Chapter 6 – Section 1: The Right to Vote

Part 1

Read the statements below. If a statement is true, write T in the blank provided. If it is false, write F.

1. At the time the Constitution was ratified, there was universal white male suffrage.

_____ **2.** Women gained the right to vote throughout the country with the passage of the 14th Amendment.

_____ **3.** In the first decades after ratification of the Constitution, some States denied voting rights to people based on their religious beliefs.

4. The 23rd Amendment allowed residents of the District of Columbia to vote in presidential elections.

_____ **5.** Until recently, the largest group of disfranchised citizens in the United States was African Americans.

Part 2

Write the letter of the correct answer in the blank provided.

6. The 15th Amendment was ratified in

a. 1810. b. 1870 **c.** 1910. d. 1970

_____7. The fifth and latest expansion of the American electorate came in 1971 when suffrage was extended to

a. naturalized citizens. **c.** persons 18 and above.

b. women. **d.** non-English speakers.

8. Under the Constitution, the power to set suffrage qualifications belongs to

a. the Supreme Court. **c.** the States.

b. Congress. **d.** local governments.

____9. During the past 200 years, there has been a trend toward increased

a. qualifications for voting and office-holding.

b. federal control of election laws.

c. State restrictions on voting rights.

d. voter turnout in federal elections.

10. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was an effort to ensure voting rights for

- **a.** Vietnam veterans. **c.** college students.
- **b.** women. **d.** African Americans.

Chapter 6 – Section 2: Voter Qualifications

Part 1

Match the descriptions in Column I with the terms in Column II. Write the correct letter in each blank.

Column I

Column II

- **1.** list of a precinct's registered voters
- **_____ 2.** remove from a list of legal voters
- **3.** procedure of voter identification
- **4.** ability to read or write
- **5.** person who lives in a State for a short time

Part 2

Write the letter of the correct answer in the blank provided.

- **6.** No State allows to vote.
 - a. persons dishonorably discharged from the armed forces
 - **b.** non-English speakers
 - **c.** felons
 - **d.** mentally incompetent persons
- ____7. Residence requirements were adopted in order to
 - **a.** discourage people from moving just before elections.
 - **b.** discourage election fraud.
 - **c.** reduce the number of qualified voters.
 - **d.** prevent noncitizens from voting.
- **8.** The youngest age at which qualified citizens are allowed to vote in primary elections is
 - **a.** 17. **b.** 18. **c.** 20. **d.** 21.
 - 9. Voter registration laws have been criticized in recent years for
 - **a.** increasing the occurrence of voter fraud.
 - **b.** discouraging poor and uneducated persons from voting.
 - c. favoring Democrats over Republicans.
 - d. discriminating against rural dwellers.
- ____ **10.** Literacy tests were banned by ____ because they were ____.
 - a. the Supreme Court; found unconstitutional
 - b. Congress; used to discriminate against African Americans
 - c. the 19th Amendment; different in every State
 - **d.** the 24th Amendment; not useful for distinguishing informed from uninformed voters

- a. registration
- b. literacy
- c. transient
- d. poll books
- e. purge

Chapter 6 – Section 3: Suffrage and Civil Rights

Part 1

Read the statements below. If a statement is true, write T in the blank provided. If it is false, write F.

_____1. The 15th Amendment was intended to give African Americans the right to vote, but it was not enforced.

_____ **2.** Drawing the lines of electoral districts in order to limit the voting strength of a particular group is known as gerrymandering.

_____ **3.** Violent white reaction to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, voter registration drive in Selma led to passage of the first federal Civil Rights Act in 1957.

4. The Civil Rights Act of 1960 required States to repeal their poll taxes.

_____ **5.** Today ballots must be printed in a second language in areas where language minorities make up more than five percent of the population.

Part 2

Write the letter of the correct answer in the blank provided.

_____6. Increased voting rights for African Americans have come about as a result of

a. the civil rights movement.

b. federal regulation of elections.

c. changes in electoral procedures in the South.

d. all of the above.

_____7. The law that led to the establishment of the United States Civil Rights Commission was the

a. Civil Rights Act of 1957.	c. Civil Rights Act of 1964.
b. Civil Rights Act of 1960.	d. Voting Rights Act of 1965.

8. The law that made the 15th Amendment a truly effective part of the Constitution was the

a. Civil Rights Act of 1957. c. C	ivil Rights Act of 1964.
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b. Civil Rights Act of 1960. **d.** Voting Rights Act of 1965.

_____9. The law that outlawed discrimination in job-related matters and banned the

discriminatory use of registration requirements was the

a. Civil Rights Act of 1957. **c.** Civil Rights Act of 1964.

b. Civil Rights Act of 1960. **d.** Voting Rights Act of 1965.

10. Which of the following groups is NOT a "language minority" under the terms of the 1975 extension of the Voting Rights Act?

a. Asian Americans	c. Americans of Spanish descent
b. African Americans	d. Native Americans

Chapter 6 – Section 4: Voter Behavior

As you read the section, fill in the answers to the questions below.

- 1. What types of election years have the highest voter turnouts?
- 2. What is "ballot fatigue"?
- 3. What is the largest group of "cannot-voters"?
- 4. Why do some non-voters deliberately choose not to vote?
- 5. What is "time-zone fallout"?
- 6. What is the chief reason that most non-voters do not vote?
- 7. How does each of these factors affect the likelihood of whether people do or do not vote?
 - a. level of income _____
 - b. occupation _____
 - c. education
 - d. age _____
 - e. gender _____
 - f. party identification _____

Fill in the characteristics in the chart below to compare some factors that influence whether people are more likely to vote Democrat or Republican.

	Democrat	Republican
Income/Occupation	8.	9.
Education	10.	11.
Gender/Age	12.	13.
Religion	14.	15.
Ethnicity	16.	17.
Geography	18.	19.