

MCA[^]**P**

Maryland Comprehensive
Assessment Program



GOVERNMENT

Practice Test

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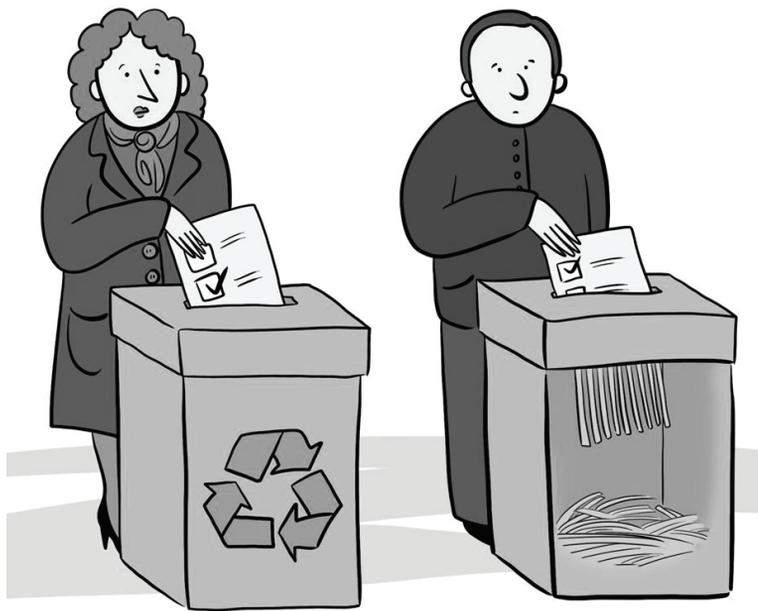
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- 1 Which specific action is protected by the U.S. Bill of Rights?
- A a journalist publishing an article that exposes government corruption
 - B a female citizen registering to vote in a local election
 - C a local business owner refusing to pay quarterly taxes
 - D a high school student signing up for a foreign-exchange program

2 Study the political cartoon.

Voters at Ballot Boxes



Which type of government is **most likely** the focus of this political cartoon?

- A dictatorship
- B parliamentary democracy
- C constitutional monarchy
- D presidential democracy

- 3** The **primary** purpose of a political action committee (PAC) is to
- A** keep citizens informed about political issues.
 - B** monitor the actions of elected officials.
 - C** promote laws designed to improve the economy.
 - D** raise money for political campaigns.
- 4** Which of these situations describes a tort involving negligence?
- A** The roofer never finished the work on Mr. Jones's house.
 - B** Mr. Jones failed to pay the roofer after the work was completed.
 - C** Mr. Jones did not sign a written agreement to have his roof repaired.
 - D** The roofer was bitten by Mr. Jones's dog while working at the house.
- 5** Select the **three** characteristics of a command economy.
- A** Independent individuals or groups own businesses but must follow strict government regulations.
 - B** The government owns the land and natural resources of the country.
 - C** The government provides small business loans to promote entrepreneurship.
 - D** Independent individuals or groups lease the rights to state-owned land and resources for commercial use.
 - E** The laws of supply and demand are typically ignored.
 - F** Consumer demand determines what is produced and when.
 - G** The government controls the means of production, including factories.

- 6** Congress plans to pass legislation designed to prevent the use of the Internet to steal personal information.

What is the **most likely** reason Congress would take this action?

- A** to strengthen regulations on the content of electronic advertising
 - B** to encourage more business investment in computer technology
 - C** to protect the public from becoming victims of identity fraud
 - D** to provide due process rights to individuals illegally copying software
- 7** Which headline **best** illustrates an example of representative democracy?
- A** New Poll Shows Most Florida Citizens Favor Ending Cuban Trade Embargo
 - B** Maryland College Students Sign Petition to Support Lowering Voting Age
 - C** West Virginia Holds Special Election to Choose New U.S. Senator
 - D** Local Activists Protest Recent Cuts in Kentucky's Transportation Spending

Read the excerpt.

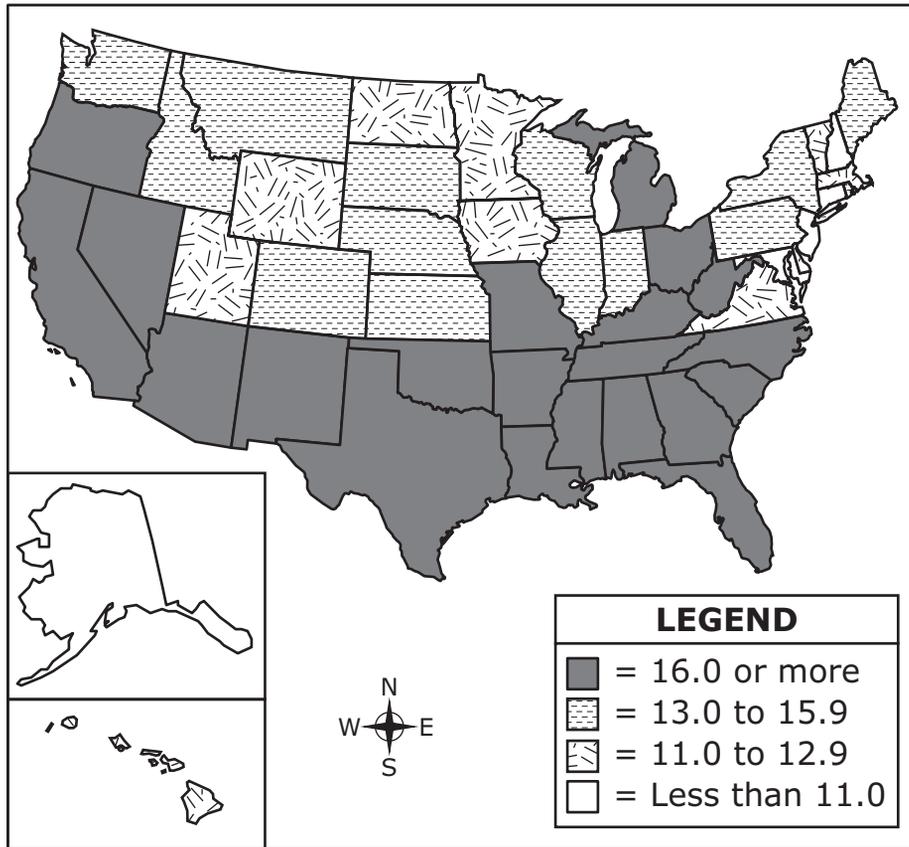
“Packages and their labels should enable consumers to obtain accurate information as to the quantity of the contents and should [assist in] value comparisons. Therefore, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to assist consumers and manufacturers in reaching these goals in the marketing of consumer goods.”

