*QUESTIONS*

1. Describe from what you know, heard, or read the federal, state, and local Gulf Coast response to Hurricane Katrina. What were the major issues making the combined response what many view as a joke?
2. Federalism, in specifics...
   1. Does federalism, the vertical division of power, enhance democracy in the United States?
   2. Does the additional layer of policymakers make government more responsive to public opinion or merely more complicated?
   3. Does it enhance the prospects that a national majority of Americans have their way in public policy?
   4. What are the implications of federalism for the scope of the national government's activities?
   5. Why has the national government grown so much in relation to state governments, and has this growth been at the expense of the states?
3. What are some key distinctions between federalism and what can be called American federalism?
4. This chapter's section entitled *Why Is Federalism So Important?* discusses the fact there are times in United States history when a presidential candidate received the majority of the popular vote, but doesn't win the election. Does that “jive” with your personal beliefs on American politics or is it in violation of some fundamental rule of “democracy?”
5. Which aspects of our lives do you believe should be governed by each of the three tiers of our federal system; i.e., federal, state, and local?
6. In the frame of history, why was the Supremacy Clause (Article VI) important for the Framers to include?
7. In a state, state laws supersede county laws, and county laws supersede city laws; in a commonwealth, it the opposite: city laws supersede county laws, county laws supersede commonwealth laws. Which one do you believe is a “better” way to govern?
8. Discuss, with specific examples, the differences between enumerated and implied powers for the federal government in the Constitution. Also, evaluate the importance of the Necessary and Proper Clause (Article I, § 8).
9. What are the broader implications of the Full Faith and Credit Clause (Article IV)?
10. Analyze the move from dual to cooperative federalism.
11. Should political principles or pragmatism be more important in government?
12. Discuss the process by which federal monies are distributed to states, local governments, and individuals.