

Individual Rights and Responsibilities Lesson 2. 1

This lesson will help you understand how civil rights have progressed for US citizens, particularly for African Americans and women. Use it with core lesson 2. 1 Individual Rights and Responsibilities to reinforce and apply your knowledge.

Key Concept

Constitutional amendments and new laws have helped extend civil rights to more people in the United States.

Core Skills & Practices

- Identify Point of View
- identify Cause-and-Effect Relationships

Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Freedoms that are guaranteed by the US Constitution are called civil liberties. Civil rights are the rights of full citizenship and equality under the law.

1. Categorize each term as either a civil liberty or a civil right by writing each term in the correct box.

gathering peacefully
speaking your opinion

voting
living where you choose

attending school
employment

Civil Liberties

Civil Rights

Directions: Read the passage below. Then answer the questions that follow.

... in all capital or criminal prosecutions a man has a right to demand the cause and nature of his accusation, to be confronted with the accusers and witnesses, to call for evidence in his favor, and to a speedy trial by an impartial jury...

—*Virginia Declaration of Rights*, George Mason, 1776

2. George Mason's point of view regarding the rights of the accused is reflected in what Constitutional amendment?
A. First Amendment
B. Sixth Amendment
C. Fourteenth Amendment
D. Nineteenth Amendment
3. The fact that the authorities cannot search a person's home without a warrant is an example of
A. double jeopardy.
B. due process.
C. the Free Exercise Clause.
D. the Establishment Clause.

Directions: Read the following excerpt from the Supreme Court’s decision in the case of *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966). Then answer the question that follows.

... the person in custody must, prior to interrogation, be clearly informed that he has the right to remain silent, and that anything he says will be used against him in court; he must be clearly informed that he has the right to consult with a lawyer and to have that lawyer with him during interrogation, and that, if he is indigent, a lawyer will be appointed to represent him.

4. The Warren Court most likely based its decision in *Miranda v. Arizona* on what Constitutional amendment?
- A. First Amendment
 - B. Fourth Amendment
 - C. Fifth Amendment
 - D. Fifteenth Amendment

Civil Rights for African Americans

The end of the Civil War eliminated slavery and also extended civil rights to all males born or naturalized in America.

Directions: Read the following questions. Then select the correct answer.

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| <p>5. Which amendments to the Constitution guaranteed civil rights to newly freed African Americans?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Eleventh, Tenth, TwelfthB. Fourteenth, Fifteenth, SixteenthC. Thirteenth, Fourteenth, FifteenthD. Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth | <p>6. The Supreme Court ruling in <i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> (1896) stated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. African Americans could not be kept from running for office.B. schools for African American children did not have to be built.C. segregation was legal as long as facilities were “separate but equal.”D. African Americans had the equal right to own land. |
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Test-Taking Tip

When trying to determine the correct answer to a multiple-choice question, begin by deciding the correct answer before looking at the answer choices. Then, match the answer you believe to be correct with one of the possible choices.

Directions: Read the quote below from Martin Luther King, Jr. Then answer the question that follows.

Any law that degrades human personality is unjust. All segregation statutes are unjust because segregation distorts the soul and damages the personality. It gives the segregator a false sense of superiority and the segregated a false sense of inferiority.

7. Dr. King's point of view is most clearly reflected in
- A. due process.
 - B. *Plessy v. Ferguson*.
 - C. *Brown v. Board of Education, Topeka, Kansas*
 - D. the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

Women's Rights

After the Civil War, the women who championed voting rights for African American men turned their attention toward securing the same rights for women.

