Multiple Choice
Identify the letter of the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1. Many anthropologists divide societies into three different types. These are:
   a. Cephalus, acephalous, and decephalous.
   b. Small, medium, and large.
   c. Democratic, communist, and fascist.
   d. Egalitarian, rank, and stratified.
   e. Primitive, advanced, technological.

2. Political ideology is best defined as:
   a. The view that a representational democracy like that of the United States is the best form of government.
   b. A system of beliefs and values that justifies the distribution of power in a society.
   c. The social institutions and practices through which power is wielded in a society.
   d. The governmental bureaucracy which administers the law in complex societies.
   e. Membership in a political party.

3. The study of political processes focuses on:
   a. The ways in which different groups within a society compete for power.
   b. The written laws used to regulate behavior in complex societies.
   c. National elections in democratic societies.
   d. The origin of prehistoric state societies.
   e. Informal means of social control in pre-state societies.

4. In regulating human behavior, law:
   a. Is only one among many forms of social control.
   b. Is most effective in small, homogeneous tribal societies.
   c. By itself has no effect on human behavior.
   d. Is much less effective than supernatural controls in complex societies.
   e. Has no place in small, tribal societies.

5. As the text defines law, it exists:
   a. Only in state societies.
   b. In all human societies.
   c. Only in societies with a system of courts and judges.
   d. In all societies except those at the very simplest sociocultural level.
   e. Only in societies where writing has developed.

6. Which of the following depends most heavily on formal law as a means of social control?
   a. The United States.
   b. The Kpelle.
   c. The Yanomamo.
   d. A Mexican village.
   e. Ju/'hoansi band.

7. The major way anthropologists distinguish levels of sociocultural complexity is:
   a. Whether or not there is warfare.
   b. Whether people believe in one or many gods.
   c. The extent to which authority is centralized within the society.
   d. The number of words in the language distinguishing different features of the natural environment.
   e. The extent to which the society has been studied by anthropologists.
8. The dominant system of exchange in band societies is:
   a. Market exchange.
   b. Redistribution.
   c. Long-distance trade.
   d. Raiding and theft.
   e. Reciprocity.

9. Which statement is most true of conflict in band-level societies?
   a. Band-level societies never have conflict within the band.
   b. Conflict is mainly between corporate kin groups fighting over land.
   c. Band-level societies frequently engage in warfare.
   d. Band-level societies minimize conflict between individuals so it does not spread to the wider group.
   e. Band-level societies have died out mainly because their excessive interpersonal violence led to population decreases.

10. A tribal society:
    a. Is a figment of the Western imagination.
    b. Imagines all of its members to be related by kinship.
    c. Is characterized by peaceful relations among its different segments.
    d. Lacks any social mechanisms to hold its different units together.
    e. Is constantly in a state of warfare.

11. Important mechanisms for sociocultural integration in tribal societies are:
    a. Police forces.
    b. Chiefs.
    c. Market exchange.
    d. Clans.
    e. Political parties.

12. Nuer political alliances are mainly created between their:
    a. Matrilineal clans.
    b. Men's cult groups.
    c. Patrilineages.
    d. Women's secret societies.
    e. War societies.

13. The "bigman" as a form of leadership is associated with:
    a. Increasing food production and redistribution.
    b. Decreasing food production and reciprocity.
    c. Occupational specialization and market exchange.
    d. Population decline and cultural disintegration.
    e. Communal living and socialism.

14. During buffalo hunts, the Cheyenne maintained order by:
    a. Shaming anyone who violated a rule.
    b. Gossiping about people who misbehaved.
    c. Accusing misbehaving people of witchcraft.
    d. Beheading anyone who got out of line.
    e. Policing by members of military societies.

15. Which of the following situations would be most likely to involve the Nuer Leopard Skin Chief?
    a. A man has been killed and compensation must be paid by the killer's family to that of the victim.
    b. A man wants to assess the wealth of his neighbor before arranging his daughter's marriage into their family.
c. A man has killed a forbidden animal.
d. A village wants to collect money to send one of its brightest youths to a university in the
city.
e. A witchcraft accusation has lead to social disruption with a clan.

16. Moots differ from courts among the Kpelle mainly in that:
a. Courts are a traditional part of Kpelle culture whereas moots are a Western innovation.
b. Courts are held in English whereas moots are held in the local languages.
c. Courts give much time to examining the complexities of a case whereas moots are quick,
superficial affairs.
d. Courts aim at determining legal liability whereas moots aim at reconciling disputing
parties.
e. Courts have dramatic, ritual, and psychological functions whereas moots lack these
expressive aspects.

17. War in tribal societies:
a. Is totally irrational and maladaptive.
b. Is less frequent than in band societies.
c. May regulate the balance between population and resources.
d. Is always associated with female infanticide.
e. Stems from an aggressive human instinct.

18. According to recent ethnographic research, which of these is NOT a reason for war and violent behavior?
a. Human culture.
b. Ecological condition.
c. Economic conditions.
d. The history of the group studied.
e. The genetic inheritance of the group studied.

19. Which of the following matches is correct?
a. Yanomamo and warfare.
b. Kpelle and segmentary lineage system.
c. Nuer and moots.
d. Kwakiutl and "big men."
e. Ju/'hoansi and rise of the state.

