Chapter 1: Introduction

Test Bank

# Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following observations regarding the financial crisis that began in 2008 is true?

A. It began in Europe, but ultimately hit the United States at least as hard.

B. It has demonstrated that there is no relationship among countries and people’s well-being across the globe.

C. It has demonstrated the interrelationships among countries and people’s well-being across the globe.

D. It began in China and India, but ultimately hit the United States and Europe.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Chapter Introduction

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. A good empirical theory should \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. explain a pattern

B. empower counterfactual arguments

C. explain what *ought* to occur

D. account for all exogenous factors

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It? | How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Comparative politics focuses on \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. advanced industrial democracies

B. politics between national governments

C. politics within national boundaries

D. political networks that transcend state borders

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It?

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. The difference between empirical theory and normative theory is that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. empirical theory describes what actually occurs; normative theory describes what ought to occur

B. normative theory describes what actually occurs; empirical theory describes what ought to occur

C. empirical theory is an abstract argument that provides a systematic explanation of some phenomena; normative theory generates lessons from one place to apply in another

D. normative theory is an abstract argument that provides a systematic explanation of some phenomena; empirical theory generates lessons from one place to apply in another

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It? | Why Study Comparative Politics?

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Quantitative methods are used in comparative politics in order to allow \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. applicability to most questions and data

B. proving causation

C. the study of a large number of cases

D. obtaining in-depth information for individual cases

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It? | How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. Which of the following statements best defines a political actor?

A. any person or group engaged in political behavior

B. members of political parties

C. members of the electorate

D. individuals who hold political office

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior?

Difficulty Level: Easy

7. The modernist school of political culture theory believes that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. political cultures are constantly evolving

B. clear attitudes, values, and beliefs can be identified within a political culture

C. it is more important to look at conflict over values and beliefs than at consistency

D. political attitudes may be symptoms of political activity rather than the cause of it

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Easy

8. Which political theory is criticized for its inability to predict future behavior of individuals?

A. rational choice

B. political ideology

C. political culture

D. institutionalism

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Interests

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. \_\_\_\_\_\_ theory assumes that widely held values and beliefs help explain political behavior.

A. Rational choice

B. Political culture

C. Psychological

D. Postmodernist

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Easy

10. Rational-choice institutionalists and historical institutionalists disagree about \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the importance of institutions

B. the importance of social values in a state

C. the short-term effect of any political actions

D. the long-term effect of any political actions

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Structures

Difficulty Level: Easy

11. Marxism claims that \_\_\_\_\_\_ affect(s) political structures.

A. economic structures

B. political actors

C. inequality

D. political ideology

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Structures

Difficulty Level: Easy

12. Postmodernists see culture as sets of \_\_\_\_\_\_ that political actors can use.

A. ideologies

B. behaviors

C. symbols

D. clearly defined values

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Easy

13. In American politics, the use of “family values” functions within political discourse to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. influence political attitudes, identity, and actions

B. increase marriage rates

C. increase birth rates

D. stir the political bases

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Easy

14. One difference between modernist and postmodernist approaches to political culture is that postmodernists \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. focus on individuals

B. often use surveys to learn about culture

C. tend to focus on conflicts over political culture within a country

D. have been accused of ethnocentrism

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Medium

15. Political systems in which leaders mobilize political support primarily by providing resources to their followers are called \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. premodern

B. nondemocratic

C. patron–client

D. feudal

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Who Rules? | Pluralist Theories: Each Group Has Its Voice

Difficulty Level: Easy

16. \_\_\_\_\_\_ is not considered a structural argument because it ignores societal structures.

A. Marxism

B. Institutionalism

C. Rational-choice institutionalism

D. Postmodernism

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension | Knowledge

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Easy

17. According to Gramsci, political ideology is used to establish \_\_\_\_\_\_ for the ruling class.

A. contempt

B. hegemony

C. finance

D. obedience

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Easy

18. Psychological theories assume that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. individuals are rational

B. individuals have self-defined interests

C. individuals have the knowledge and ability to pursue their interests

D. individuals are incapable of obtaining full information

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior?

