**Chapter 2: Power and the Distribution of Influence**

**Multiple-Choice Questions**

1. Which of the following would NOT be an example of holding “power”?

@ See pages 26 and 27.

a. A president’s ability to select his or her cabinet members

b. A party leader’s ability to influence members’ voting behavior

c. A newspaper editorial board publishes a critical endorsement

d. A neighboring country brings its policies in line with your own

e. All of the above constitute power

2. How far an individual’s power extends is typically referred to as their \_\_\_ .

@ See page 28.

a. coercion limit

b. threshold of influence

c. scope of authority

d. field of persuasion

e. border of control

3. Which of the following is NOT an example of political influence?

@ See pages 29 to 32.

a. The ability of a governor to veto legislation

b. The oratorical skills of a charismatic politician

c. The private and personally held beliefs of an individual

d. The subject-matter expertise possessed by a skilled lobbyist

e. The right to vote in an election held by democratic citizens

4. Patron-client relations are a special kind of exchange relationship, characterized by an extreme imbalance of \_\_\_ between actors.

@ See page 32.

a. money

b. power

c. admiration

d. abilities

e. backgrounds

5. Which of the following options correctly pairs explanations for policymaking that are the most closely related?

@ See page 37.

a. majority preference – personal leadership

b. personal leadership – pluralist

c. pluralist – elite

d. majority preference – elite

e. elite – personal leadership

6. A political science “model” is most closely related to which of the following steps of the scientific method?

@ See page 37.

a. Research question

b. Theory

c. Data

d. Analysis

e. Conclusion

7. Which of the following is a valid criticism of the majority preference model?

@ See page 38.

a. Elite policymakers are responsible to the popular will

b. Democracies limit the opportunity for competing opinions

c. Voters oftentimes rally around a policy direction and not a specific policy

d. Influential politicians can shape public opinion

e. Voters tend not to organize into similar preference groups

8. One consequence of the pluralist model of policymaking is that

@ See pages 43 and 44.

a. a majority opinion may be ignored

b. a charismatic leader may steer a population in a different direction

c. a strong leader may ignore the will of voters

d. an entrenched class system may prevent compromise

e. a policy outcome may become “watered down” from too much compromise

9. The minimal multi-party Canadian political system is most characteristic of the \_\_\_ model.

@ See pages 45 and 46.

a. majority preference

b. elite

c. personal leadership

d. pluralist

e. class-based

10. The Chinese model of leadership, in which politicians assume power from within the party structures and are not directly responsible to voters is similar to the \_\_\_ .

@ See pages 46 and 47.

a. majority preference

b. elite model

c. personal leadership model

d. pluralist model

e. class-based model

**True/False Questions**

11. The exercise of power can range from direct coercion to simple persuasion.

@ See page 26.

a. True

b. False

12. Both the ability to control the use of privileged information, as well as the possession of information itself, constitute a source of influence.

@ See page 30.

a. True

b. False

13. Influence is strongest when it operated independently of other causal variables.

@ See page 32.

a. True

b. False

14. Schumpeter’s work suggested that, although governing may be controlled primarily through a policymaking elite, voters still have the opportunity to hold elites to account at election time.

a. True

b. False

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15. The importance of regional cultures and identities has helped to consolidate the Canadian political system into a two-party system.

@ See page 45.

a. True

b. False

**Essay Questions**

Type: E

16. Where does authority come from? How is a scope of authority set?

Type: E

17. Describe three areas of your life that you have influence over. Where does this influence come from? How does it relate to the standard types of influence seen in the political system?

Type: E

18. Why are models useful to political scientists? How are they developed and how might they be “tested”?

Type: E

19. Which model of public policymaking do you feel most accurately explains the way that policies are developed in your country? How do other models combine or inform this view?

Type: E

20. Can the elite model of policymaking exist in a democracy? What would Schumpeter say about the Chinese model of leadership?

Answers:

1. e

2. c

3. c

4. b

5. e

6. b

7. c

8. e

9. d

10. b

11. True

12. True

13. False

14. True

15. False