*QUESTIONS*

1. Describe what government is and what governments do.
   1. Define the term government.
   2. What are the two fundamental questions about governing that serve as themes throughout the textbook?
   3. List the five functions all national governments perform.
2. Define the term politics.
3. Give examples of the who, what, when, and how of politics.
4. Identify the important features of the policy system and explain how public policies are the choices government makes, and declines to make, in response to political issues.
   1. Draw a diagram of how a policy system works.
   2. List four key linkage institutions in a democratic society.
   3. Define the term policy agenda.
   4. How does a government's policy agenda change?
   5. List the four major policymaking institutions in the United States.
   6. Define the term policy impacts.
5. Define the term democracy as used in this text.
6. List the five cornerstones of an ideal democracy.
7. Explain what is meant by majority rule and minority rights.
8. Distinguish among the three contemporary theories of American democracy and politics (pluralist, elite and class, and hyperpluralist) and identify some of their strengths and weaknesses.
   1. Describe who holds power and how policy is made for each of the three theories.
   2. List four major challenges facing American democracy.
9. What is political culture and why is it crucial to understanding American government?
10. List the five elements of the American creed according to Seymour Martin Lipset.
11. Explain what is meant by a culture war.
12. Make a list of items that illustrate the scope of American government.
13. What is gross domestic product and how does the term illustrate the scope of American government?