Difficulty Level: Medium

19. According to pluralist theory, \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. power is dispersed among various political actors

B. power is concentrated in the hands of a political elite

C. power does not play any role in politics

D. power constantly shifts between different levels of government

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Who Rules? | Pluralist Theories: Each Group Has Its Voice

Difficulty Level: Easy

20. Which theory posits that society is divided into political groups?

A. pluralist theory

B. elitist theory

C. critical race theory

D. rational actor theory

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Who Rules? | Pluralist Theories: Each Group Has Its Voice

Difficulty Level: Easy

21. Which of the following statements describes psychological theories of individual motivation?

A. They look for rational explanations based on individual’s psychological experiences.

B. They look for nonrational explanations based on a cost–benefit analysis.

C. They are particularly interested in the third dimension of power.

D. They assume that people conduct a cost–benefit analysis before making a decision.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior?

Difficulty Level: Easy

22. According to elite theory, \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the military rules society with effective control over virtually all power

B. elites rule society with effective control over virtually all power

C. all citizens rule society with effective control over virtually all power

D. nobody rules society with effective control and there is a constant struggle for power

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Who Rules? | Elite Theories

Difficulty Level: Easy

23. A theorist who believes that clear sets of attitudes, values, and beliefs can be identified in each country that change very rarely and explain much about politics there is known as a \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. postmodernist

B. postmaterialist

C. modernist

D. materialist

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Easy

24. Political \_\_\_\_\_\_ endure because of political \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. cultures; socialization

B. socializations; cultures

C. attitudes; cultures

D. socializations; attitudes

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Medium

25. The terms Marxism, bourgeoisie, and proletariat all relate to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. modernism

B. institutionalism

C. structuralism

D. classism

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Structures

Difficulty Level: Easy

26. A comparative study looking at revolutions in France, China, Nicaragua, and Iran would be an example of what research method?

A. case study

B. most different system design

C. most similar system design

D. quantitative statistical technique

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It? | How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

27. Which of the following is an example of a likely rational choice argument to explain why the ruling class adopts a specific ideology to support its hegemony?

A. self-interest

B. cultural values

C. good of the community

D. psychology

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Interests

Difficulty Level: Easy

28. Case studies are unable to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. generate ideas for theory

B. prove or disprove theory

C. highlight the limitations of theory

D. provide depth on individual cases

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It? | How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

29. One common criticism of institutionalism is that institutions \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. do not usually shape political behavior

B. are not often rationally designed

C. do not explain political behavior, but are rather a result from it

D. and their effects are difficult to study

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension | Knowledge

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Structures

Difficulty Level: Easy

30. The two-term limit on the presidency of the United States is an example of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. an informal institution that was later formalized

B. a formal institution that broke down

C. a political economy explanation

D. historical determinism

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Structures

Difficulty Level: Easy

31. Which explanation of political behavior is criticized for ignoring noneconomic motives?

A. Marxism

B. institutionalism

C. structuralism

D. postmodernism

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Structures

Difficulty Level: Easy

32. Under which political theory does the concept of patriarchy fall?

A. rational-choice theory

B. pluralist theory

C. elite theory

D. psychological theory

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Elite Theories

Difficulty Level: Easy

33. Elite theories argue that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. no group has complete or permanent power

B. political parties are the most important political actors

C. policy is the result of compromise among groups

D. even in democracies, a small group possesses virtually all power

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Elite Theories

Difficulty Level: Easy

34. \_\_\_\_\_\_ can be defined as the process by which human communities make collective decisions.

A. Collective action

B. Politics

C. Comparative politics

D. Community action

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It?

Difficulty Level: Easy

35. “The ability to keep certain groups and issues out of the political arena by controlling the political agenda and institutions to allow certain groups to participate and voice their concerns, while preventing or at least discouraging others from doing so” is an example of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ dimension of power.

A. first

B. second

C. third

D. fourth

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It?

Difficulty Level: Medium

36. “The ability to influence how people think produces the power to prevent certain political demands from ever being articulated” is an example of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ dimension of power.

A. first

B. second

C. third

D. fourth

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It?