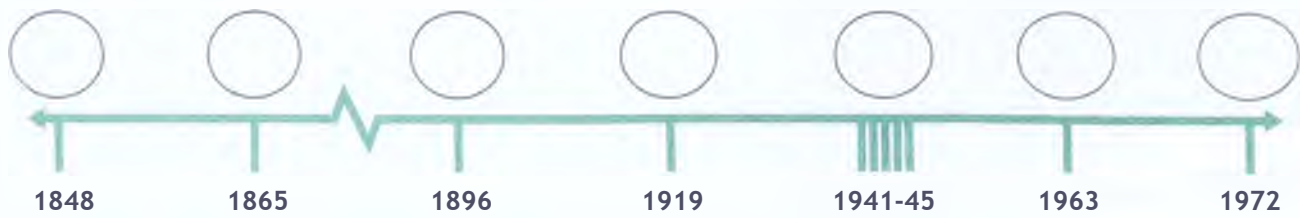
Directions: Read the excerpt below from Sojourner Truth's speech at the Women's Rights Convention in Akron, OH, 1851. Then answer questions 8-9.

That man over there says that women need to be helped into carriages, and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody ever helps me into carriages, or over mud-puddles, or gives me any best place! And ain't I a woman? Look at me! Look at my arm! I have ploughed and planted, and gathered into bams, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman? I could work as much and eat as much as a man—when I could get it—and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman? I have borne thirteen children, and seen most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! And ain't I a woman?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>8. What is the main idea of Sojourner Truth's speech?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. African American men and all women both suffered the same ills.B. Women are as able as men.C. Women need special rights not given to men.D. Enslaved female workers suffered more than enslaved male workers. | <p>9. What does she mean when she says "no man can head me"?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. No man could outwork her.B. No man could rule over her.C. No man could mistreat or abuse her.D. No man could be more intelligent than she was. |
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Directions: Read the following questions. Then select the correct answer.

- 10.** Write the letter in the circle that correctly corresponds to the date on the time line below. Then circle the events that had a direct effect on improvements in women's rights.



- a. passage of the Thirteenth Amendment
 - b. publication of Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique*
 - c. Seneca Falls Conference
 - d. Congress approves the Equal Rights Amendment
 - e. World War II
 - f. *Plessy v. Ferguson*
 - g. passage of the Nineteenth Amendment
- 11.** Civil rights for African Americans and for women took a long time and much dedication and hard work before they were granted. Which of the following words *best* describes what it took to achieve this?
- A. patience
 - B. influence
 - C. suffrage
 - D. perseverance
- 12.** Title IX guarantees equality for girls and women in which area?
- A. medicine
 - B. sports
 - C. banking
 - D. employment
- 13.** James Madison once wrote that "Equal laws, protecting equal rights, are... the best guarantee of loyalty and love of country. " On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph explaining what you think Madison meant by his statement.

This lesson will help you understand the role of political parties in US politics, and how interest groups and individuals participate in our democracy. Use it with core lesson 2. 2 Political Parties, Campaigns, and Elections to reinforce and apply your knowledge.



Key Concept

People can make their views known and influence public policy through political parties and interest groups.



Core Skills & Practices

- Analyze Ideas
- Interpret Political Cartoons

American Political Parties

Political parties are organizations of like-minded individuals who work to influence national policies by nominating candidates for elected office.

Directions: Read the excerpt below from Senator Barack Obama's speech at the 2004 Democratic National Convention. Then answer the questions that follow.

[T]here is not a liberal America and a conservative America—there is the United States of America. There is not a black America and a white America and Latino America and Asian America; there's the United States of America. The pundits like to slice-and-dice our country into Red States and Blue States; Red States for Republicans, Blue States for Democrats. But I've got news for them, too. We worship an awesome God in the Blue States, and we don't like federal agents poking around in our libraries in the Red States.... There are patriots who opposed the war in Iraq, and there are patriots who supported it. We are one people, all of us pledging allegiance to the stars and stripes, all of us defending the United States of America.

