

**PLS 206**  
**Study Guide**  
**Spring 2007**

1. Which of the following is **not** an expectation of schools today?
  - A. .Resolve racial conflict and build an integrated society
  - B. .Improve the self-image and minority children
  - C. .Inspire patriotism and good citizenship
  - D. Teach children the values of humanity
  
2. Professional educators argue the validity of using SAT scores to measure state educational performance because?
  - A. only college-bound students usually take the test
  - B. the test discriminates against minorities
  - C. testing times and locations are usually inconvenient
  - D. subject matter of the test is antiquated
  
3. More than the school, student success is more closely related to characteristics of the:
  - A. extra-curricular activities available to students
  - B. community
  - C. home environment
  - D. faculty body
  
3. Professional education groups have opposed teacher competency tests on the grounds that standardized tests:
  - A. are all racially biased
  - B. question a teacher's professionalism
  - C. cannot really measure competency in the classroom
  - D. are a threat to one's job
  
3. A key word in the movement to restructure public education is:
  - A. benefit
  - B. access
  - C. choice
  - D. discipline
  
3. High schools that specialize in a specific area, often to attract white students to the inner-city and reduce racial isolation, are called:
  - A. "balanced schools"
  - B. "magnet schools"
  - C. "specialty schools"
  - D. "adopted schools"
  
3. A type of reform that has been advanced in a limited number of states is community education groups signing a charter with their school district or state education department to establish their own school, called a(n):
  - A. educational voucher plan
  - B. charter school
  - C. district school
  - D. privatized public school
  
4. A more radical version of the charter school is the school where a private profit-making corporation contracts with the school district to provide schooling for its pupils, thus replacing the public schools, referred to as a(n)
  - A. educational voucher plan
  - B. charter school
  - C. district school
  - D. privatized public school
  - E.

5. A controversial version of parental choice that would be given to parents to spend at any school they choose, public or private is the:
  - A. educational voucher plan
  - B. charter school
  - C. district school
  - D. privatized public school
  
6. In the Federal Impacted Areas Aid Program, begun in 1950, federal aid was authorized in areas where federal activities:
  - A. create a substantial increase in school enrollments
  - B. bring attention to economic investors and bring new industry into poverty areas
  - C. are not allowed because of local government controls
  - D. provide the only benefits for lower-income families
  
7. Everything from teacher certification to textbook selections is generally decided by:
  - A. the governor's office
  - B. the state's Department of Educational Opportunity
  - C. state boards of education
  - D. state educational accountability boards
  
8. Which of the following is **not** a responsibility of state educational bureaucracy?
  - A. Hire and fire teachers for local schools
  - B. Disbursal of state funds to local schools
  - C. Preparation of statewide curricula
  - D. establishment and enforcement of school building codes
  
9. A central issue in the struggle over public education is the:
  - A. distribution of educational benefits and costs equitably
  - B. the results of standardized test scores
  - C. the dropout rates
  - D. recruitment of new teachers
  
10. Democratic theory assumes that schools are public institutions the should be governed by the local citizenry through:
  - A. public hearings
  - B. their elected representatives
  - C. the municipal government
  - D. the school principals
  
11. No other nation sends so large a proportion of its young people to college, which defines higher education in America as:
  - A. elitist education
  - B. cultural education
  - C. mass education
  - D. national education
  
12. Most of the debate over religion in the public schools centers on the First Amendments provision of:
  - A. No Establishment Clause
  - B. Free Exercise Clause
  - C. Freedom to Assemble Clause
  - D. Freedom of Religion Clause

13. The framework for social welfare policy in the United States was established by Congress in the:
  - A. “Separate but Equal” legislative acts in 1896
  - B. Great Depression legislative acts in 1935
  - C. Personal Responsibility and Work Act in 1966
  - D. Great Society Civil Rights Acts of 1965
  
14. The exclusive responsibility for Social Security and Medicare for the aged, and for Supplemental Security Income for the blind and disabled, is handled by:
  - A. religious charities
  - B. state welfare agencies
  - C. the federal government
  - D. municipal charity commissions
  
15. Which of the following is not an argument for the “devolution” of welfare policy?
  - C. Decentralization will improve efficiency
  - D. Decentralization will reduce bureaucracy
  - E. Decentralization will discourage innovation and experimentation
  - F. Decentralization will reduce political conflict throughout the nation
  
16. The costliest of all public assistance programs is:
  - C. Medicare
  - D. Medicaid
  - E. preferred provider organizations
  - F. health maintenance organizations
  
17. The expenditure side of a government’s budget tells us:
  - C. how heavily in debt the government is.
  - D. which agencies probably should be reorganized
  - E. what public funds are being spent for
  - F. which funds come from the federal government
  
18. The revenue side of a government’s budget tells us:
  - C. how wealthy a community is
  - D. how these funds are being raised
  - E. how much debt to anticipate
  - F. where the government’s money is going
  
19. The largest source of revenue, accounting for nearly 60 percent of all state and local revenue, is:
  - C. bonds
  - D. taxes
  - E. trade
  - F. debt repayment
  
20. Taxes that take a larger share of the income of low-income groups are said to be:
  - C. unfair
  - D. progressive
  - E. regressive
  - F. proportional

21. Which of the categories of property are usually not exempt from taxation?
- C. Property used for profit making enterprises
  - D. Property used for religious endeavors
  - E. Property used in educational activities
  - F. Property used for public purposes
22. While the property tax is the most important source of revenue for local communities, the most important source of tax revenue for state governments is the:
- C. gas taxes
  - D. tobacco taxes
  - E. general sales tax
  - F. lottery revenue
23. Income taxes with rates that rise with increases in income are known as:
- C. regressive income taxes
  - D. progressive income taxes
  - E. proportional income taxes
  - F. personal income taxes
24. By specifying that state taxes will be a specific percentage of federal taxes, a handful of states tie their state personal income tax to the:
- C. state sales tax
  - D. federal income tax
  - E. state's corporate income tax
  - F. state's property tax
25. The greatest barrier to higher state corporate taxes is the possibility that such taxes will:
- C. be charged back in the form of higher consumer prices
  - D. cause corporations to locate in another state
  - E. discourage future economic growth
  - F. tempt corporations to cutback hiring practices
26. The political culture of the nation has always reflected a(n):
- C. opposition to "taxation without representation."
  - D. distrust of government power
  - E. sense of civic responsibility
  - F. spirit of creative ingenuity
27. Which of the following is not a condition of fiscal stress?
- C. when cities have a developing tax base
  - D. when cities have large municipal payrolls
  - E. When cities have large socially dependent populations
  - F. When cities have heavy tax burdens
28. The single most important policy statement of any government is the:
- A. crime rate
  - B. infrastructure
  - C. budget
  - D. health care

28. In most of the states there is a great deal of constitutional and statutory “earmarking” of revenues which makes the budget:
- C. a road map to an acceptable budget
  - D. a checkerboard of requests and denials
  - E. quite fragmented
  - F. extremely detailed
29. Those bonds issued by state and local governments that are backed by “the full faith and credit” of the government that issues them are known as:
- C. general obligation bonds
  - D. revenue bonds
  - E. industrial development bonds
  - F. municipal bonds