Difficulty Level: Medium

37. An argument that explains what actually occurs is known as \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. a theory

B. an empirical theory

C. a normative theory

D. a subjective theory

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Why Study Comparative Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

38. Quantitative techniques can show broad patterns, but only for questions involving evidence that can be presented numerically, \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. and they provide little depth on all cases

B. and they provide a clear picture of specific cases

C. and they provide a lot of information on all cases

D. and they provide little depth on any particular case

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

39. Which method is best suited for generating new ideas and insights that can lead to new theories?

A. quantitative techniques

B. case studies

C. comparative methods

D. method of most differences

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

40. According to \_\_\_\_\_\_, power is concentrated in the hands of a political elite.

A. political power theory

B. power theory

C. elite theory

D. elite power theory

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Who Rules? | Elite Theories

Difficulty Level: Easy

41. \_\_\_\_\_\_ is a research method used for large-scale studies that reduces evidence to sets of numbers so that statistical analysis can systematically compare a huge number of cases.

A. Comparative method

B. Mixed methods statistical technique

C. Qualitative statistical technique

D. Quantitative statistical technique

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

42. Marx contended that in modern capitalist society, the bourgeoisie, by virtue of their ownership of capital, are\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the ruling class

B. the working class

C. the elite class

D. the lower class

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Elite Theories

Difficulty Level: Medium

# True/False

1. Psychological theories look for rational explanations for political behavior.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Interests

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. Rational choice theory assumes that individuals are rational and that they bring a set of self-defined preferences into the political arena.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Interests

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. For large-scale studies, political scientists rely on qualitative statistical techniques.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. In comparative politics, researchers do not use single-case studies.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It? | How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

5. Empirical theory describes what ought to occur; normative theory describes what actually occurs.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It? | Why Study Comparative Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. “Who rules” is not a key question in comparative politics.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Three Key Questions in Comparative Politics

Difficulty Level: Easy

7. Postmaterialism is *not* a structuralist theory of political behavior.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Easy

8. The concept of patriarchy is considered a pluralist theory.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Who Rules? | Elite Theories

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. Political culture theory is criticized for its inability to predict future behavior of individuals.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Who Rules? | Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Easy

10. Case studies can prove or disprove a theory.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It? | How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

11. According to elite theory, power is concentrated in the hands of a political elite.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Who Rules? | Elite Theories

Difficulty Level: Easy

12. The comparative method is how scholars try to mimic laboratory conditions by careful selection of cases.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It? | How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

13. Quantitative statistical technique is a research method used for large-scale studies that reduces evidence to sets of numbers so that statistical analysis can systematically compare a huge number of cases.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It? | How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

14. Marx contended that in modern capitalist society, the bourgeoisie, by virtue of their ownership of capital, are the ruling class, as the feudal lords were centuries ago.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Elite Theories

Difficulty Level: Medium

15. Opponents of political culture, whether modernist or postmodernist, argue that explaining political behavior requires understanding the effects of political culture at the broadest level.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Easy

# Short Answer

1. Politics can be defined as \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Ans: varies; the process by which human communities make collective decisions

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It?

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. List on dimension of power and provide, in your own words, its definition.

Ans: First dimension of power: the ability of one person or group to get another person or group to do something it otherwise would not do. Second dimension of power: the ability not only to make people do something but to keep them from doing something. Third dimension of power: the ability to shape or determine individual or group political demands by causing people to think about political issues in ways that are contrary to their own interests.

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It?

Difficulty Level: Hard

3. Provide a working definition of *research methods* and include methodology used in comparative politics.

Ans: Research methods are systematic processes used to ensure that the study of some phenomena is as objective and unbiased as possible. An example would be a single case study, quantitative statistical analyses, and so on.

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. Provide a definition and example of *subcultures* as applicable to comparative politics*.*

Ans: Subcultures are distinct political cultures of groups, and example is racial or religious minorities.

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior?

Difficulty Level: Hard

5. Ronald Inglehart coined what term in reference to what he saw as a new predominant element in political culture in wealthy democracies?

Ans: Postmaterialist.

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. Rational choice theory is in natural opposition to which decision-making theory?

Ans: Psychological theory.

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior?

Difficulty Level: Hard

7. Almond and Verba (1989) are best known for their work on which topic used to explain how and why societies change and new political ideas arise, while attitudes and values change.

Ans: Civic culture.

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Provide a working definition of the concept “patriarchy.”

Ans: “Rule by men.”

