

Unit 1
Politics and Government

Additional Provincial Exam Practice Questions

Directions: Select the best answer for each of the following questions

Chapter 1: The Political Spectrum

1. Which political ideology exhibits extreme right-wing authoritarian beliefs leading to state control over much of daily life?
 - A. socialism
 - B. liberalism
 - C. conservatism
 - D. fascism

2. Which political ideology is left wing and features public ownership of production and distribution?
 - A. socialism
 - B. liberalism
 - C. conservatism
 - D. fascism

3. Which is a characteristic of a representative democracy?
 - A. Citizens do not elect representatives, but they do express views.
 - B. All decisions are made through referendum by representatives.
 - C. Elected representatives embrace only liberalism or socialism.
 - D. Citizens vote for government representatives.

4. Which is the best indication that Canada is a democracy?
- A. participation in provincial and federal decisions through elected representatives
 - B. freedom to criticize government and protest without imprisonment
 - C. ability to own property and enjoy civil liberties
 - D. exchange of taxes for social services
5. What is the political spectrum?
- A. the range of ideologies from left to right
 - B. the variety of national political parties
 - C. the array of candidates in any provincial or federal election
 - D. the assortment of philosophies found in any political party

Use the following information to answer the question below.

When elected, Government X strictly controlled its spending, limited the services it provided, and allowed private business to take over some aspects of the health-care system.

6. Which ideology does this government hold?
- A. conservatism
 - B. liberalism
 - C. socialism
 - D. communism

Use the following information to answer the question below.

Government Y endorses change to improve benefits for all members of society by playing a larger role in daily life. This government intends to establish a variety of social service programs.

7. Where is the ideology of this government on the political spectrum?
- A. right wing
 - B. centre
 - C. left wing
 - D. extreme left or right
8. Which national political party believes in expanding government involvement in society through government-sponsored national social programs?
- A. Bloc Québécois
 - B. Liberal Party
 - C. Conservative Party
 - D. New Democratic Party

Use the following information to answer the question below.

- social justice***
 - sustainability***
 - personal and global responsibility***
 - ecological wisdom***
9. Which B.C. party includes these points in its political platform?
- A. NDP
 - B. Liberal
 - C. Green
 - D. Conservative

10. The Reform Party changed to the Canadian Alliance Party. In 2003, the Canadian Alliance Party and the Progressive Conservative Party amalgamated. This is part of which federal party's history?
- A. Progressive Reform Party of Canada
 - B. Reform Alliance Party of Canada
 - C. Progressive Alliance Party of Canada
 - D. Conservative Party of Canada

Use the following information to answer the question below.

- 1. NDP - Liberal - Conservative
- 2. Liberal - Conservative - NDP
- 3. Conservative - NDP - Liberal
- 4. NDP - Conservative - Liberal

11. Which of the above correctly places these current federal parties on the political spectrum?
- A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4
12. Which current B.C. political party's economic platform resembles the federal Conservative Party's monetary views?
- A. B.C. New Democratic Party
 - B. B.C. Green Party
 - C. B.C. Liberal Party
 - D. B.C. Conservative Party

Chapter 2: Effecting Political Change

13. At the federal level, whose signature is required for royal assent?
- A. the prime minister's
 - B. the Queen's
 - C. the minister of justice's
 - D. the Governor General's
14. Which reading of a bill is a formality that allows opposition parties to review and prepare questions?
- A. first reading
 - B. second reading
 - C. third reading
 - D. royal assent
15. What usually happens after the second reading of a bill?
- A. A free vote is held in the House of Commons.
 - B. A committee closely examines the bill.
 - C. The Senate is invited to comment.
 - D. Revisions are made by the House of Commons.
16. What is the difference between a bill becoming law federally and provincially?
- A. The federal process requires fewer readings.
 - B. The federal process addresses national review concerns.
 - C. The provincial process does not include the Senate.
 - D. The provincial process uses a two-reading system.
17. Gay marriage laws are discussed in caucus. A vote is about to be taken. The MPs are allowed to vote according to their own conscience and not follow party discipline. What is this called?
- A. waiver of party discipline
 - B. order of caucus
 - C. private member's bill
 - D. free vote

18. Sam joins a peaceful demonstration. Lucy engages in civil disobedience. What are Sam and Lucy participating in?
- A. exhibitionism
 - B. publicity
 - C. protest
 - D. campaign

Use the following information to answer the question below.

