

## Multiple-Choice Answers

1. (E)

Devolution is the transfer of some power from the central government to local governments, usually done to reduce ethnonationalism and/or regional separatism. (A) is a piece of a country geographically separated from the mother country and surrounded by another state. (B) is a state that exists geographically between two warring or conflicting states, (C) is a very small state like Singapore, and (D) is when legislators redesign electoral districts in a way to give a political party an advantage in an election.

2. (C)

An elongated state has a long, thin shape, like Slovakia. A fragmented state (A) is splintered or geographically separated into several pieces, like Malaysia. In a compact state (B), no point on the state's boundary is significantly further from the geographic center than any other point. A prorupt, or protruded, state (D) has a piece of land jutting off of a core region, like Thailand. A perforated state (E) has a hole punched in it by another state, like South Africa.

3. (B)

An enclave is a region in which a particular group is concentrated in one area and surrounded by people who are not members of that group. Because Region B is ruled by State X's government, the same as Region A, it is not considered an exclave of any other state (A). (C) is a force that helps bind a country together, such as a charismatic leader, a flag, or national anthem. (D) is a region that dominates a state economically or politically, and nothing in the questions suggests that Region B does so. (E) is the area 200 nautical miles off the coast that a state can claim as its exclusive economic zone.

4. (A)

Gerrymandering is the design by legislators of electoral districts to create advantages for a particular party. In linking people registered with a particular party together in one district, gerrymandering often results in very strange-shaped regions. (B) is the adoption of a trait by a population that is impractical for the population. (C) is the transfer of some political power from a central government to regional units; (D) is the breakup of a unified state into various independent subunits; and (E) is an alliance of three or more states for mutual benefit.

5. (E)

The UN Security Council has 15 member states, five of which are permanent, veto-empowered states: China, Russia, United States, France, and

England. Germany was not allowed permanency because of its actions during World War II.

6. (D)

A forward capital is a city to which a government moves its capital to achieve a national objective. Malaysia is constructing Putrajaya to replace Kuala Lumpur as its political capital. Putrajaya is being planned from all conceivable aspects to create a city that represents urban innovation.

7. (B)

A stateless nation is a unified cultural group without a state to call its own, as in each of the mentioned cases, in which the named group wants its own countries. (A) are states each containing more than one nation; (C) are states each containing only one nation and with political boundaries that match cultural boundaries; (D) are regions that are officially unassigned and unoccupied territories with thinly defined boundaries and undeveloped territoriality; and (E) are countries without coastal access to bodies of water.

8. (E)

According to world-systems analysis, the world's states exist in one of three categories: core, periphery, and semiperiphery. A peripheral country is controlled by and serves the countries in the core. Colombia is not in an economic driver's seat, the core; it is not in a state of upward, near-core existence, the semiperiphery; but it is controlled by the core and, as a former colony, serves in a dependent relationship with the core. The other choices are, arguable, in the core or fringes of the semiperiphery near the core.

9. (C)

The Canadian government is organized as a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary democracy that is also a federation of 10 provinces. This means that the central parliament shares power with 10 empowered provincial governments. (A) is a government run by religious leaders; (B) is a structure of a weak central government trumped by more powerful regional governmental units, like provinces; (D) is a structure with a strong central government and weak or nonexistent regional governments; and (E) was the racially segregating governmental structure in South Africa.

10. (C)

Turkey, a country that straddles both Europe and Asia, has a large Muslim population and affiliations with the Middle East that have prompted criticism that the country does not share enough of the EU's political-cultural similarities (if they even exist) to be a member-state. For example, Turkey's conflict with Cyprus has

been viewed as a human rights issue jeopardizing Turkey's necessary commitment to EU principles.

11. (C)

The Himalayan Mountains play a prominent role in creating India's northern border from China. Because this boundary is based on a natural feature, a mountain chain, it is (C). (A) are political boundaries based on cultural aspects, such as language and religion; (B) are geometric straight-line boundaries not based on natural features; (D) are boundaries no longer active in dividing space; and (E) are boundaries applied by outside forces like the United Nations.

