day
  o visiting every state in the union multiple times
  o promising to increase the power of a state's government

• Identify the correct statement:
  o smaller states never get as much attention from candidates as do larger states
  o states with more electoral votes receive more attention from candidates in a nomination campaign
  o larger states always receive more attention from candidates in a nomination campaign
  o states with early caucuses and primaries receive a disproportionate amount of attention from candidates in a nomination campaign
• The argument that "today's presidential campaign is essentially a mass media campaign" suggests that ________.
  o money is less important to campaigns than it was in the past
  o voters have very little understanding of the campaign apart from what they see and hear in the media campaign
  o campaigns are larger and more interesting to voters than campaigns in the past
  o the media exercise sway over a vast number of citizens' votes
  o the media control electoral outcomes

• One cost-cutting measure a candidate might come to regret is ________.
  o signing up too many volunteers
  o not hiring a pollster
  o acting as his or her own campaign manager
  o hiring a policy advisor
  o setting up a Web site

• The appearance and increase in ________ was an unintended result of FECA, which allowed parties to raise and spend money on voter registration and other campaign materials without limits on spending or the size of contributions that they can accept.
  o soft money
  o party discretionary funding
  o institutional assistance
  o party expenditure exemption
  o expenditure waivers

• If you were a campaign manager, you could most likely count on votes from ________.
  o voters you reactivated during the campaign
  o voters from urban areas
  o voters who paid little attention to your candidate during the campaign
  o voters you attempted to convert during the campaign
  o voters from the same party as your candidate

• Why do presidential candidates tend to focus their efforts on battleground states?
  o Public finances for presidential campaigns can only be used in battleground states.
  o Battleground states have the most Electoral College votes.
  o Battleground states have more electors than they would deserve if electors were allocated by committee.
  o Candidates focus on battleground states in order to increase their media exposure.
  o The winner-take-all system makes battleground states more relevant to a campaign.

• The significance of the Supreme Court decision in Buckley v. Valeo is that it upheld restrictions on the amount of money an individual could contribute to his or her own campaign.
  o True
  o False

• Scholars believe that more Americans would vote if Election Day were a holiday.
  o True
  o False
• Elected officials are less likely to pay attention to issues that are important to younger Americans because younger Americans are less likely to vote.
  o True
  o False

• All of the following are reasons incumbents in the House of Representatives enjoy an electoral advantage over challengers EXCEPT that incumbents...
  o get most of their financial support from their party's national committee
  o are better known to voters than are challengers.
  o find it much easier to raise campaign funds than do challengers.
  o can use staff members to do constituent service.
  o often serve on committees that enable them to help the constituency.

• The coattails effect is an example of a pattern of...
  o sectional voting.
  o regional voting.
  o voting the same party for different offices.
  o voting over time.
  o socioeconomic voting

• The 1976 Supreme Court decision that overturned part of FECA (1971), declaring that the First Amendment protects people's right to spend as much as they want on their own elections, but that Congress can limit how much people contribute to other's elections, was...
  o Valeo vs. Ford
  o Helms vs. Valeo
  o Buckley vs. Valeo
  o Bradley vs. Hernandez
  o Bunny vs Fudd

• [AP] Suppose that in 2012 "strong" Democrats who share Republicans' views on taxation, and Republican women who oppose their party's 'pro-life' plank, both turn out to vote at unexpectedly low rates. These findings would provide evidence for which of the following hypotheses?
  o Anything that produces cross-pressure reduces turnout.
  o Strong party identification promotes participation.
  o "Rational" voters need a sense of civic duty to motivate them to vote.
  o Those who express satisfaction with candidate choices are less likely to vote.
  o Those who are party activists are not likely to vote.
• The use of direct primaries instead of the convention system in selecting presidential candidates results in which of the following?

  • A weakening of party control over nominations.
  • A reduction in the costs of election campaigns.
  • An increase in the number of people involved in the choice of candidates.
  • An increase in voter turnout in midterm elections.

  - I and III only
  - II and IV only
  - III and IV only
  - I, II, and III only
  - I, II, III, and IV

• Independents tend to vote...
  - in a partisan manner.
  - for issues rather than parties.
  - in response to candidate appeal.
  - for third-party candidates.

• Mid-term elections elect...
  - all Senators.
  - all Senators and Representatives.
  - one third of the House and all Senators.
  - one third of the Senate and all Representatives.
  - one half of the Senate and all Representatives.

• When an individual votes based on what a candidate pledges to do about an issue if elected, it is called...
  - wishful thinking.
  - self-deception.
  - prospective issue voting.
  - retrospective issue voting.

• "Voting is partly a matter of habit: the more frequently a person has voted in the past, the more likely she or he is to vote in the current election."

• All of the following support the observation above EXCEPT:
  - Immediately after the Twenty-Sixth Amendment in 1971 gave 18-to-21 year olds the vote, the proportion of eligible voters who actually voted declined.
  - Immediately after the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920 gave women the vote, the proportion of eligible voters who actually voted declined.
  - Immediately after the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the participation rate of Black voters in the South was lower than that of White voters in the South.
  - Unmarried persons over the age of 65 are less likely to vote than are married persons in that age group.
  - Newly naturalized citizens may need special inducements to vote.
• All of the following are true EXCEPT...
  o income is a reliable predictor of voter turnout.
  o increases in age are usually related to an increase in propensity to vote.
  o increases in education usually indicate increased voting.
  o race seems unimportant as a factor in predicting voting behavior.

• The most important issue in mid-term elections seems to be...
  o whether the country is at war.
  o the state of the economy.
  o candidate appeal.
  o the party of the president

• The trend in the past few decades seems to indicate that Americans increasingly vote...
  o for candidates rather than parties.
  o on issues rather than candidates.
  o as constituents.
  o for parties rather than candidates or issues.

• Which of the following statements most accurately compares elections in the United States with those in most other Western democracies?
  o United States citizens have fewer opportunities to vote in elections.
  o Political parties exert a stronger influence over voting in the United States.
  o There are fewer obstacles to voting in the United States.
  o There are more political parties in the United States.
  o The voter turnout rate in the United States is usually lower.

• The percentage of whites voting...
  o is less than blacks but more than Hispanics.
  o is higher than either blacks or Hispanics.
  o is equal to the percentage of blacks but lower than that of Hispanics.
  o is equal to the percentage of Hispanics but lower than that of blacks.
  o is equal to both Hispanics and blacks.

• The Democratic and Republican candidates for president are formally nominated by the ________.
  o presidential primaries
  o national committees
  o Electoral College
  o national party conventions
  o presidential caucuses

• Providing select information and a request for money to lists of people who have supported candidates of similar views in the past is a frequently used political technique known as ________.
  o frontloading
  o soft money
  o caucusing
  o conversion
  o direct mail
• Money earmarked for party-building expenses at the grassroots level or for generic party advertising is known as ________.
  o support funds
  o hard money
  o campaign funds
  o soft money
  o matching funds

• Some people have called the American electoral process ________.
  o "the permanent campaign"
  o "the never-ending nomination"
  o "the election game"
  o "the endless commercial"
  o "the permanent election"

• In which of the following countries is voter turnout lowest?
  o Australia
  o Ireland
  o Japan
  o United States
  o Canada