1	when a letter-writing campaign has failed to make a difference in government policy
2	when a professional group wishes to alert the government to problems in a new piece of legislation
3	when there is a desire to indicate that many people support a certain change and want quick action
4	when a pressure group wishes to sample the general public's views

19. When is a petition used?
- A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4
20. Which is not an effective way to influence the government?
- A. writing a letter to your MP or a newspaper editor
 - B. creating or signing a petition
 - C. joining public debate
 - D. hiring someone to initiate a media campaign

21. Protesters set up blockades to prevent loggers from entering the forest at Clayoquot Sound in British Columbia. What method did they use to oppose a provincial government law?
- A. civil disobedience
 - B. joining a pressure group
 - C. initiating a court case
 - D. encouraging public debate
22. What allows any person to attempt to influence the government?
- A. Individuals within a democracy have opinions.
 - B. Citizens act as group members in a political system.
 - C. Individuals can use democratic processes to complain.
 - D. Citizens can actively participate in a democracy.

Chapter 3: Forming Governments

23. What do all members of a political party share?
- A. an ideology
 - B. agreement on all issues
 - C. equality in donation amounts
 - D. contribution to unanimous decisions
24. What is another term for "constituency"?
- A. proportional representation
 - B. first past the post
 - C. riding
 - D. ideology
25. What happens in an election campaign?
- A. Candidates try to win support and the promise of votes.
 - B. Candidates try to persuade people to become party members.
 - C. Citizens choose political parties eligible for consideration.
 - D. Citizens use the democratic process to reject the federal government.
26. Jane walks into a polling station; a polling officer crosses her name off a list; she is given a ballot; she goes behind a screen and makes a mark on the ballot; under scrutiny, she puts the ballot into a large box. What is Jane doing?
- A. sanctioning law
 - B. billing
 - C. passing resolutions
 - D. voting
27. Jack is not a member of a political party, but he is running in an election. What is Jack doing?
- A. volunteering
 - B. running as an independent candidate
 - C. being an active citizen
 - D. being a democratic supporter

28. What type of government does a political party form when it wins more seats than any other particular party but less than half the total number of seats?
- A. minority government
 - B. fragile government
 - C. majority government
 - D. democratic government
29. Which term characterizes minority governments?
- A. short-lived
 - B. forceful
 - C. task-oriented
 - D. inflexible
30. What does party solidarity allow a majority government to do?
- A. establish party accountability
 - B. create agreement on party platform
 - C. pass bills with little opposition
 - D. operate with transparency
31. Which is not an advantage of a minority government?
- A. Parties are likely to work together.
 - B. Many opinions can be expressed.
 - C. Parties are likely to look for compromise.
 - D. Many bills can be passed quickly.
32. Which is not a characteristic of a minority government?
- A. responsiveness
 - B. accountability
 - C. consistency
 - D. transparency

Chapter 4: The Canadian Constitution

Use the following information to answer the question below.

The Canadian constitution:

1	outlines the rights and responsibilities of all citizens
2	describes government power and amending formulas
3	designates the responsibilities of the federal, provincial, and territorial governments
4	describes statutes and political platforms at the federal level

33. Which statement truly describes the Canadian constitution?
- A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4
34. On what is the unwritten constitution based?
- A. European parliamentary tradition
 - B. Canadian parliamentary tradition
 - C. French parliamentary tradition
 - D. British parliamentary tradition
35. What bill did Prime Minister John Diefenbaker enact in 1960 to formally recognize the rights of Canadians?
- A. Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
 - B. notwithstanding clause
 - C. Canadian Bill of Rights
 - D. rule of law
36. Which document confirmed Canada's independence from Britain?
- A. Statue of Westminster, 1931
 - B. Magna Carta, 1215
 - C. Constitution Act, 1867
 - D. Meech Lake Accord, 1987

Use the following information to answer the question below.

1	Official Languages Act; constitutional conventions; existence of prime minister
2	Charter of Rights and Freedoms; amending formulas; powers of provincial legislature
3	Governor General required to give assent to bills; existence of cabinet
4	prime minister required to call an election upon losing a no-confidence vote

37. What does Canada's written constitution include?
- A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4
38. How did Quebecers feel during the process of creating clauses in the constitution?
- A. united with other Canadian citizens
 - B. betrayed and isolated
 - C. wary but optimistic about Quebec's future in Canada
 - D. pleased that the Maritime provinces were fully accepted into Canada

Use the following information to answer the question below.

1	an agreement between Ottawa and all the provinces except Quebec to accept the Charter in the constitution if a "notwithstanding clause" was included
2	an agreement between Ottawa and all the provinces to accept the amending formula as part of the new constitution
3	an agreement between Quebec and the other provinces to accept French as an official language in Canada
4	Ottawa's promise to grant Quebec special privileges in exchange for Quebec accepting the "notwithstanding clause"

39. What was the Kitchen Compromise?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

Use the following information to answer the question below.