—U.S. Food and Drug Administration, *Fair Packaging and Labeling Act*, 1967

- 8** Based on the excerpt, how does the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act increase market competition?
- A** The price of goods is controlled.
 - B** The number of manufacturers is limited.
 - C** The consumer has more information to make decisions.
 - D** The manufacturers have fewer restrictions on marketing methods.

9 Study the map.

Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months in the United States, 2012

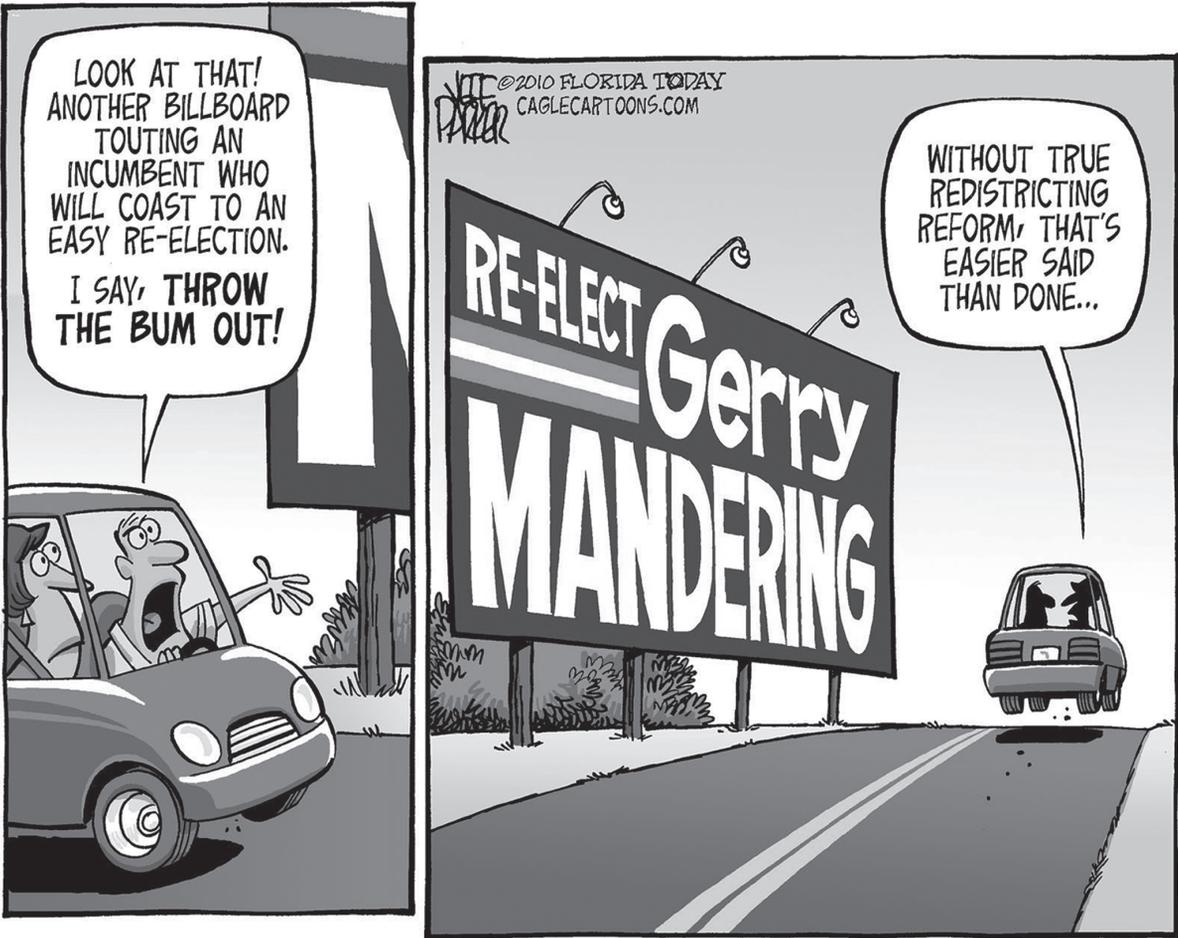


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The federal government would **most likely** use this information to

- A pass new laws regarding cyber security.
- B justify an increase in spending on national defense.
- C establish new environmental guidelines for national parks.
- D create programs to improve economic equity.

10 Study the political cartoon and use it to answer the constructed-response question.
BCR



- Describe the viewpoint presented in the cartoon.
- Explain why election districts may be gerrymandered.
- Include details and examples to support your answer.

Write your answer on the lines on your Answer Sheet.

11 The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) would be **most directly** involved in which situation?

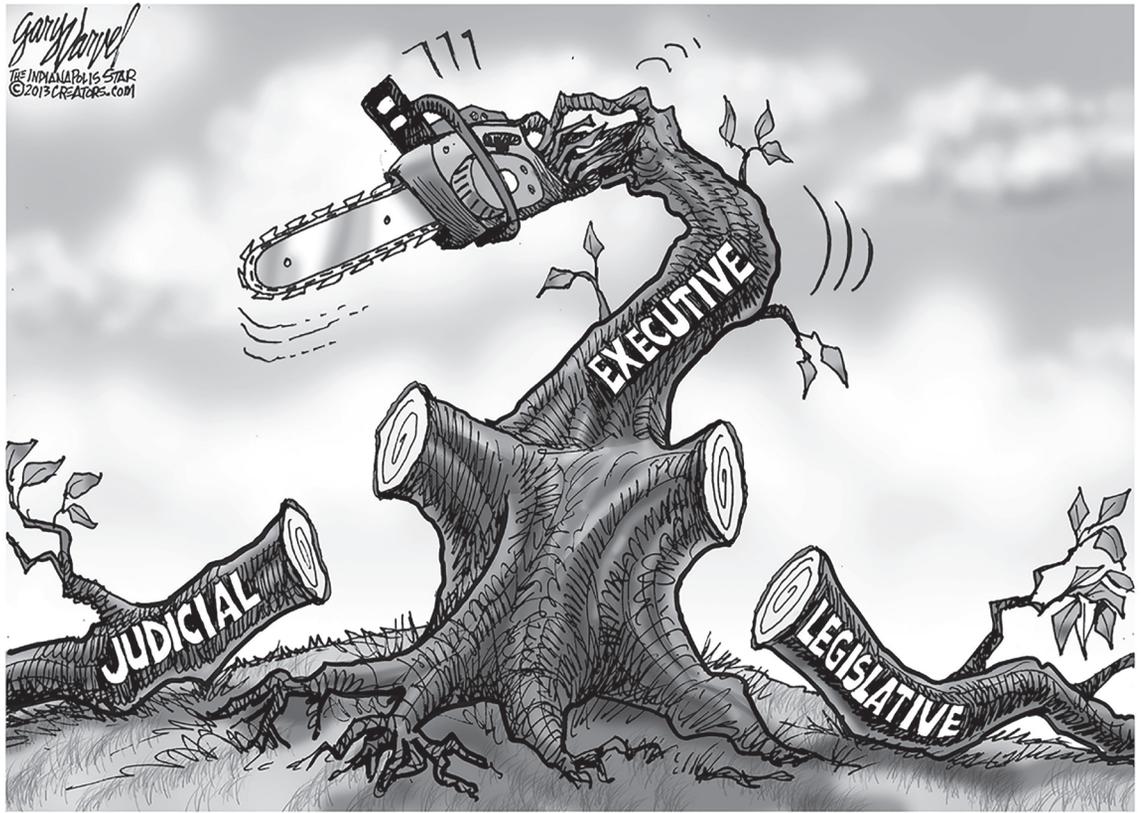
- A** the establishment of global environmental regulations
- B** the creation of an international trade agreement
- C** a military attack on a member country
- D** an economic recession in a member country

