

Quiz # 7 – Chapter 15 The Federal Bureaucracy

1. The definition of *bureaucracy* includes all of the following notions *except*
 - a. a large organization.
 - b. authority divided among several managers.
 - c. complexity of structure.
 - d. appointed officials.
 - e. an issue network.

2. In the early days of the federal government, the only department that had much power was the
 - a. Department of the Interior.
 - b. War Department.
 - c. Post Office Department.
 - d. State Department.
 - e. Treasury Department.

3. During most of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, appointments to the civil service were based primarily on
 - a. merit.
 - b. education.
 - c. patronage.
 - d. wealth.
 - e. experience in government.

4. The great watershed in the expansion of government bureaucracy in the United States occurred during the
 - a. Jacksonian period.
 - b. Kennedy administration.
 - c. Spanish-American War.
 - d. Franklin Roosevelt administration.
 - e. Civil War.

5. A constitutional limitation on the federal bureaucracy's ability to regulate the economy is that
 - a. only the president has the constitutional authority to regulate commerce.
 - b. only Congress has the constitutional authority to regulate commerce.
 - c. only the Supreme Court has the constitutional authority to regulate commerce.
 - d. commerce cannot be regulated by the federal government.
 - e. None of the above.

6. Periodically, the size of the bureaucracy has grown substantially. These times of growth have generally occurred during
 - a. depression.
 - b. wars.
 - c. periods of prosperity
 - d. recessions
 - e. election years

7. A dramatic increase in activism by the federal bureaucracy occurred in the twentieth century, largely as a consequence of
 - a. the growth of patronage and the rise of political parties.
 - b. the Sixteenth Amendment and the Social Security Act.
 - c. a desire for limited government and an end to earlier regulatory practices.
 - d. the Great Depression of the 1930's and World War II.
 - e. the rise of special interest groups and unions.

8. An important effect of World War II on the federal government was to
- bring an end to laissez-faire government.
 - greatly increase government revenues from taxation.
 - strip various regulatory agencies of their policy-making functions.
 - introduce the concept of pay-as-you-go government.
 - streamline decision making but restrict the scope of the government's activity.
9. From 1913 to 1940, the average American paid approximately _____ in income taxes each year.
- \$7
 - \$850
 - 3,000
 - \$14,000
 - \$25,000
10. The broad factors that best explain the behavior of bureaucratic officials include all of the following *except*
- how they are recruited.
 - their personal attributes.
 - the influence of outside forces on them.
 - their party preferences.
 - how they are rewarded.
11. The merit system began with the
- Sixteenth Amendment.
 - Seventeenth Amendment.
 - civil rights cases of 1873.
 - New Deal of the 1930s.
 - Pendleton Act of 1883.
12. Which of the following statements about the firing of a bureaucrat is *incorrect*?
- The employee must be given a written notice, at least 30 days in advance.
 - The written notice must contain a statement of reasons, including specific examples of unacceptable performance.
 - The employee has the right to reply to the charges and can appeal any adverse action to the Merit Systems Protection Board.
 - The employee can appeal the decision of the Merit Systems Protection Board to the U.S. court of appeals.
 - None of the above.
13. Which of the following statements about the firing of federal employees is *true*?
- Only bureaucrats who were blanketed in can be fired.
 - Only employees in the competitive service can be fired.
 - Only employees in the excepted service can be fired.
 - Most bureaucrats cannot be fired.
 - Most bureaucrats can be fired quite easily.
14. If one examines the education, sex, race, and social origins of the federal civil service as a whole,
- it is clear that females are overrepresented.
 - it is clear that there are more minorities than whites.
 - it is clear that no attempt has been made to make it look anything like a cross section of American society.
 - it looks very much like a cross section of American society.
 - it is clear that wealth is prerequisite for employment.

15. When a person is selected by the president to head an agency and to shift its policies in the direction of the president's, the appointee generally finds that

- a. agency personnel change direction quickly.
- b. career subordinates have very little influence on policy.
- c. an agency is immune to presidential politics.
- d. subordinates wield considerable power.
- e. there is little to prevent him/her from accomplishing the goal.

16. Relative to their share of the population, Republicans tend to be overrepresented in the

- a. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- b. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
- c. Conservative Counseling Corps.
- d. Department of Defense.
- e. a and b

17. If bureaucrats regularly sabotage the actions of political bosses with whom they disagree, one would expect Republicans to be hurt more than Democrats. Why?

