

College Admission

*AP-U.S.-Government-and-Politics
AP U.S. Government & Politics Exam (Advanced Placement Exam)*



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Question: 1

During a presidential election, what happens if no candidate receives the electoral votes necessary to claim victory?

- A. The candidate who receives the highest percentage of the popular vote is declared victorious.
- B. The House of Representatives is given the task to vote and decides among the top three candidates.
- C. The Senate is given the task to vote and decides among the top three candidates.
- D. The Supreme Court declares neither candidate a winner and issues a run-off election that must be held before the 20th of January.

Answer: B

Explanation:

In the event a presidential candidate does not receive at least 270 of the 538 electoral votes necessary to claim victory, the House of Representatives is commissioned to elect the president from the top three candidates. Each state's combined delegation has one vote. The candidate who receives the majority of votes from the House is then declared the next president.

Question: 2

Of the following, who would be the most unlikely to vote?

- A. Senior citizen
- B. Blue collar worker
- C. Married Asian female
- D. Single 24 year old male

Answer: D

Explanation:

According to the most recent voter turnouts, the groups which tend to dominate the statistics are: senior citizens, college educated, women, married, and blue collar workers. The groups which tend to have the lowest voter turnouts are: 18-25 year olds, unmarried, males, Asian and white collar workers.

Question: 3

Which type of election is used by most states to select party nominees for public office elections?

- A. Closed primary

- B. General election
- C. Contingency election
- D. Caucus

Answer: A

Explanation:

During a primary, the voter casts their vote for a candidate to determine who will go into the general election. In a closed primary, people vote in a party's primary only if they are registered members of that party; thus, selecting the party's candidate for the general election.

Question: 4

The power of the courts to declare acts of the legislative and executive branches to be unconstitutional is known as:

- A. Judiciary balance.
- B. Judicial review.
- C. Judicature.
- D. Writ of certiorari.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Judicial review refers to the Supreme Court's power to review the constitutionality of laws. The court can exercise judicial review either commenting after a law is passed, at the request of a legislator, or after the law has gone into effect (often at the request of someone affected by the law).

Question: 5

The largest percentage of spending in the federal budget goes towards:

- A. Medicare.
- B. National defense.
- C. Social Security.
- D. Interest on the national debt.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Currently, the federal budget has earmarked its largest percentage of its expenditures towards social security. Even though the national defense budget is vital to our country's survival and safety, it has the second highest percentage of budgeted funds.

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