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Who Rules? | Elite Theories

Difficulty Level: Hard

9. Institutions are the “\_\_\_\_\_\_” within which political actors must operate.

Ans: rules of the game

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior? | Structures

Difficulty Level: Hard

10. The three key questions in comparative politics are \_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Ans: What explains political behavior? Who rules? Where and why do particular types of political behavior occur?

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Three Key Questions in Comparative Politics

Difficulty Level: Hard

11. A political actor is best defined as \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Ans: any person or group engaged in political behavior

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior?

Difficulty Level: Hard

12. What are the three broad approaches to the study of political behavior discussed in the textbook?

Ans: Interests, beliefs, and structure.

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: What Explains Political Behavior?

Difficulty Level: Hard

13. Which approach pushes the criticism of modernism further, questioning the assumption that one clear set of values can be identified that has a clear meaning to all members of a society?

Ans: Postmodernism.

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Medium

14. Liberalism, communism, fascism, modernizing authoritarianism, and theocracy are all examples of political \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Ans: ideologies

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Medium

15. Who argued ideology is a means by which the ruling class convinces the population that its rule is natural, justified, or both?

Ans: Gramsci.

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Medium

# Essay

1. What is “comparative politics?” What does it study, and how would you situate it within political science?

Ans: Students should be able to clearly identify comparative politics as a subfield of political science. The answer should elaborate on the fact that it deals with power and decision-making *within* national boundaries. It should also explain that it can focus on one specific country, on comparing several places, or on comparing issues and processes in one or more places through time.

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It?

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. Compare and contrast empirical and normative theories. Which theory is more prevalent in comparative politics? Illustrate your answers with specific examples.

Ans: Students should include that normative theory seeks to explain what ought to occur rather than what does occur. An example could be that socialists support a normative theory that the government and economy ought to be structured in a way that produces a relatively equal distribution of wealth. And although comparativists certainly hold various normative theories, most of the discipline of comparative politics focuses on empirical theory. Scholars attempt to explain the broader political world and do this by looking across multiple cases to come up with generalizations about politics.

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Why Study Comparative Politics?

Difficulty Level: Hard

3. Describe the three dimensions of power.

Ans: First dimension of power: the ability of one person or group to get another person or group to do something it otherwise would not do. Second dimension of power: the ability not only to make people do something but to keep them from doing something. Third dimension of power: the ability to shape or determine individual or group political demands by causing people to think about political issues in ways that are contrary to their own interests.

Learning Objective: 1.2: Articulate in detail the three key questions in comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Comparative Politics: What Is It? Why Study It? How to Study It?

Difficulty Level: Hard

4. Compare and contrast the various research methods used in comparative politics.

Ans: The answer should explain the differences between single case studies, the comparative method, and qualitative statistical techniques. Students should highlight the advantages and limitations of each method.

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: How Do Comparativists Study Politics?

Difficulty Level: Hard

5. What are the main differences between pluralist and elitist theories? Illustrate your answers with specific examples.

Ans: Students should discuss the dispersion of power typical of pluralism and the concentration of power typical of elite theories. The answer should also contain examples of pluralist societies, in contrast with Marxism, neocolonialism, and patriarchy.

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Who Rules?

Difficulty Level: Hard

6. Compare and contrast the postmaterialist and postmodernist approaches.

Ans: Ronald Inglehart (1971) coined the term postmaterialist in the 1970s to describe what he saw as a new predominant element in political culture in wealthy democracies. He argued that as a result of the post–World War II economic expansion, by the 1960s and 1970s most citizens in wealthy societies were less concerned about economic (materialist) issues and more concerned about “quality of life” issues. The postmaterialist thesis shows how political culture can change over time as a result of other changes in society. These theorists continued to argue that it was useful to think about societies as having identifiable political cultures that explain much political behavior. The postmodernist approach, on the other hand, pushes the criticism of modernism further, questioning the assumption that one clear set of values can be identified that has a clear meaning to all members of a society. Postmodernists, influenced primarily by French philosophers such as Michel Foucault, see cultures not as sets of fixed and clearly defined values but rather as sets of symbols subject to interpretation. When examining political culture, postmodernists focus primarily on political discourse, meaning the ways in which a society speaks and writes about politics.

Learning Objective: 1.1: Explain the theories and methods of comparative politics.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Beliefs

Difficulty Level: Hard