12 In *Bethel v. Fraser* (1986), the Supreme Court ruled schools do not have to tolerate speech by students if the content is considered offensive.

This decision impacted the rights of students established by the Supreme Court's ruling in

- A** *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896).
- B** *New Jersey v. T.L.O.* (1985).
- C** *Tinker v. Des Moines* (1969).
- D** *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954).

13 Study the political cartoon.



Which principle of U.S. government does the political cartoonist imply the President is destroying?

- A federalism
- B individual rights
- C checks and balances
- D consent of the governed

14 Which of these offenses would **most likely** be tried as a civil case?

- A burglary
- B shoplifting
- C automobile theft
- D breach of contract

15 This photograph shows a 2017 rally in Maryland.



© Thomas Meyer / fwwatch.org

What was the **most likely** goal of this environmental rally?

- A to influence public policy in the state
- B to support equality for minority groups
- C to campaign for a particular state candidate
- D to expose corrupt political practices

- 16** Read the information and use it to answer the constructed-response question.

BCR

In December 2007 the U.S. unemployment rate was 5 percent. By June 2009 the U.S. unemployment rate was 9.5 percent.

- Describe the role of the Federal Reserve.
- Explain how the Federal Reserve could use monetary policy to address the economic changes described in this information.
- Include details and examples to support your answer.

Write your answer on the lines on your Answer Sheet.

- 17** The federal government sets a limit on the number of individuals who can receive temporary visas (permits) to immigrate to the United States as seasonal workers.

What is the **most likely** effect this policy will have on Maryland businesses that employ workers on a seasonal basis?

- A** It will increase their profits.
- B** It will increase their productivity.
- C** It will limit their ability to expand.
- D** It will limit their benefits to workers.

18 Read the headline.



The President **most likely** took the action mentioned in this headline to

- A protect the national security of the United States.
- B punish human rights violations by leaders of other countries.
- C support a focus on science education in the United States.
- D force democratic reforms in authoritarian countries.

19 Which federal policy would violate the powers reserved to the states?

- A negotiating with leaders of foreign countries
- B establishing military bases in state capitals
- C drafting citizens for military service
- D requiring states to teach a specific curriculum

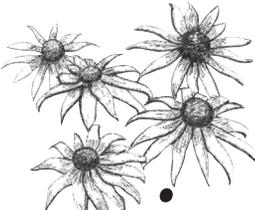
20 Agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) have arrested a suspect in a number of bank robberies.

Before bringing charges against this suspect, the government must first

- A** provide the court with a written confession.
- B** select an attorney for the defendant.
- C** receive an indictment from a grand jury.
- D** assign a judge to hear the case.



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Session **2**



- 21** The goal of a Washington, D.C., area program is to encourage the use of vehicles that use alternative fuels.

What is a purpose of this program?

- A** to reduce the price of fuel
- B** to reduce pollution from emissions
- C** to decide how many cars governments may have in their fleet
- D** to increase commuter use of vehicles as a primary source of transportation



22 Read the excerpt.

“The President wants me to argue that he is as powerful a monarch as Louis XIV, only four years at a time, and is not subject to the processes of any court in the land except the court of impeachment.”

—attorney James St. Clair

Part A:

Which court case is being referred to in this quotation?

- A** *Marbury v. Madison* (1803)
- B** *Baker v. Carr* (1962)
- C** *United States v. Nixon* (1974)

Part B:

Which **two** statements **best** describe the impact of the Supreme Court case related to this quotation?

- A** Presidents must comply with any legitimate demands of the other branches of government.
- B** The Supreme Court can review legislative acts to determine their constitutionality.
- C** Presidents are limited to serving two consecutive terms in office.
- D** The use of executive privilege is limited to certain specific boundaries.
- E** The Supreme Court can use the Fourteenth Amendment to review reapportionment cases.



23 Read the information.

There are 164 members of the World Trade Organization (WTO). Of all of the nonmembers in the world, Iran has the largest economy. In 2016, Iran reapplied to become a member of the WTO.

Which statement describes how Iran's membership would **most likely** affect the global economy?

- A** Free trade would create monopolies on goods.
- B** Lower tariffs would benefit consumers.
- C** Production times for consumer goods would decrease.
- D** New trade rules would encourage the use of nuclear energy.

24 Which headline illustrates civil law?

- A** Man Accepts Plea Bargain While Awaiting Trial
- B** Grand Jury Hands Down Two Count Indictment
- C** Mother Sues Grocery Store after Slipping on Spill
- D** Suspect Arrested in Local Fast Food Restaurant Burglary

- 25** Which **two** newspaper headlines provide the **best** examples of diplomacy?
- A** Senate Confirms Ambassador Nominations
 - B** Department of State Issues International Travel Warning
 - C** Secretary of State Negotiates Alliance with Mexico
 - D** President Visits Southeast Asia to Mediate Peace Treaty
 - E** President Imposes Economic Sanctions on North Korea
- 26** Which headline illustrates a power of local government?
- A** Plan Developed for Garbage and Litter Clean-up
 - B** Constitution Amended to Change Voting Age
 - C** New Requirements Enacted for Driving Licenses
 - D** Post Offices to Close for Federal Holiday



A student is researching the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The student's compelling question is this:

Should the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) be considered a successful fiscal policy?

