

## 2.12 The Bureaucracy

**Explain how the bureaucracy carries out the responsibilities of the federal government.**

1. What is the function of the Legislative Branch in the public policy process?
  - a. Write laws
  - b. Implement law
  - c. Interpret laws
  - d. Prohibit laws
  
2. What is the function of the Executive Branch in the public policy process?
  - a. Write laws
  - b. Implement law
  - c. Interpret laws
  - d. Prohibit laws
  
3. The president and a vast bureaucracy made up of hundreds executive agencies have been empowered to implement public policy. All of the following can be used as synonyms of *implement* EXCEPT
  - a. Carry out
  - b. Apply
  - c. Enforce
  - d. Reproof
  
4. The federal bureaucracy is responsible for doing all of the following EXCEPT
  - a. Execute laws
  - b. Translate laws into action
  - c. Distinguishing the jurisdiction of the courts
  - d. Federal government action figures
  
5. In the beginning the federal bureaucracy was compromised of patronage appointments that were friends and patrons of the president. The Civil Service Act of 1883 changed all of that. Today the vast majority of federal bureaucrats are chosen by
  - a. Non-partisan elections
  - b. Partisan elections
  - c. Merit
  - d. The majority party in Congress
  
6. Which of the following best describe an iron triangle?
  - a. A bureaucratic agency, an interest group, and a congressional committee
  - b. The president, an interest group, and a congressional committee
  - c. Senate majority leader, an interest group, and the president
  - d. The Solicitor General, a justice, and a member of the ABA

7. Independent regulatory agencies like the Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

- a. Are checked much more closely than Cabinet related functions
- b. Are typically staffed by highly partisan patronage jobs
- c. Work from secret budgets that even the Congress cannot control
- d. Exist outside Cabinet authority and often act free of presidential influence

8. Executive departments, collectively called the Cabinet, are empowered with vast statutory authority to implement public policy as written into law by Congress and approved by the president. This executive department is responsible for implementing foreign policy.

- a. State Department
- b. Treasury Department
- c. Defense Department
- d. Department of Education

9. Executive departments, collectively called the Cabinet, are empowered with vast statutory authority to implement public policy as written into law by Congress and approved by the president. This executive department is responsible for implementing national security policy.

- a. State Department
- b. Treasury Department
- c. Defense Department
- d. Department of Education

10. Executive departments, collectively called the Cabinet, are empowered with vast statutory authority to implement public policy as written into law by Congress and approved by the president. This executive department is responsible for implementing student loan policy.

- a. State Department
- b. Treasury Department
- c. Defense Department
- d. Department of Education

11. Federal agencies are empowered to write regulations, enforce existing law and adjudicate disputes. This has helped to make our federal bureaucracy more powerful than our Founders imagined. Critics of this powerful bureaucracy would accuse it of

- a. Violating the separation of powers
- b. Violating the goal of an independent government
- c. Violating campaign promises
- d. Violating budget laws

**Critical Thinking Prompt:** What best explains the exponential growth of our federal bureaucracy? Can our government agencies be run like any other private business? Explain.