1. In this speech, Senator Obama was most likely trying to appeal to what group of voters?
 - A. ethnic groups
 - B. religious voters
 - C. independent voters
 - D. veterans groups
2. Which task did Senator Obama's speech most likely achieve?
 - A. expressing a party's beliefs
 - B. forming a coalition government
 - C. nominating a candidate
 - D. raising campaign funds



Test-Taking Tip

The more you practice reading different types of texts of different lengths, the better prepared you will be to read and understand passages presented in reading tests. A good way to practice is to read as much as you can about subjects that interest you. Not only will you become a better reader when taking a test, you will also increase your enjoyment of reading.

Directions: Use the chart below to answer questions 3-5.

Third-Party Presidential Candidates		
Below are some third-party or independent candidates in the twentieth century who received a significant percentage of the vote		
Candidate	Party	% of vote
Theodore Roosevelt (1912)	Progressive Party	27
Eugene Debs (1912)	Socialist Party	7
Robert M. LaFoliete (1924)	Progressive Party	17
George Wallace (1968)	American Independent Party	14
John B. Anderson (1980)	National Unity Campaign	7
H. Ross Perot (1992)	(Independent)	19
H. Ross Perot (1996)	Reform Party	9
Ralph Nader (2000)	Green Party	3

3. Based on what you have learned about third parties in American politics, what can you conclude about the elections listed in the chart above?
- A. Neither the Democratic nor the Republican Party held a nominating convention in these election years.
 - B. Neither the Democratic nor the Republican nominee won enough votes to become president.
 - C. Neither the Democratic nor the Republican candidate addressed issues that were important.
 - D. Neither the Democratic nor the Republican candidate was able to get enough support to form a coalition government.
4. The elections of 1912, 1980, and 1992 were ones in which the sitting president lost his bid for re-election. Based on this, you can conclude which of the following?
- A. Third-party candidates can have an effect on the outcome of an election.
 - B. The challenger from the opposition party was not able to win a majority of votes.
 - C. Most third-party candidates represent extremely radical political views.
 - D. Third-party candidates are more powerful now than they were in the past.
5. Why are independents so important to the outcome of modern American elections?
- A. Independents donate more money to political campaigns than members of the major parties.
 - B. The numbers of Republicans and Democrats are roughly the same.
 - C. The victorious party needs independents to form a coalition government.
 - D. The Electoral College is made up mostly of independents.

Political Campaigns and Elections

Political campaigns give voters information about candidates and issues, but the responsibility for investigating, understanding, and making informed decisions resides with each voter.

Directions: Use the political cartoon below to answer questions 6-7.



6. In American politics, an elephant is normally the symbol of the
 - A. Electoral College.
 - B. Republican Party.
 - C. Democratic Party.
 - D. House of Representatives.
7. What characteristic(s) allows you to conclude that the image is a political cartoon (as opposed to another kind of artwork)?
 - A. The image is a realistic depiction of political events.
 - B. The image was drawn by a prominent political figure.
 - C. The image combines symbols and caricatures to make a point.
 - D. The image is a crudely drawn pencil sketch.

Directions: Use the chart below to answer question 8.

2000 Presidential Election				
Party	Candidate	Electoral Votes	Popular Votes	% of Popular Vote
Republican	George W. Bush	271	50,455,156	47.9
Democrat	Albert Gore, Jr.	266	50,992,335	48.4
Green	Ralph Nader	0	2,882,738	2.7

8. What can you conclude based on the information in this chart?

- A. Without a third-party candidate, George W. Bush would have won the popular vote.
- B. It is possible for a candidate to win the presidency without winning the popular vote.
- C. Of all the candidates, George W. Bush ran the most effective and efficient campaign.
- D. Ralph Nader was a relatively unknown candidate at the time of the election.

The Influence of Interest Groups

Interest groups influence the political process through public advocacy, by campaigning during elections, and by donating money to candidates.

Directions: Read the quote below. Then answer the question that follows.

... we are expected to govern with integrity, good will, clear convictions, and a servant's heart. I pledge to all Americans that I will carry myself in this spirit as vice president of the United States. This was the spirit that brought me to the governor's office, when I took on the old politics as usual in Juneau... when I stood up to the special interests, the lobbyists, big oil companies, and the good-ol' boys network.