- a. Because Republican programs are more vulnerable to sabotage.
- b. Because bureaucrats tend to be liberal.
- c. Because more government money is spent on Republican programs.
- d. Because the federal bureaucracy, at the moment, is overwhelmingly conservative.
- e. Because Republicans rarely take an interest in the complexities of the federal bureaucracy.

18. Which law established the Office of Special Counsel?

- a. The Taft-Hartley Act
- b. The Civil Service Act
- c. The Administrative Procedure Act
- d. The Investigative Protections Act
- e. The Whistle-blower Protection Act

19. The Whistle-blower Protection Act of 1989 is designed to protect

- a. agencies that are being undermined by their employees.
- b. agencies that are being undermined by Congress.
- c. agency heads who fire employees for misconduct.
- d. bureaucrats who tell on their bosses.
- e. bureaucrats who are not career employees.

20. The "culture" of an agency is shaped by

- a. laws
- b. rules
- c. routines
- d. informal understandings among fellow employees
- e. All of the above

21. One of the major constraints under which government agencies operate is the

- a. obligation of leadership to frequently restructure.
- b. power of issue networks to determine agency policy.
- c. absence of competing forces in the public sector.
- d. presence of a great many highly structured roles.
- e. large number of regulations they must adhere to.

22. The *Freedom of Information Act* and the *Administrative Procedure Act* are examples of
- government-wide constraints on bureaucracy.
 - early, unconstitutional attempts to restrain bureaucrats.
 - laws that apply only to Congress.
 - regulations that limit executive powers principally.
 - laws that apply only to Congressional staff.
23. Probably the most effective means an agency has of remaining powerful is
- cultivating public opinion.
 - attaining a monopoly on technical expertise in a particular policy area.
 - pleasing Congressional staff.
 - doing its job well.
 - entering alliances with influential interest groups.
24. The relationship among an agency, a committee, and an interest group was described in the past as
- red tape.
 - an issue network.
 - an iron triangle.
 - laissez-faire*.
 - a flexible triumvirate.
25. Why are iron triangles less common today than they once were?
- Because agencies today are pressured by so many interest groups.
 - Because iron triangles are no longer allowed by many agencies.
 - Because congressional leadership is so much stronger today.
 - Because the courts have stepped in to limit the intervention of interest groups in agency affairs.
 - Because special interests have aligned themselves with congressional leaders.
26. Which of the following statements about issue networks is *correct*?
- They tend to be highly academic and nonpartisan.
 - They tend to hold views that are in opposition to the party in power.
 - They are groups that regularly debate government policy on specific issues.
 - They are composed mostly of federal bureaucrats of the same party as the current president.
 - They are usually composed of party leaders and corporate heads.
27. The text concludes that when bureaucrats operate at cross-purposes, it is usually because
- Congress wants it that way.
 - the White House wants it that way.
 - the bureaucracy has grown too complex.
 - the bureaucracy has not yet matured.
 - court rulings have made this conflict inevitable.
28. When a citizen is required by an agency to use one accounting system rather than another, or to file forms before receiving any benefits, such requirements are called
- duplication of functions.
 - red tape.
 - mandatory incursions.
 - arbitrary statutes.
 - black listing.

29. Among the “pathologies” commonly attributed to bureaucracies are all of the following *except*

- a. conflict.
- b. synergism.
- c. duplication.
- d. imperialism.
- e. waste.

30. One bureaucratic “pathology” described by the text is imperialism, meaning the tendency of agencies to

- a. work at cross-purposes with one another.
- b. spend more than is necessary to buy some product or service.
- c. grow, irrespective of the benefits and costs of their programs.
- d. generate complex and sometimes conflicting rules.
- e. complicate matters which are better left to common sense solutions.

31. Which of the following statements about the attitude of most Americans toward government bureaucrats and bureaucracies is true?

- a. They tend to be satisfied with bureaucrats if they have actually had contact with public official.
- b. They find individual bureaucrats rigid, hostile, and unhelpful.
- c. They believe that bureaucracy on the whole should be supported.
- d. They have had mostly negative experiences with bureaucrats.
- e. They believe bureaucrats are generally informed, but incompetent and incapable of solving problems.