

# American Democracy & Comparative Government

## Unit 3 - Interest Groups, Parties, and the Public

### Homework

#### **Part A**

Option 1: Read and outline the following chapters:

Chapters 16 and 18; highlight and define vocabulary 1-24

Option 2: Read the chapters listed above.

Define the vocabulary 1-24 below; answer prompts 1-5 completely in paragraph form unless instructed otherwise.

#### **Part B**

Option 1: Read and outline Chapters 17; highlight and define vocabulary 25-33

Option 2: Read the Chapters 17; define the vocabulary 25 -33 below; answer prompts 6-8 completely in paragraph form unless instructed otherwise.

standard: 12.3.2, 12.6.1, 12.6.3, 12.6.4, 12.7.5, 12.7.6, 12.8.3

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|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. public opinion          | 12. gatekeeper press  | 23. splinter party        |
| 2. ideology                | 13. scorekeeper press | 24. ideological party     |
| 3. political socialization | 14. trial balloon     | 25. agribusiness          |
| 4. polling                 | 15. "background"      | 26. trade association     |
| 5. exit poll               | 16. electorate        | 27. labor union           |
| 6. sampling                | 17. one party system  | 28. public interest group |
| 7. sampling error          | 18. two party system  | 29. endorsement           |
| 8. censorship              | 19. multiparty system | 30. single-issue voting   |
| 9. bias                    | 20. realignment       | 31. lobbying              |
| 10. objectivity            | 21. independent       | 32. grassroots            |
| 11. watchdog press         | 22. third party       | 33. class-action suit     |

1. Discuss political socialization and the factors which influence it.
2. List and describe four types opinion polls.
3. Analyze the role of media for an informed society. Which role best serves the public?
4. Compare and contrast the pros and cons of the three party systems.
5. Discuss the major criticisms of US political parties. Do you feel that any of them are justified? Why or why not?
6. Discuss how interest groups permit citizens, minors, and residents to participate more fully in the political process.
7. Describe the major functions of interest groups.
8. List, describe, and give an example of each of the major types of interest groups