20. All of the following have been suggested as a cause of Yanomamo warfare except:
a. An attempt to capture women from another village.
b. An indirect way of controlling population.
c. Competition over scarce resources as a result of Western encounters.
d. An origin myth which views the Yanamamo as born out of blood.
e. An expression of inability of primitive peoples to control their aggressive impulses.

21. An important effect of European contact on the Yanamamo was:
a. An increased ability to learn English.
b. A decrease in the amount of violence.
c. Better health and education.
d. Acquisition of firearms and increased fatalities in war.
e. A more technologically effective exploitation of their forest environment.

22. Most anthropologists would agree with the following statement about Yanomamo warfare:
a. Their fighting is grounded in a biologically based human instinct for aggression.
b. Warfare among the Yanomamo is too complex a situation to ever be explained by
anthropologists.
c. Warfare is only of interest to anthropologists when it occurs in non-Western, tribal
societies.
d. Warfare only occurs in patrilineal, patrilocal societies such as the Yanomamo.
e. Yanomamo warfare intensified after contact with the West.

23. A world historical perspective would emphasize which of the following as an explanation of Yanomamo warfare?
   a. Competition over women.
   b. Overpopulation.
   c. The desire for Western consumer goods.
   d. Innate aggression.
   e. Shortage of good gardening land.

24. Which of the following statements about chiefs is most correct?
   a. Chiefs only exist in band level societies.
   b. Chiefs' roles are mainly symbolic and have little economic or political importance.
   c. Much of a chief's power is based on his ability to redistribute goods and services.
   d. Chiefs are most important during times of war and have little to do in times of peace.
   e. Chiefs did not exist before contact with the West: they were created by Europeans to make political dominance easier.

25. A major distinction between chiefdoms and states is that:
   a. Chiefs control their people through fear, whereas states control their people through political consensus.
   b. Chiefdoms are egalitarian, whereas states have social ranking.
   c. In chiefdoms social ranking is based on kinship, whereas in states kinship ties no longer extend throughout the society.
   d. In chiefdoms there is no centralized authority, whereas in states there is a centralized authority.
   e. Chiefdoms are integrated economically through redistribution, whereas states are economically integrated through reciprocity.

26. Compared with tribal societies, chiefdoms are likely to have:
   a. Higher levels of internal violence.
   b. Higher birth rates.
   c. Greater rights for women.
   d. Lesser rights for women.
   e. Lower levels of internal violence.

27. State societies are generally characterized by:
   a. Occupational specialization.
   b. Long-distance trade.
   c. Rise of cities.
   d. All of the above.
   e. None of the above.

28. A conflict theory of the origin of the state emphasizes:
   a. The emergence of centralization of power as a response to social stratification and competition for scarce resources.
   b. The rise of the state because of the need to organize manpower for irrigation projects.
   c. The invention of the idea of the state in ancient Egypt and its diffusion to other parts of the world.
   d. The increase of sophisticated military weaponry that developed after the Industrial Revolution.
   e. The ways in which modern states are torn apart by conflict.

29. The stability of the Asante state was built on an economy whose key items were:
   a. Intensive agriculture and industrialization.
b. Shallow gold deposits and intensive agriculture.
c. Pastoralism and the slave trade.
d. Wide trade networks for luxury goods, especially in animal products.
e. A skilled and educated class of artisans and priests.

30. An important way in which the Asante state controlled social mobility was in its:
a. Democratic election of the Asantehene.
b. Equitable tax structure which took from the rich and gave to the poor.
c. Policy of land reform.
d. Institution of public education in which children of all classes attended the same schools.
e. Control over the awarding of ceremonial titles and insignia.

31. The wealth of the Asante state was based largely on:
a. Control of cattle.
b. Export of timber.
c. Plantation agriculture.
d. Control of gold.
e. Use of mercenaries.

32. A contemporary anthropological view of the state:
a. Views the state as the end stage of political evolution.
b. Denies there are any patterns within states which justify their being classified as a form of political organization.
c. Requires anthropologists to be activists in rebelling against unjust states.
d. Aims to understand how states maintain their power against the potential rebellions diverse groups within their borders.
e. Admits that there are unjust states, perhaps even evil states but also insists that human freedom and creativity is maximized in state level societies.

33. One important effect of the globalization of the economy on nation states is generally to:
a. Decrease their sovereignty.
b. Stabilize their governments.
c. Intensify assimilation of ethnic groups within the state.
d. Further civil rights.
e. Lead to revolution.

34. According to the book, which of the following borders shares many commonalities with the border between Israel and Palestine?
a. Mexico/United States.
b. Canada/United States.
c. Iraq/Kuwait.
d. China/Nepal.
e. None, Israel/Palestine is a unique situation.

35. In terms of political stability, state societies are most accurately viewed as:
a. The most unstable type of political system.
b. Necessarily vigilant at all times for signs of threat to elite authority.
c. Built on consensus with no need to solidify themselves through violent or coercive action.
d. Most effective when different ethnic groups are given opportunities to fully express their ethnic cultures.
e. Unlikely to survive when they have large populations of indigenous peoples.
05StudyGuide Political Organization
Answer Section

MULTIPLE CHOICE