**Chapter 3: Political Science**

**Multiple-Choice Questions**

1. For which of the following reasons do we refer to political science as a “science”?

@ See pages 51 and 52.

a. We can study the political process by examining cause and effect.

b. We can use our personal morals and beliefs to project our values on politics.

c. We oftentimes need special laboratory equipment to conduct political analysis.

d. We want to make our study appear more rigorous than it actually is.

e. We incorporate teachings from philosophy to discern what is ethical in politics.

2. The idea that politics may be studied as the result of compromise and cooperation between rival interest groups is central to this watershed political science theory.

@ See page 52.

a. Institutional Monism

b. Philosophical Neologism

c. Psychological Dualism

d. Societal Syllogism

e. Behavioral Pluralism

3. Which of the following indicators would be needed to support the operationalization of the concept “democracy”?

@ See pages 53 and 54.

a. Free and fair elections are held at regular intervals between multiple parties

b. Political leaders peacefully transfer power following electoral loss

c. A free market economy promotes capitalism and private enterprise

d. Human rights and individual freedoms are respected by the regime

e. Each of these is necessary to fully operationalize “democracy”

4. When a variable affects both another variable, as well as our variable of interest, it is called a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_ variable.

@ See page 57.

a. independent

b. spurious

c. instrumental

d. intervening

e. causal

5. This type of political analysis relies upon drawing similarities and differences between multiple cases or instances of a certain phenomenon.

@ See page 71.

a. Empirical analysis

b. Normative analysis

c. Formal analysis

d. Comparative analysis

e. Statistical analysis

6. This type of theory seeks to explain the relationship between causal factors for a broader context than just one specific instance.

@ See page 62.

a. Grand Theory

b. Normative Theory

c. Relational Theory

d. Policy Theory

e. Conjectural Theory

7. This type of analysis stresses self-interested calculation as the key motivator, by explaining how individuals select an outcome that maximizes their personal benefit.

@ See page 63.

a. Institutionalist analysis

b. Political culture analysis

c. Modernization analysis

d. Rational choice analysis

e. Formal analysis

8. Normative theories can expand upon empirical ones by showing not only “What is?,” but also

@ See pages 63 and 64.

a. “What was?”

b. “What will be?”

c. “What could be?”

d. “What might be”

e. “What ought to be?”

9. When policymakers try to define an issue from their perspective and package it in a way that their supporters will understand, they are said to be \_\_\_\_ the issue.

@ See page 68.

a. negotiating

b. creating

c. framing

d. changing

e. blocking

10. Which of the following does NOT explain why France ultimately decided against aiding the American invasion of Iraq in 2003?

@ See pages 72 and 73.

a. President Chirac has broad institutional powers and influence within government

b. President Chirac was a centrally important figure in his political party

c. The French public was reticent to join the invasion

d. An upcoming presidential election made the invasion a hot-button issue

e. Previous French military exploits had been unsuccessful and humiliating

**True/False Questions**

11. The study of political phenomena is a new development in the 20th century.

@ See page 52.

a. True

b. False

12. Rigorous political science analysis can be conducted using both quantitative numbers, as well as qualitative descriptions.

@ See page 53.

a. True

b. False

13. Publicly held norms and values can never truly have a causal effect on the development of political policy.

@ See page 59.

a. True

b. False

14. Political scientists must commit to a singular school of thought if they are going to conduct successful research.

@ See page 63.

a. True

b. False

15. The French public and its officials were highly suspicious of the motives of the United States and its decision to invade Iraq.

@ See page 73.

a. True

b. False

**Essay Questions**

Type: E

16. Explain the historical process by which political science research emerged. How did this new approach differ from the classical debates used by ancient Greeks?

Type: E

17. Discuss the major complexities of studying cause and effect in political science. Can we ever be fully confident that we are explaining causality in our relationships of interest?

Type: E

18. What sorts of characteristics make an empirical theory more useful or desirable?

Type: E

19. In what ways can empirical and normative theories be used to complement one another? In what ways might they actually conflict with one another?

Type: E

20. Discuss which factors were likely the most important to Zambia’s political transformation, in the years since its political independence.

Answers:

1. a

2. e

3. e

4. d

5. d

6. a

7. d

8. e

9. c

10. d

11. False

12. True

13. False

14. False

15. True