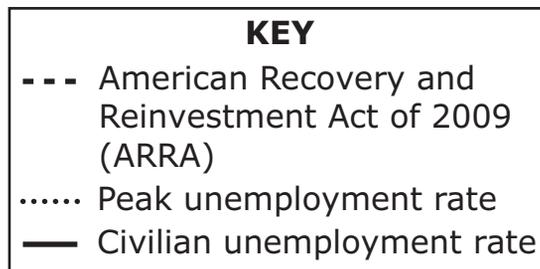
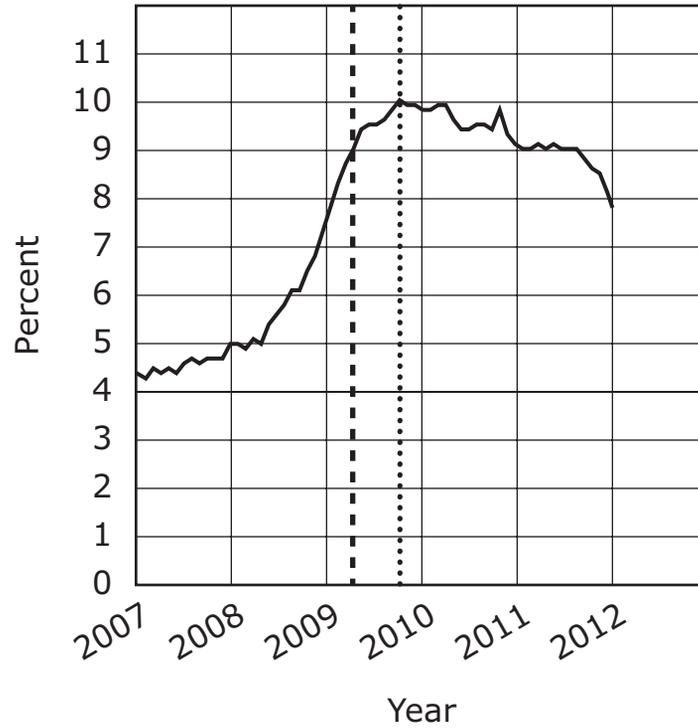
The student has found the sources on the provided tabs. Use the sources to answer the questions that follow.

Background Information

ARRA was a fiscal policy passed by the federal government to revitalize the U.S. economy after the economic collapse of 2008. During 2008, the number of unemployed persons increased by 4.1 million, and the unemployment rate rose from 4.9% to 7.6%. ARRA included measures to modernize the nation's public works systems, increase energy independence, expand educational opportunities, preserve affordable health care, provide tax relief, and protect those in greatest need.

Source A

**Civilian Unemployment Rate,
2007–2012**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Source B

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has published a report on the estimated impact of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) on employment and economic output.

The CBO estimates that ARRA's policies had several effects in calendar year 2014 compared with what would have occurred without the passage of ARRA:

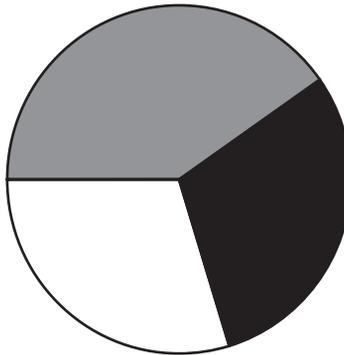
- an increase in real gross domestic product (GDP)
- a decrease in the unemployment rate
- an increase of between 0.1 million and 0.3 million in the number of people employed
- a small increase in the number of full-time-equivalent jobs

Source: Congressional Budget Office

Source C

In 2012, the *New York Post* printed an article detailing how \$740.6 billion of the 2009 stimulus package was spent and highlighting some of the problems. This graph and table summarize the information in the article.

2009 Stimulus Package Spending



KEY	
	Tax benefits: \$299.8 billion
	Entitlements: \$218.3 billion
	Contracts, grants, and loans: \$222.5 billion



Session 2

Where the Money Went	Problem
tax benefits	Most people received about \$10 extra per paycheck—not enough to really notice.
entitlements	Most funding went to Medicaid, Medicare, and unemployment insurance costs. This definitely helped people, but made it hard for anyone to notice the effects of the money.
contracts, grants, and loans	Money planned for education ended up being mainly used to retain teachers, as opposed to hiring new ones. Planned transportation projects encountered challenges and did not provide jobs in a timely fashion as hoped.

Source: *New York Post*, January 29, 2012





Source D

“Stories are popping up all over the country of small business start-ups that were made possible by the Recovery Act—stories of companies like The Penny Ice Creamery in Santa Cruz, California.” Recently, Kendra Backer and Zach Davis, the owners of The Penny Ice Creamery, made [a] YouTube video thanking President Obama, the Administration and Congress for passing the Recovery Act, which helped make their dreams a reality. It tells the story of how their dream of opening an ice cream shop that makes ‘really great ice cream from scratch . . .’ was made possible as a result of a \$250,000 Recovery Act small business loan.”

—Andrea Mead, “How The Recovery Act Is Boosting Small Biz – and Ice Cream Production – Across America,” 2010.



27 Read the information.

Source B was published by the Congressional Budget Office, which is a nonpartisan organization that analyzes proposed legislation. The organization hires its employees solely on the basis of skill, rather than political belief.

The origin of Source B **most likely** suggests that the provided information

- A** was poorly researched by the author.
- B** uses factual information not intended to persuade readers.
- C** should not be cited in academic or scientific research.
- D** was intended to be viewed as a set of opinions.

28 Claim: A growing economy can help small businesses expand.

Which source provides the **best** evidence for the claim?

- A** Source A
- B** Source B
- C** Source C
- D** Source D

29 Which perspective about ARRA is **most** evident in Source C?

- A** ARRA has prevented discrimination in employment hiring.
- B** ARRA has not increased wage equity in the workplace.
- C** ARRA has eliminated the need for labor unions.
- D** ARRA has not rapidly increased job opportunities.



30

ECR

Assume that the information provided in the sources is credible. Complete this extended-response question:

Should the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) be considered a successful fiscal policy?

