COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Section I

Time—45 minutes

55 Questions

Directions: Each of the questions or incomplete statements below is followed by five suggested answers or completions. Select the one that is best in each case and then fill in the corresponding oval on the answer sheet.

1. In most democratic political systems, interest groups differ from political parties in which of the following ways?
   (A) Political parties provide selective incentives for their members, while interest groups do not.
   (B) Political parties are hierarchically organized, while interest groups are not.
   (C) Political parties articulate clear and precise ideologies, while interest groups do not.
   (D) Political parties nominate and run candidates for elective office, while interest groups do not.
   (E) Interest groups require dues for membership, while political parties do not.

2. One similarity between the Prime Minister of Russia and the Prime Minister of Great Britain is that both
   (A) must be directly elected by a majority of the country’s citizens
   (B) must be the head of the majority party in the lower house of the legislature
   (C) have the ability to dissolve their legislatures
   (D) hold veto power over decisions made by the head of state
   (E) may be removed as a result of votes of no confidence in the lower house of the legislature

3. Civil societies require which of the following?
   (A) The existence of a written constitution
   (B) Elections on a set cycle
   (C) Voluntary associations
   (D) Civilian control of the military
   (E) Agrarian reform

4. Which of the following were consequences of ending the centrally planned economy in Russia after 1991?
   I. Increased unemployment
   II. Decentralized production decisions
   III. An increase in the number of individually owned enterprises
   IV. A decrease in corruption
   (A) I and III only
   (B) II and IV only
   (C) I, II, and III only
   (D) II, III, and IV only
   (E) I, II, III, and IV

5. The most common strategy adopted by developing countries to deal with the problem of population growth is
   (A) establishing policies that seek to reduce fertility rates
   (B) closing their borders
   (C) encouraging students studying abroad not to return home
   (D) reducing the size of their urban areas
   (E) redistributing economic resources to produce equality

6. Which of the following is the best indicator that a political regime is legitimate?
   (A) Citizens follow laws because they believe in the government’s right to rule.
   (B) Citizens agree with the specific policy choices of the government.
   (C) Citizens do not challenge government actions, out of fear of imprisonment.
   (D) Citizens are allowed to participate in violent protests and are never imprisoned.
   (E) Citizens engage in political participation.
30. The process by which basic political attitudes and beliefs are developed is known as
(A) social engineering
(B) political socialization
(C) party identification
(D) constitutional formation
(E) ideological identification

31. The concept of nation is best defined as a
(A) country that is a member of the United Nations
(B) country with a colonial history
(C) country with heterogeneous racial communities
(D) community with an organized system of governance
(E) population with common historical, ethnic, linguistic, and/or religious bonds

32. Which of the following best describes the European Union's (EU) democratic deficit?
(A) The lack of its accountability to the average citizen in member states
(B) The lack of power of developing countries that have recently joined
(C) Great Britain's wielding of extensive economic power since its decision to join the European Monetary Union
(D) The plurality election procedure for the European Commission
(E) The small number of former communist countries now members of the EU

33. In which of the following types of systems is economic policy necessarily negotiated among government, labor, and industry?
(A) Oligarchic
(B) Majoritarian
(C) Corporatist
(D) Communist
(E) Democratic socialist

34. In which of the following pairs of countries do both governments have a federal structure?
(A) Nigeria and China
(B) Nigeria and Mexico
(C) Russia and Iran
(D) Mexico and China
(E) Great Britain and Mexico

35. Which of the following are the two most powerful policy-making institutions in Iran?
(A) The President and the Assembly of Religious Experts
(B) The President and the Guardian Council
(C) The Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majles) and the Prime Minister
(D) The Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majles) and the Guardian Council
(E) The Expediency Council and the Assembly of Religious Experts

36. Which of the following is a key component of economic liberalization in former command economies?
(A) Prohibiting foreign direct investment
(B) Severing ties with the World Bank
(C) Nationalizing privately owned firms
(D) Eliminating price controls
(E) Instituting tariffs

37. Which of the following types of regimes has had the greatest increase in number worldwide since 1970?
(A) Military junta
(B) Authoritarian
(C) Communist
(D) Democratic
(E) Theocratic

38. All of the following are accurate comparisons of Mexico and China in the latter half of the twentieth century EXCEPT:
(A) Both suppressed student protests.
(B) Both were oil producers.
(C) Both had weak legislative assemblies relative to the executive.
(D) Both had a President.
(E) Both outlawed all opposition parties from competing in elections.