

AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

2nd Exam Review Questions, Chapters 6-10

DIRECTIONS

- *Two* of these four review questions will appear on your exam. **Your essay may address *either one*.**
- To receive full credit, your exam essay should be written in well-organized paragraphs, composed of complete sentences, and expressed in standard English.
 - **BEGIN YOUR ESSAY WITH AN INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH (SIMPLY REWRITE THE ESSAY QUESTION IN YOUR OWN WORDS). THIS PARAGRAPH SHOULD LIST ALL THE MAJOR POINTS THAT YOUR ESSAY WILL ADDRESS.**
 - **CONTINUE WITH A BODY OF PARAGRAPHS (ANSWERING EACH OF THE MAJOR POINTS RAISED IN THE ESSAY QUESTION).**
 - **END WITH A CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH (SUMMARIZING THE MAJOR POINTS COVERED). THIS PARAGRAPH SHOULD LIST ALL THE MAJOR POINTS THAT YOUR ESSAY ADDRESSED.**
- You may *not* use any notes or dictionaries to assist you in your essay writing. However, I *will* be happy to answer during the exam any questions you may have about spelling, punctuation, grammar, and syntax.
- You will *not* need to bring a "blue book" -- a test booklet will be provided.

STUDY HINTS

- **INSTEAD OF TRYING TO MEMORIZE A COMPLETE ESSAY FOR ANY OF THE four TOPICS, MEMORIZE AN OUTLINE.** Locate the section of the chapter outline that addresses each of the four topics and construct an outline for each. Review your textbook readings and class notes to expand the detail in each essay's outline.
- Make sure that each outline addresses each point raised in its respective essay question. Each of the four essay questions raises four to six major points.
- The first thing to do during the exam is to choose one of the two essay topics. The second thing to do is to write down as complete an outline as possible -- making sure that it addresses every major point raised. **IT IS A BIG MISTAKE TO BEGIN TO WRITE YOUR ESSAY WITHOUT FIRST WRITING A GOOD OUTLINE.**

GRADING

- The essay portion of the exam is worth a total of 50 points. A maximum of 40 points will be awarded for *content*. **IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS EVERY POINT RAISED IN THE ESSAY TOPIC YOU SELECT THAN IT IS TO COVER FEWER POINTS IN GREATER DETAIL.**
- A maximum of 10 points will be awarded for *presentation*. **MAKE SURE TO BUDGET ADEQUATE TIME TO THOROUGHLY PROOF READ YOUR ESSAY BEFORE TURNING IT IN.** Significant points will be subtracted for obvious errors such as subject-verb disagreement, confusion of plurals and possessives, and misspelling of commonly used words. Don't forget to include an introductory paragraph and a concluding paragraph.

ESSAY QUESTIONS

- (Chapter 6)** Discuss *political ideology* by addressing the following points:
 - Begin the body of your essay by defining political ideology. Distinguish political *ideology* from political *culture*. There is more consensus on which of the two in U.S. society? Explain why.
 - Distinguish between liberals, conservatives, libertarians, and populists by discussing (don't just list) which of the four ideological groups:
 - is *most* likely to favor government initiatives to achieve both order and equality? Why? Give at least two examples of each.
 - is *least* likely? Why? Give at least two examples of each.
 - adopts a mixed position, favoring government action to guarantee order but not equality? Why? Give at least two examples of each.
 - adopts a mixed position, favoring government action to guarantee equality but not order? Why? Give at least two examples of each.
- (Chapter 7)** Discuss the *four basic types of political party systems* that have developed in modern representative democracies by addressing the following points:
 - Begin the body of your essay by naming each of the four political party systems, identify which is most and which is least common, and name at least one nation that illustrates each of the four.
 - Identify and explain how the two *electoral* structures determine which two of the four political party systems evolve.
 - Explain (don't just list) the relative advantages of each of these two.
 - Identify and explain how the two *governmental* structures determine which two of the four political party systems evolve.
 - Explain (don't just list) the relative advantages of each of these two.
- (Chapter 8)** Describe the *six historical eras in American political party history* by addressing the following points:
 - Begin the body of your essay by defining partisan realignment.
 - In a separate paragraph for each party era, identify –
 - its starting date,
 - the aligning issue(s) that divided the electorate,
 - the issue positions taken by the major parties,
 - the shift in voter loyalty that caused the realignment,
 - the resulting partisan balance in presidential and congressional elections,
 - and any special features that characterized that party era.
- (Chapter 9)** Discuss *legislative term limits* by addressing the following points:
 - Begin the body of your essay with a review of the historical precedents for imposing terms limits in Congress.
 - Continue your essay with an explanation (not just a listing) of at least four arguments on each side of the term limit debate. (*Do this in two separate paragraphs*)
 - Identify the current partisan differences on term limits and explain their origin.
 - Discuss (don't just list) the two Constitutional provisions that are at the core of the term-limit debate. How did the U.S. Supreme Court rule on this issue?
 - Describe the various definitions of term limits suggested by those who favor imposing them.
- (Chapter 10)** Discuss *presidential succession* by addressing the following points:
 - Begin the body of your essay by discussing (don't just list) the three circumstances in which the Vice President can become President without being elected to that office. Give at least one example of each circumstance.
 - Discuss (don't just list) the three circumstances under which the Vice President can temporarily become an *acting* President. Describe what procedures have to be followed in each of the three circumstances. Give an example of any of these three circumstances that have occurred since the 25th amendment was adopted.
 - Who decides the line of succession beyond the Vice President? How has the line of succession changed over time? What are criticisms of each approach?