- Develop a claim in response to the question.
- Cite evidence from the provided sources to support your claim.
- Use your knowledge of government in your response.

Write your answer on the lines on your Answer Sheet.



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Session **3**

- 31** What is the **main** reason that fundraisers are important for a candidate for public office?
- A** to help pay for the needs and wants of citizens
 - B** to provide personal income for the candidate during a campaign
 - C** to guarantee the candidate wins the election
 - D** to help pay for advertising and personal appearances

- 32** Read the information.

Starting on June 1, 2009, the federal government required American citizens traveling to Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, and seventeen nations in the Caribbean to present a passport for reentry back into the United States.

Which of these is **most likely** the purpose of this requirement?

- A** to improve national security through better control of U.S. borders
- B** to make travel easier for people returning to the United States
- C** to increase American trade with western-hemisphere nations
- D** to protect American citizens who travel frequently overseas

- 33** An individual accused of stealing identities on the Internet was held without formal charges. Which excerpt from the U.S. Constitution **best** applies to this situation?
- A** "The right of the people to be secure . . . against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated. . . ."
 - B** "In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury. . . ."
 - C** "All persons born or naturalized in the United States . . . are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."
 - D** "No person shall be . . . deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law. . . ."

- 34** Read the excerpt.

"November 15, 1990, marks a milestone in Clean Air Act history . . . [This milestone was] the signing of the 1990 Amendments. These amendments set the stage for protecting the ozone layer, reducing acid rain and toxic [substances], and improving air quality and visibility."

—"Celebrating the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990," Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

What was the **primary** purpose of these amendments?

- A** to decrease pollution
- B** to increase species diversity
- C** to create national parks
- D** to establish global land-use agreements

35 Part A

What was an impact of the Supreme Court decision in *Marbury v. Madison* (1803) on the United States?

- A** Federal courts can intervene in redistricting cases.
- B** The U.S. Supreme Court can rule congressional laws unconstitutional.
- C** Criminal suspects must be advised of their legal rights.

Part B

What was an impact of the Supreme Court decision in *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966) on the United States?

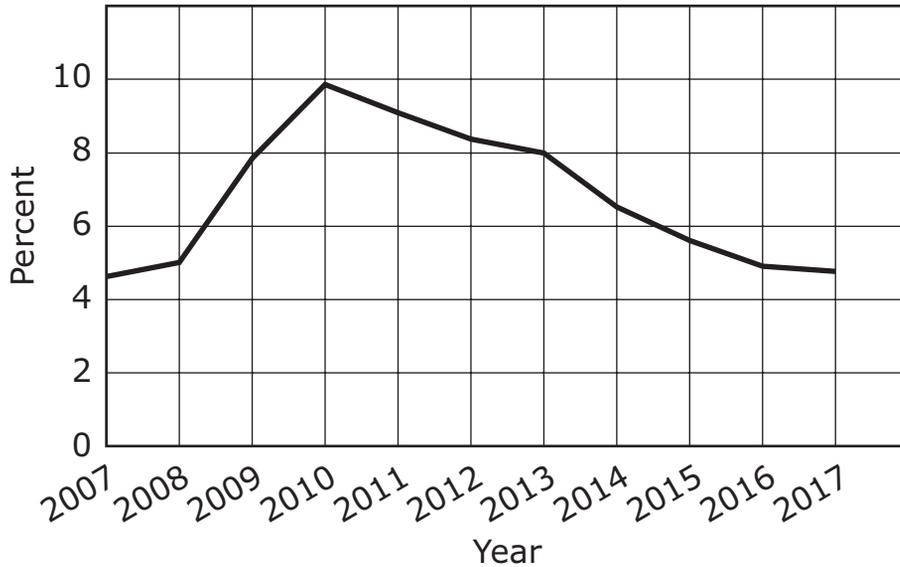
- A** Federal courts can intervene in redistricting cases.
- B** The U.S. Supreme Court can rule congressional laws unconstitutional.
- C** Criminal suspects must be advised of their legal rights.

36 What is the **most likely** result when the same political party controls both houses of Congress and the presidency?

- A** Incumbents will spend more time on future election campaigns.
- B** Fewer proposed bills will receive party support.
- C** New appointments will be made to state government positions.
- D** There will be fewer conflicts over proposed legislation.

37 Study the graph.

**Percent of Unemployed Americans*
Ages 16 and Over, 2007–2017**



***Data is from January of each year.**

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Which action by the Federal Reserve **most likely** contributed to the trend in unemployment from 2010 to 2017?

- A** selling securities
- B** withholding bank loans
- C** lowering the discount rate
- D** increasing the reserve requirement

- 38** The Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibited discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, or gender. Which of these would be a violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964?
- A** forming women's rights organizations
 - B** opening minority owned businesses
 - C** operating segregated restaurants
 - D** lobbying political officials
- 39** Which **two** types of government are generally considered to be **most** efficient in their decision-making processes?
- A** representative democracy
 - B** dictatorship
 - C** direct democracy
 - D** oligarchy
 - E** confederacy
- 40** Which newspaper headline provides the **best** example of limited government?
- A** Senator Indicted for Accepting a Bribe
 - B** Military Dictator Refuses to Give Up Power
 - C** Individual Donates Money to Political Campaign
 - D** Supreme Court Justice Retires after Ten Years on Bench