1	The new Constitution Act was signed by Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Trudeau with support from all provinces
2	The new Constitution Act was signed by Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Trudeau without Quebec's approval
3	The new Constitution Act was signed by Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Trudeau with support from a majority of provinces
4	The new Constitution Act was signed by Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Trudeau without provincial support

40. Which statement about the Constitution Act is true?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

41. Who must agree in order to amend the Canadian constitution?
- A. half of all Canadians through referendum
 - B. a huge majority of Canadians through elected representatives
 - C. all provincial premiers and the Canadian Parliament
 - D. support of Canadian Parliament and seven provinces representing more than half the population of Canada
42. In 1976, the Parti Québécois made French the official language in Quebec. This contradicts a right in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. How was Quebec able to pass this law?
- A. by using the amending formula
 - B. by taking the law to the Supreme Court of Quebec
 - C. by taking the law to the Supreme Court of Canada
 - D. by using the notwithstanding clause Correct
43. Which of the following is **not** a fundamental freedom as identified in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms?
- A. freedom of conscience and religion
 - B. freedom of thought and belief
 - C. freedom of peaceful assembly and association
 - D. freedom to defend oneself and to bear arms

Use the following information to answer the question below.

1	part of the constitution that clearly states the basic rights and freedoms enjoyed by Canadians
2	part of the Canadian Human Rights Act that outlines the human rights associated with all federal businesses and agencies
3	part of the United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights that clearly states the basic rights and freedoms of all
4	part of the Canadian Bill of Rights that formally acknowledged the rights Canadians held under common law

44. What is the Charter of Rights and Freedoms?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

Use the following information to answer the question below.

1	Rights and freedoms are guaranteed equally to male and female persons
2	Rights and freedoms are guaranteed equally to animals and people
3	Rights and freedoms are guaranteed equally considering physical and intellectual property
4	Rights and freedoms are guaranteed equally to children under the age of 18 and adults over the age of 65

45. Which statement is true?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

46. Leeta writes an editorial for her community newspaper describing her outrage at the government's lack of attention to greenhouse gas emissions. She is able to criticize the government without fear. What freedom is she exercising?
- A. the freedom to express an opinion
 - B. the freedom to assemble peacefully
 - C. the freedom to practise one's religion
 - D. the freedom to associate intellectually
47. What is an example of a democratic right?
- A. going to synagogue
 - B. moving to Toronto
 - C. enrolling in a French-immersion school
 - D. voting in an election

Use the following information to answer the question below.

1	Everyone has the right not to be subjected to any cruel or unusual punishment
2	During peaceful times, everyone has the right not to be subjected to any cruel or unusual punishment
3	Everyone has the right not to be subjected to extremely cruel or unusual punishment
4	When Canada is under threat, anyone may be interrogated and may be subject to uncomfortable punishment

48. Which statement about Canadians' rights is true?
- A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4

Use the following information to answer the question below.

1	to be informed without delay of the specific offence
2	to be tried within a reasonable amount of time
3	to be presumed innocent until proven guilty
4	to be allowed unlimited access to a judge's legal counsel

49. Which of the above rights is not guaranteed if you are charged with an offence in Canada?
- A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4
50. During the October Crisis of 1970, what fundamental freedoms did the War Measures Act restrict?
- A. conscience, religion, and assembly
 - B. assembly, association, and expression
 - C. thought, expression, and conscience
 - D. association, thought, and religion
51. Carla was raised as a Roman Catholic but now is a practising Buddhist. This is an example of which freedom?
- A. freedom of peaceful assembly
 - B. freedom of association
 - C. freedom of religion
 - D. freedom of expression
52. Ye Chang arrives as a newcomer in Vancouver from Shanghai. She decides to move to Montreal to pursue work as a runway model. What right has she to do this?
- A. legal rights
 - B. democratic rights
 - C. equality rights
 - D. mobility rights

Answers

- 1. D
- 2. A
- 3. D
- 4. A
- 5. A
- 6. A
- 7. C
- 8. D
- 9. C
- 10. D
- 11. A
- 12. C
- 13. D
- 14. A
- 15. B
- 16. C
- 17. D
- 18. C
- 19. C
- 20. D
- 21. A
- 22. D
- 23. A
- 24. C
- 25. A
- 26. D
- 27. B
- 28. A
- 29. A
- 30. C
- 31. D
- 32. C
- 33. C
- 34. D
- 35. C
- 36. A
- 37. B
- 38. B
- 39. A
- 40. B
- 41. D
- 42. D
- 43. D
- 44. A
- 45. A

- 46. A
- 47. D
- 48. A
- 49. D
- 50. B
- 51. C
- 52. D