—Governor Sarah Palin, 2008 Republican National Convention Address

9. Why do you think Governor Palin made a point of mentioning her opposition to lobbyists?
- A. Lobbyists nominate and campaign for candidates for elected office.
 - B. Lobbyists often testify at government hearings for or against proposed laws.
 - C. Lobbyists represent only Democratic candidates or liberal interest groups.
 - D. Lobbyists charge high fees for their services, and often represent wealthy interests.

This lesson will help define and identify examples of public policy and to describe how public policies are made. Use it with core lesson 2.3 Contemporary Public Policy to reinforce and apply your knowledge.

Key Concept

Actions taken by the government to address concerns of the voting public are known as public policies.

Core Skills & Practices

- Draw Conclusions
- Evaluate Reasoning

What Is Contemporary Public Policy?

The course of action taken to combat problems affecting the public is known as public policy. Because so many issues and problems exist at any given time, thousands of public policies are currently in effect.

Directions: Use the passage to answer questions 1 and 2.

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

—Preamble to the United States Constitution

1. What is the best definition of the word **domestic** as it is used in this passage?
 - A. internal
 - B. household
 - C. supportive
 - D. comfortable
2. What is the best definition of the word **Posterity** as it is used in this passage?
 - A. other countries
 - B. to be prosperous
 - C. future generations
 - D. states within the Union



Test-Taking Tip

Remember that when answering vocabulary questions, the correct answer is not always the primary dictionary definition. Combine the context clues given to you in the passage with what you know about the author's purpose to help you determine the intended meaning of the word.

3. In the chart below, identify which body would most likely be responsible for the given policy: city government, state government, or national government.

Type of Policy	Type of government
Setting sanitation and waste collection standards	
Defining military eligibility requirements	
Enforcing local noise ordinances	
Defining requirements for obtaining a driver's license	
Adopting education standards and graduation requirements	
Establishing trade practices with foreign countries	

Directions: Use the policy chart below to answer questions 4 and 5.

4. In the public policy log below, fill in the "Type of Policy" section with the best choice from the terms below.

Policy	Type of policy
Seatbelts must be worn by all passengers in a moving vehicle.	
Trucks cannot exceed posted weight limits on public highways.	
All vehicles must pass an emissions test before being issued a license plate.	
License-plate renewal fees will be increased by 10% in the new year.	
Drivers are required to carry medical liability coverage through their auto-insurance carrier.	

