

1. A political party is
 - a. an organization that consists of individuals interested in controlling government by winning elections.
 - b. an organization that consists of individuals interested in pressuring elected officials to change public policy.
 - c. a coalition of private and public organizations influenced in creating societal change.
 - d. none of these choices accurately describes a political party.
2. In Texas, the two leading political parties are the
 - a. Democratic and Republican.
 - b. Republican and Libertarian.
 - c. Republican and Green.
 - d. Democratic and Green.
3. A general election is held in
 - a. March of odd-numbered years.
 - b. November of even-numbered years.
 - c. November of odd-numbered years.
 - d. March of even-numbered years.
4. Which of the following would be performed at a party's precinct convention?
 - a. Nomination of delegates to the county convention
 - b. Selection of the presidential nominee
 - c. Adoption of the party platform
 - d. Election of the state executive committee
5. Each state receives a number of electoral votes equal to the
 - a. number of seats each state has in Congress.
 - b. number of seats each state has in its state legislature.
 - c. number of voters who voted in the previous general election.
 - d. number of delegates the state had at the national party convention.
6. How many electoral votes will Texas have in the presidential election of 2016?
 - a. 181
 - b. 538
 - c. 38
 - d. 25
7. Which term would best describe a politician that is generally opposed to government-managed or government-subsidized programs?
 - a. Socialist
 - b. Conservative
 - c. Liberal
 - d. Communist
8. Which political label would best describe a politician that is in favor of government regulation of the economy, but limited government involvement on social issues?
 - a. Libertarian
 - b. Socialist
 - c. Liberal
 - d. Conservative
9. When Congress passed the Reconstruction Acts, former slave owners and supporters of the Confederacy were
 - a. purged as officeholders and denied the vote.
 - b. welcomed to the electoral process.
 - c. allowed to seek office and votes.
 - d. allowed to vote in all elections.
10. The history of the Texas political party system has tended toward
 - a. strong voter support for third parties.
 - b. favoring independent movements.
 - c. Texas always having a strong two-party system.
 - d. Texas being a one-party state.
11. During the period of Reconstruction that followed the Civil War (1865–1873), the _____ Party controlled Texas politics.
 - a. Democratic
 - b. Independent
 - c. Republican
 - d. Populist
12. After Reconstruction, which political party dominated in Texas for more than 100 years?
 - a. Whig
 - b. Democratic
 - c. Republican
 - d. Libertarian
13. Beginning in the late 1940s, a majority of conservative Democrats in Texas began to support the
 - a. state Republican candidates.
 - b. national Republican candidates.
 - c. state Socialist-Labor candidates.
 - d. national Libertarian candidates.
14. Who was the first Texas Republican elected Governor in a statewide vote in the last half of the 20th century?
 - a. John Tower
 - b. William Clements
 - c. Rick Perry
 - d. John Cornyn

15. Which Texas governor, elected in 1994, was successful as the Republican Party's candidate for President in 2000?
- George W. Bush
 - Ann Richards
 - John Tower
 - Rick Perry
16. Republicans won all statewide races in the _____ general election
- 2002
 - 1998
 - 1984
 - 1976
17. In 2008, one reason why Obama won in Harris, Travis, Bexar, and Dallas counties was because of
- strong Republican support.
 - strong conservative Tea Party support.
 - solid support from independents and right-wing Republicans.
 - solid support from Latino and African American voters.
18. The trend of voters abandoning their traditional political party allegiance is referred to as
- dealignment.
 - realignment.
 - reshuffling.
 - coalition building.
19. Which geographic area of Texas is *not* a Republican stronghold?
- West Texas
 - The suburbs of Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio and Austin
 - Hispanic counties of South Texas
 - Texas Panhandle and Texas South Plains
20. A political party that is not one of the two major parties is referred to as a
- group of independents.
 - political faction.
 - third party.
 - political movement.
21. When a person votes for only candidates from one party, they are engaging in
- straight-ticket voting.
 - ticket-splitting.
 - retrospective voting.
 - All of these choices are true.
22. Which statement best describes the Libertarian Party?
- It advocates the enforcement by the state of fundamentalist Christian family values.
 - It supports limited government and maximum individual liberties.
 - It is economically liberal but is conservative on social issues.
 - It has its strongest base of support in South Texas.
23. Candidates who run for office with no party affiliation are referred to as
- partisan seekers.
 - independents.
 - green.
 - reformers.
24. Which of the following were independent candidates who had a significant impact on a Texas election?
- Richard S. "Kinky" Friedman and Carol Keeton Strayhorn
 - Ross Perot and William Clements
 - Bernie Sanders and Gary Johnson
 - Ron Paul and Rand Paul
25. Which statement best describes the Green Party?
- It is a 21st century throwback to the Greenbacks of the 19th century.
 - It advocates returning to the gold standard as a backing for American currency.
 - It advocates environmental protection and government reform policies.
 - It advocates reduced governmental regulation of corporations and political campaigns.
26. Of the third parties listed below, which probably has had the *least* influence on Texas politics?
- Green
 - Populist
 - Libertarian
 - Fascist
27. In which of the following ways have third parties been *least* successful?
- Winning elections to national offices
 - Raising public awareness of issues
 - Persuading major parties to adopt their issues
 - Persuading major parties to bring them into their coalition
- On the Back:**
28. Who is governor of Texas Gregg Abbott
29. Who is Lt. Governor of TX Dan Patrick
30. Who are our two US senators from TX Cornyn Cruz