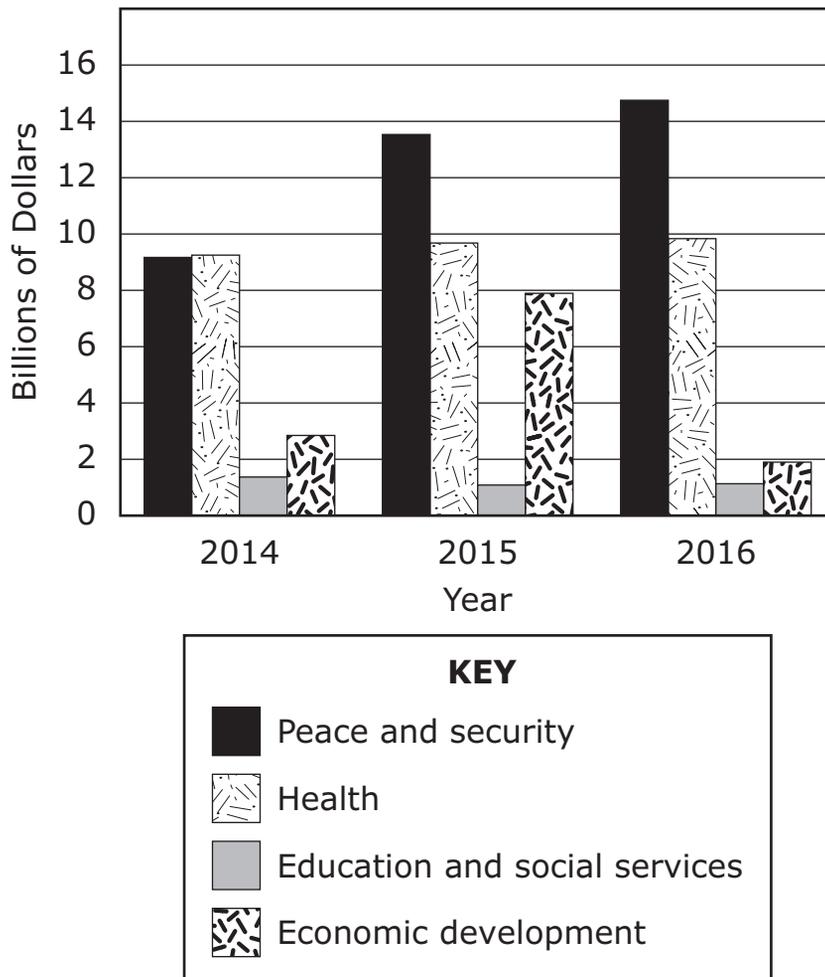
41 Use your knowledge of government to answer the constructed-response question.
BCR

- Describe the role of the petit jury in a criminal case.
- Why must the jury apply the standard of reasonable doubt before finding a defendant guilty? Explain your answer.
- Include details and examples to support your answer.

Write your answer on the lines on your Answer Sheet.

42 Study the graph.

Selected U.S. Foreign Aid Budget, 2014–2016



Source: www.foreignassistance.gov

The data in this graph support the claim that the **primary** purpose of U.S. foreign aid is to

- A** ensure domestic safety by promoting peace abroad.
- B** help countries change their traditional forms of government.
- C** protect the domestic environment by monitoring global resource use.
- D** improve the education systems of underdeveloped countries.

- 43** When a person is denied a job on the basis of race, gender, or religion, it is considered a violation of
- A** consent of the governed.
 - B** equal protection.
 - C** writ of habeas corpus.
 - D** eminent domain.

44 Study the political cartoon.



Which statement **best** explains why this cartoon illustrates a mixed economy?

- A** The employee sells a variety of products to the customers.
- B** The employee can use the wages earned to pay for living expenses.
- C** The government tells a private business how much to pay its employees.
- D** The business sets the prices that customers pay for the food.

- 45** Which situation is a violation of the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?
- A** denying a bank loan to a couple on the basis of race
 - B** blocking publication of a student-run newspaper
 - C** holding a suspect in jail without charges
 - D** issuing a subpoena for records in a criminal case

- 46** Read the information.

To help fight poverty, Maryland has passed a law raising the minimum wage for employees of private businesses doing contract work for the state.

Which socioeconomic goal is **most directly** addressed by the law described in the information?

- A** productivity
- B** equity
- C** growth
- D** freedom

47 Read the excerpt.

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.— That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,—That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath [shown] that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed.”

—Declaration of Independence, 1776

Which **two** phrases **best** exemplify the principle of popular sovereignty?

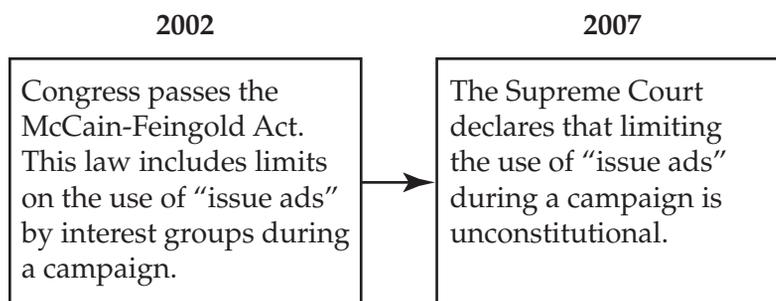
- A** “that all men are created equal . . .”
- B** “that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness . . .”
- C** “Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed . . .”
- D** “it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government . . .”
- E** “Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes . . .”

48 Between 1990 and 2000, the population of a state increased by 66%.

Which of these describes a **likely** effect of this type of population increase?

- A** The state will receive less tax revenue.
- B** The state will have fewer eligible voters.
- C** The state will gain a member in the United States House of Representatives.
- D** The state will gain political power in the United States Senate.

49 Study the timeline.

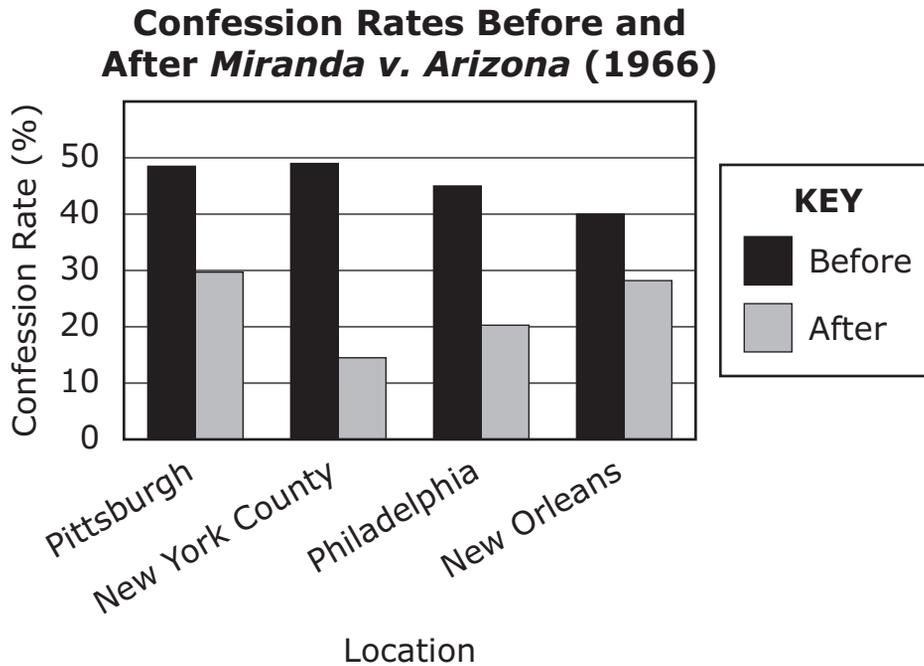


Which of these arguments would a supporter of the Supreme Court's 2007 decision make?