health-care policy

environmental policy

public safety policy

transportation policy

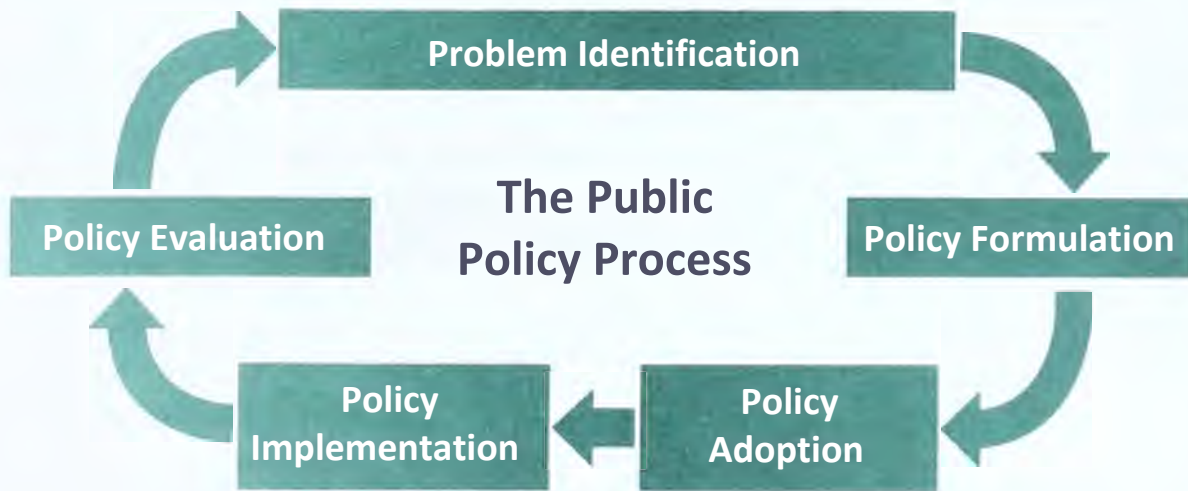
economic policy

5. Which of the following is an opinion based on the information given in this policy log?
- A. People who are safe drivers should not have to wear seatbelts.
 - B. Heavy trucks are causing extensive damage to our state's bridges and roadways.
 - C. The materials used in making new license plates are more expensive than before.
 - D. Drivers without auto insurance drive up the price of insurance for the rest of us.

How National Policy Is Made

Establishing a national policy is essentially a legal and bureaucratic process, but it can also involve participation by concerned citizens, interest groups, and researchers.

Directions: Use the flow chart below to answer questions 6-9.



6. Write a number next to the term below to place the steps of the public policy process in the correct order.

Policy Implementation	Problem Identification	Policy Adoption
Policy Evaluation	Policy Formulation	

7. What does the shape of this flow chart tell you about the policy-making process?
- A. Any policy solution to one problem will always cause another problem.
 - B. Policy-based solutions to problems are never really successful.
 - C. Shaping and refining public policy is an ongoing process.
 - D. By law, government policies can last only one year and must be renewed.
8. Suppose the Department of Health and Human Services implemented a policy of providing free flu shots. Which steps would most likely follow in the public policy process?
- A. Health care advocates would work with lawmakers to shape the policy.
 - B. Congress would pass a law authorizing the distribution of free flu shots.
 - C. Public advocacy groups would identify a sharp rise in the number of flu fatalities.
 - D. Medical researchers would examine the benefits of or problems with the program.
9. The _____ step in this process would most likely involve the participation of an interest group?
- A. policy adoption
 - B. policy formation
 - C. policy evaluation
 - D. problem identification

Influences on Public Policy

The government makes public policy, but it is the relationship between the citizens and their government—through voting, interest groups, and lobbyists—that influences which policies are made.

10. Using the table below, categorize each of the following issues as either a special-interest group issue, a public-interest group issue, or an economic-interest group issue.

Relaxing Health-Care Regulations
Preventing Texting While Driving
Increasing Voter Registration

Campaign Finance Reform
Gun Control
Improving Work Safety Standards

Special-Interest Group	Public-Interest Group	Economic-Interest Group

Directions: Read the passage below. Then answer questions 11 and 12.

It is said that lobbying itself is an evil and a danger. We agree that lobbying by personal contact may be an evil and a potential danger to the best in legislative processes. It is said that indirect lobbying by the pressure of public opinion on the Congress is an evil and a danger. That is not an evil; it is a good, the healthy essence of the democratic process.

—US Court of Appeals Ruling in *Rumely v. United States*, 1952

11. Which of the following best describes the process of lobbying mentioned in this passage?

A. persuading public officials to adopt particular positions

B. raising awareness about key issues to help voters

C. monitoring public officials to make sure they are not taking bribes

D. electing officials who support policies that help the general public
12. According to this ruling, which type of lobbying practice might be considered “a potential danger to the best in legislative processes”?

A. preparing informational reports for lawmakers

B. giving testimony before Congress

C. hiring a public relations firm to promote an issue

D. personally buying lunch or dinner for government officials
13. Suppose you are the mayor of a city. As mayor, you must address such issues as education, economic growth, crime, preserving the environment, and providing services for the poor. On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph identifying which area you would give the highest priority to, and explain why.