12. (A)

Spykman's rimland theory is based in the idea that control of the Eurasian periphery would lead to domination of the Eurasian landmass and eventual world domination. Therefore, according to this theory, if lands like Vietnam fell, the rest of the world would have fallen to the Communists in a domino effect. (B) came into existence after the fall of the Soviet Union in the 1990s, after the Vietnam War. (C) argues that states exist in a capitalistic system. (D) argues that the poverty in most newly independent states is linked to the exploitative economic malnourishment engineered by the former colonizing powers. (E) relates to the geographic divide in wealth between countries in the Northern and Southern hemispheres.

13. (B)

An allocational dispute centers on fights over resources, such as water, and boundaries. (A) is a dispute over the language in a boundary's creation; (C) is a conflict over how a boundary should function; (D) is a conflict over the location of a boundary; and (E) is a phase in boundary formation involving the marking of a boundary on the territory.

14. (D)

Irredentism is an effort by a government to take over (or reclaim) a place or people it believes is naturally part of its state but exists outside its borders. (A) is the breakup or splintering of a unified state into several distinct pieces. (B) is a region of the sea extending 200 nautical miles from a country's coast, unless it overlaps with another's state's zone of control. (C) is the transfer of power from a central authority to local units. (E) is the control by a more powerful country over a place that is less developed.

15. (E)

Although straits are open to the passage of ships, they are owned and operated by specific states, which can lead to conflict. The other choices are all a part of stipulations reached in UNCLOS.

16. **(B)**

The borders of western states were drawn by a conquering government to the detriment of the conquered groups. (A) are boundaries drawn after substantial settlement by the people who settled the area, (C) are boundaries created before settlement occurs, (D) are features of the landscape that are used as borders, and (E) is fictitious.

17. **(D)**

The Warsaw Pact was an alliance of communist states founded for mutual protection. (A), (B), (C), and (E) were communist governments during the Cold War and originally signed the treaty. (D) is the only country of the five choices that was neither communist nor a member of the Warsaw Pact.

18. **(A)**

First, definition is the phase in which the exact location of a boundary is legally described and negotiated. Second, delimitation is the step when the boundary's definition is drawn onto a map. Third, demarcation is the marking of a boundary on the landscape with something visible, such as a fence, line, sign, or wall. Demarcation is not always reached because some countries choose not to create a physical border between themselves.

19. **(A)**

Religious differences are a major cause of instability within countries. The other choices tend to unite citizens around common values or beliefs and instill a sense of national unity.

20. **(B)**

The Berlin Wall marks the border between East and West Berlin. Although it was superimposed on the people of Berlin after the start of the Cold War and was a subsequent boundary (being created after substantial settlement), it is considered today to be a relic boundary because it no longer functions as a border.

## Free-Response Answers

The following is a list of suggested main points for each part of the question.

### Part A

- A unitary state has a strong central government, where most governmental power is concentrated for the entire state.
- Sometimes the regional governments are weak and serve only as administrative units of the central government.
- Usually, the regional governments do not have guaranteed powers.
- The following is a list of some acceptable examples of unitary states: New Zealand, France, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Norway, Denmark, and Sweden. England is often used as an example of a unitary state, but with recent developments in Wales and Scotland, it is devolving into a decentralized unitary state.
- The most obvious advantage of having a unitary state is greater unity resulting from one national body representing the people. Often unitary states are smaller, more homogenous states; however, a multinational state may opt for a unitary organization so that no ethnonational region becomes empowered enough to break away. Although a state facing strong ethnonationalistic tension may play a dangerous game in not empowering its regions with more autonomy, minority nations are often not well represented in unitary governments because minority groups may feel even more angered and desirous of secession.

### Part B

- A federal state has a government in which powers are divided equally between a central national government and regional governments, usually states or provinces.
- The division of power is guaranteed.
- Examples of federal states include the United States, Nigeria, Switzerland, and Australia.
- One advantage of a federal state is usually seen in a multinational state in which national regions are empowered by a sense of autonomy and power over their destinies, rather than dominated by a central government without adequate representation. A federal state can help bind diverse states by empowering regions with a sense of self-definition and bring government closer to the people. Of course, this can backfire when the devolved power fuels the fires of secession, as seen in the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Part C

- Devolution is the process of transferring responsibility from the central government to regional or local governments.
- Devolution often occurs in unitary states where the central government grants autonomy and self-definition. England is a unitary state that devolved powers to the Scottish parliament.
- Some strong examples include the UK. Students must include reasons for devolution. Devolution was highly related to ethnic nationalism.