- A** The McCain-Feingold Act violates freedom of speech.
- B** The Supreme Court has judicial authority over the President.
- C** Election advertising is regulated by the Electoral College.
- D** A lobbyist's rights are protected by the 14th Amendment.

- 50** What is one benefit of an open primary?
- A** It allows those not associated with any particular political party to vote.
 - B** It allows those who have not registered to vote to have a voice in the election.
 - C** It limits voter choice to the candidates of two main political parties.
 - D** It expands voting to those under 18 years of age.

51 Study the graph.



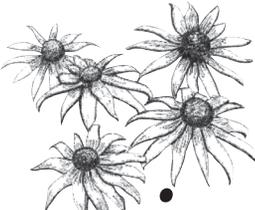
Source: Paul G. Cassell, "Miranda's Social Costs: An Empirical Reassessment," *Northwestern Law Review* 90, 1996, p. 387

Which conclusion about the impact of *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966) on the rights of the accused does this data support?

- A Defendants more often request a public trial.
- B Defendants more often stay silent during questioning.
- C Defendants more often appeal the outcome of a trial.
- D Defendants more often agree to plead guilty.

- 52** Why would political candidates **most likely** use digital communications during election campaigns?
- A** to save money on campaign posters
 - B** to share ideas directly with voters
 - C** to avoid participating in political debates
 - D** to hide information from the mainstream media
- 53** Which type of government provides the **best** protection of individual rights?
- A** absolute monarchy
 - B** parliamentary democracy
 - C** dictatorship
 - D** oligarchy
- 54** Which of these principles of government is used by the U.S. Supreme Court when it rules that a law is unconstitutional?
- A** federalism
 - B** individual rights
 - C** judicial review
 - D** representative democracy





Session **4**

- 55** Which government action would **most** encourage population growth in Maryland?
- A** decreasing the budget for public transportation
 - B** enacting stricter labor regulations
 - C** funding renewal projects in urban areas
 - D** designating land for a national park

56 Part A:

Read the excerpt.

The President . . . with the Advice and Consent of the Senate . . . shall appoint Judges of the Supreme Court.

—Article II, U.S. Constitution

Which constitutional principle is **best** illustrated by this excerpt?

- A** checks and balances
- B** separation of powers
- C** popular sovereignty

Part B:

Read the excerpt.

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union . . . do ordain and establish this Constitution.

—Preamble, U.S. Constitution

Which constitutional principle is **best** illustrated by this excerpt?

- A** checks and balances
- B** separation of powers
- C** popular sovereignty



- 57** Which issue would a candidate **most likely** address to attract the votes of senior citizens?
- A** local curfew laws
 - B** commuter carpool lanes
 - C** college tuition aid
 - D** social security benefits

- 58** The state of Maryland is a leader in environmental preservation and restoration. For example, Maryland aims to protect the state's farmland and other natural resources while enhancing existing communities.

Select the **three** government actions or strategies that would help meet these aims.

- A** improve public transportation
- B** encourage cities to expand into suburbs
- C** create bicycle lanes along highways
- D** build tourist attractions in the Chesapeake Bay region
- E** design workplaces and homes in the same buildings
- F** offer tax incentives to bring new employers to Maryland



59 Read the excerpt.

“The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has rescheduled public hearings on whether to allow companies to build wind turbines in state forests in Western Maryland.”

—*Baltimore Sun*, January 2008

The situation described in the news article illustrates a possible conflict between finding alternative sources of energy and

- A** protecting the environment.
- B** funding national defense.
- C** enhancing the quality of education.
- D** promoting economic equity.



Session 4

A student is researching how costs and benefits affect government decision making. The student's compelling question is this:

Should the United States increase or decrease defense spending?

The student has found the following sources. Use the sources to answer the questions that follow.

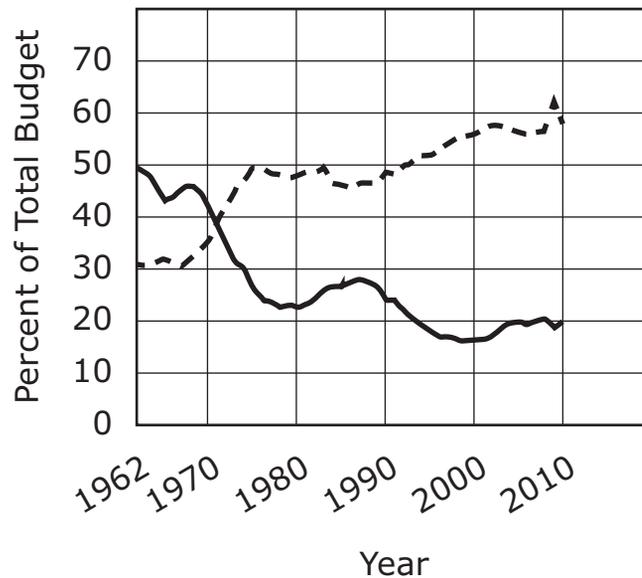
Background Information

Each year, Congress and the President create a budget for federal spending. The budget often reflects the priorities of the United States. There is usually a debate about whether the United States is spending too much or not enough on national defense.



Source A

Federal Spending on Entitlements and Defense, 1962–2010



KEY
--- Entitlements
— Defense

Source: Office of Management and Budget,* 2012

*The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) serves the Executive of the United States in overseeing the implementation of his vision across the Executive Branch. Specifically, OMB's mission is to assist the Executive in meeting his policy, budget, management, and regulatory objectives and to fulfill the agency's statutory responsibilities.





Source B

“First, some history. The Pentagon’s budget has risen for 13 years, which is unprecedented. Between 2001 and 2009, overall spending on defense rose from \$412 billion to \$699 billion, a 70 percent increase, which is larger than in any comparable period since the Korean War. Including the supplementary spending on Iraq and Afghanistan, we spent \$250 billion more than average U.S. defense expenditures during the Cold War—a time when the Soviet, Chinese and Eastern European militaries were arrayed against the United States and its allies. Over the past decade, when we had no serious national adversaries, U.S. defense spending has gone from about a third of total worldwide defense spending to 50 percent. In other words, we spend more on defense than the planet’s remaining countries put together.”

