CHAPTER 9: Political Parties

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**

1. Under Canadian law, the fundamental purpose of all political parties is to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. expand the franchise
3. organize opposition to the government
4. manage public finances
5. endorse candidates for elections

*Answer:* d *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 244

1. Brokerage theory maintains that parties \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. have rigid ideological principles
3. lack coherent ideological programs
4. appeal to specific regional interests
5. appeal to specific class interests

*Answer:* b *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 245

1. A pattern of electoral competition that emerges between two or more parties is termed a/an\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. electoral system
3. ideological system
4. network system
5. party system

*Answer:* d *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 245

1. What is an important criticism that has been made of multi-party systems?
2. Parties tend to adopt moderate, centrist policies.
3. Extreme parties with narrow support are more likely to thrive.
4. They discourage free and open debate during elections.
5. Smaller parties may be marginalized in the legislature.

*Answer:* b *Difficulty:* challenging *Page:* 247

1. The party system in Canada has evolved from a two-party system to a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ party system.
2. single
3. minority
4. multi
5. dual

*Answer:* c *Difficulty:* easy *Pages:* 247

1. Two political coalitions emerged in the colonies of Upper and Lower Canada early in Canadians history: the Tories and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Reformers
3. Confederates
4. Monarchists
5. Revolutionaries

*Answer:* a *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 248

1. One of the key positions of the Progressive protest movement of the 1920s was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. opposition to the National Policy
3. support for the Monarchy
4. support for electoral reform
5. concern with human rights

*Answer:* a *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 252

1. During the Great Depression, this party emerged with a critique of the national banking and financial system, proposing to distribute financial dividends to residents.
2. Social Credit
3. Bloc Québécois
4. Progressives
5. Cooperative Commonwealth Federation

*Answer:* a *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 253

1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_were the forerunner of today’s New Democratic Party and advocated pensions, universal health care and unemployment insurance.
2. Social Credit
3. Bloc Québécois
4. Tories
5. Cooperative Commonwealth Federation

*Answer:* d *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 253

1. After the 1993 election, the traditional two-and-a-half party system in Canada underwent a major change. For example, two new opposition parties rose to prominence. One of these was the Bloc Québécois, and the other was the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Party.
2. Reform
3. Conservative
4. NDP
5. Liberal

*Answer:* a *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 254-255

1. What was a key factor that enabled the Liberal Party to maintain its national dominance after 1993?
2. the decline in Quebec separatism and the Bloc Québécois
3. the decline of the Reform Party as a Western protest party
4. the split between Reform and Progressive Conservatives
5. the dip in Liberal support in Quebec and Ontario

*Answer:* c *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 255

1. Which among the following is the best example of “brokerage politics”?
2. the similarities in election platforms between the Liberals and Conservatives
3. the public's perception of corruption in the Liberal party
4. the shift in the ideological spectrum from right to left
5. conflicts between workers and capitalists over workers' rights

*Answer:* a *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 245

1. In 2011, the Green Party leader \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_became the first-ever candidate from her party to be elected to the House of Commons.
2. Rona Ambrose
3. Elizabeth May
4. Kim Campbell
5. Audrey McLaughlin

*Answer:* b *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 243

1. In 1958, the Conservatives under the leadership of John Diefenbaker\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. broke away from the Liberal Party to form the opposition
3. won a minority government with barely enough votes
4. became the first opposition party to change its name
5. won the largest landslide victory in history

*Answer:* d *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 259

1. The year 1984 marked a transition from the Trudeau era to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ era.
2. Clark
3. Mulroney
4. Duceppe
5. Diefenbaker

*Answer:* b *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 259

1. In the 1993 election, this party suffered the worst electoral defeat for a governing party in Canadian history.
2. Progressive Conservatives
3. