**Analysis of Practice Test Results DUE April 22, 2013** Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| Content vocabulary | Academic vocabulary |
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1. Look at each question you had correct. What helped you answer the question?

2. Look at each question you had incorrect? Why were you unable to answer the question correctly?

# **Read AND annotate the following information on Multiple-Choice questions:**

# **Types of Multiple-Choice Questions**

Not all multiple-choice questions are the same. AP U.S. Government & Politics Exams will contain the following types of questions:

### 1. Definition or Identification Questions

These questions ask you to recognize something and know what it is. Here is an example.

Class action suits

(A) permit a small number of people to sue on behalf of all other people similarly situated.

 (B) are filed by students seeking to force a school district to offer additional sections of

 perpetually overenrolled courses.

 (C) have to do with constitutional issues, thus broadening the standing to sue.

 (D) are routinely filed by teachers' groups to prepare the way or strikes.

 (E) may be filed only if all of those with standing to sue agree to participate.

The correct answer is A. A small group of people who believe, for example, that a product has harmed them can sue the manufacturer on behalf of all the people who believe they were harmed. This is the definition of class action.

### 2. Cause-and-Effect Questions

This type of question asks which event caused another, or what is the result of something. Here is an example:

**The increasing speed of technological advance**

(A) has significantly reduced the scope of American government.

 (B) helps reduce and accelerate government policymaking.

 (C) has helped reduce the cost of health care in the United States.

(D) has dramatically affected health policy, but has had no effect on environmental and energy policy.

 (E) has created many new practical and moral problems of the political system.

The answer is E. You can use the process of elimination. The scope of government has not gotten smaller; policymaking has not become faster; health care costs have risen; if technology has affected health policy, it is unlikely that it has not also affected environmental and energy policies. Answers A-D are obviously wrong, leaving E.

### 3. "Roman Numeral" Questions

Here you are given a question, then several statements, phrases, or words relating to the question. You must decide which of the statements, phrases, or words are correct. It may be one or more than one.

**Registered voters directly elect which of the following?**

I. The president and vice president

II. Supreme Court justices

III. Senators

IV. The Electoral College

 (A) I only

 (B) IV only

 (C) I and II only

 (D) III and IV only

 (E) II, III, and IV only

The answer is D. Registered voters vote for electors who then vote for the president and vice president. This is not direct election. So any choice that includes I is wrong (A, C). Justices of the Supreme Court are appointed by the president and approved by the Senate, so you can also eliminate choice E. Voters vote directly for both senators and, as noted above, the Electoral College.

### 4. EXCEPT or NOT Questions

In this type of question, four of the answer choices are correct, and you must find the answer that is wrong. Be sure to read the question carefully. Here is an example of this type of question.

**4. Which of the following is NOT specifically mentioned in the Constitution, including its amendments?**

(A) Protection against double jeopardy

(B) Right to bear arms

(C) Freedom of speech

 (D) Right to privacy

 (E) Right to trial by jury

The answer is D. Double jeopardy is addressed in the Fifth Amendment. The right to bear arms is mentioned in the Second Amendment. Freedom of speech is protected by the First Amendment. Article III provides for trial by jury. Only the right to privacy is not specifically mentioned in the Constitution.

Supreme Court Decisions .

5. You will be asked to **identify**, **interpret**, or **compare** one or more well-known Supreme Court decisions. Here is an example:

**New York Times v. Sullivan addressed**

 (A) equal opportunity in the workplace.

 (B) libel.

 (C) prior restraint.

 (D) business monopolies.

 (E) obscenity.

The answer is B. The Court held that statements about public figures are libelous only if made with "reckless disregard for the truth." There is no way to guess here. All the choices are topics the Supreme Court has ruled on, and all might involve a newspaper. *You need to remember significant cases and the issues they address.*

### 6. Graphic Questions

You can expect to see questions based on graphs, tables, and maps.

DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME AMONG FAMILIES

 (percentage share by economic level)

 1970 1980 1990 2000

Lowest fifth 5.5 5.1 4.6 3.6

Second fifth 12.0 11.6 10.8 8.9

Third fifth 17.4 17.5 16.6 14.9

Fourth fifth 23.5 24.3 23.8 23.0

Highest fifth 41.6 41.6 44.3 49.6

**Which of the following conclusions about income distribution is supported by the table?**

 (A) The share of income received by the lowest fifth increased, and the share received by

 the fourth fifth decreased.

 (B) The share of income received by the second fifth increased, and the share received by

 the fourth fifth decreased.

 (C) The share of income received by the highest fifth increased, and the share received by

 the lowest fifth decreased.

 (D) The number of people earning high incomes increased.

 (E) The middle class disappeared.

The numbers clearly show that C is the answer. Choice D might be attractive, but note that the table gives percents. Although the percent of families in the highest fifth increased, you know nothing about the actual number of people. *Always read the questions and answer choices carefully.*

**3. Select 12 questions you had incorrect. For each incorrect answer, complete the chart.**

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| **Question topic**  | **What I selected / Why** | **Correct answer / Why** | **Based on #1 - #6 from “Types of Questions,” (a) what type of question and (b) what will you watch for next time?** |
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5. Base on the results of the practice test, to prepare for the AP test multiple choice, I should…

As a class, we should. -----