—Fareed Zakaria. “Why Defense Spending Should Be Cut,” *Washington Post*, 2011



Source C

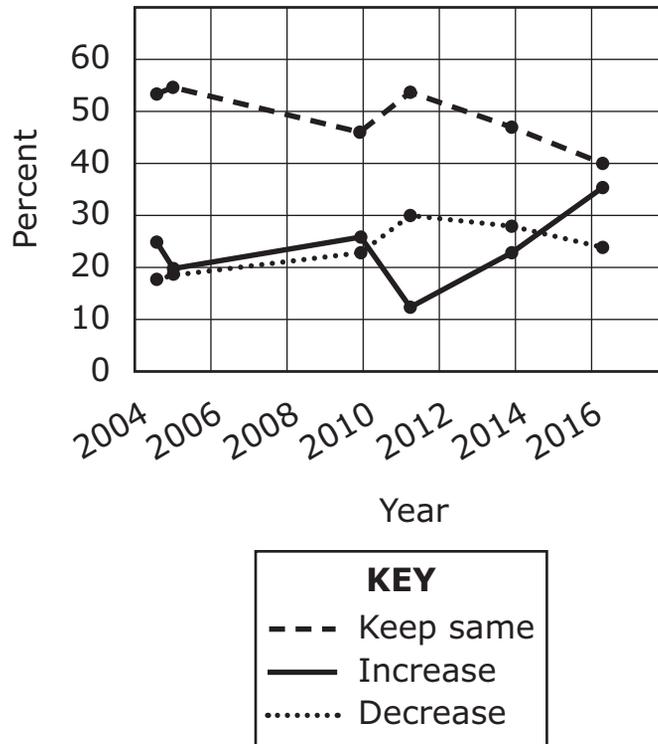
This excerpt is from a 2015 article written by two Republican senators.

“Even though we’ve been able to keep the homeland safe for more than a decade, the threats to Americans at home and abroad are growing. . . . Yet, even as the world outside our borders is filled with more doubt and uncertainty, the United States has been steadily reducing our spending on defense. . . .”The Army is on the path to be reduced to pre-World War II levels. The Navy is at pre-WWI levels. And our Air Force has the smallest and oldest combat force in its history.”History has shown that every time we have unreasonably cut resources from our military in anticipation of a peace . . . it has only cost us more to make up for the deficit we create in military readiness and capability, and the expected era of perpetual peace fails to materialize.”We think we are saving money, but in the long run, we end up paying more and creating more risk and uncertainty.”We can afford the military we need, but we must make it a priority.”

—Senator Marco Rubio and Senator Tom Cotton. “Why Defense Budget Must Grow,” CNN, 2015

Source D

Public Opinions on National Defense Spending, 2004–2016



Source: PEW Research Center,
Survey conducted April 12–19, 2016



- 60** Which aspect of Source A would be **most** helpful for a student to use to evaluate its credibility?
- A** It illustrates data in graph form.
 - B** It shows change over time.
 - C** It makes a comparison between two categories.
 - D** It originates from a government agency.
- 61** Source B was **most likely** created to
- A** demonstrate the need for diplomacy in foreign policy.
 - B** show a specific point of view about military spending.
 - C** explain how military spending affects the environment.
 - D** promote the views of a specific political party.
- 62** Which argument **most clearly** supports the authors' claims in Source C?
- A** "While the military is important, we have important social programs that must be funded as well."
 - B** "Our nation will gain nothing but additional deficit if spending on defense is increased."
 - C** "We need a large, stable military to be able to better protect our citizens."
 - D** "There are both benefits and drawbacks to our current level of defense spending."

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Assume that the information provided in the sources is credible.

ECR

Complete this extended-response question.

Should the United States increase or decrease defense spending?

- Develop a claim in response to the question.
- Cite evidence from the provided sources to support your claim.
- Use your knowledge of government in your response.

Write your answer on the lines on your Answer Sheet.



4 Point Rubric for Content CRs

Level 4	The response demonstrates comprehensive understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is insightful and completely integrates knowledge to thoroughly answer the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addresses all aspects of the question. Both bullets are answered with details. Demonstrates comprehensive government knowledge. Minimal misconceptions do not interfere with understanding. When appropriate, applies evidence correctly from the stimulus to support response.
Level 3	The response shows adequate understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is satisfactory and integrates knowledge to answer the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addresses most aspects of the question. Both bullets are answered, although one may be less developed than the other. Demonstrates adequate government knowledge. Minor misconceptions do not interfere with understanding. When appropriate, applies evidence from the stimulus to support response, although connection between evidence and response may be incomplete or slightly flawed.
Level 2	The response shows partial understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is general, demonstrates incomplete knowledge, and partially answers the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addresses few aspects of the question. One bullet may be omitted or both may be inadequately developed. Demonstrates partial government knowledge. Misconceptions interfere with understanding. When appropriate, applies little evidence from the stimulus or applies evidence poorly.
Level 1	The response shows minimal understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is related to the question, but is inadequate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimally addresses the question. Demonstrates minimal government knowledge. Significant misconceptions interfere with understanding. When appropriate, applies little to no evidence from the stimulus.
Level 0	The response is completely incorrect, irrelevant to the question, or too vague.



5 Point Rubric for EBAS CR

Level 5	The response demonstrates substantial understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is insightful and completely integrates knowledge to thoroughly answer the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops a comprehensive claim addressing the compelling question. Supports claim with full synthesis, citing evidence from all appropriate sources and connection to claim is substantial. Minor misconceptions do not interfere with understanding.
Level 4	The response shows significant understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is thoughtful and integrates knowledge to fully answer the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops an adequate claim addressing the compelling question. Reflects thoughtful synthesis in supporting claim with evidence from several appropriate sources, but connection to claim may be unevenly developed. Minor misconceptions do not interfere with understanding.
Level 3	The response shows general understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is adequate and integrates knowledge to fully answer the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops a general claim addressing the compelling question. Supports claim with some synthesis behind at least one source. Minor misconceptions interfere with understanding.
Level 2	The response shows partial understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response presents incomplete knowledge and partially answers the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops a partial claim addressing the compelling question. Claim reflects support from at least one source, but there is little to no synthesis behind any source. Misconceptions interfere with understanding.
Level 1	The response shows minimal understanding of the content, question, and/or problem. The response is related to the question, but is inadequate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May develop a partial claim that relates to the compelling question or lacks a claim. References information from sources. Significant misconceptions.
Level 0	The response is completely incorrect or irrelevant to the question.





GOVERNMENT PRACTICE TEST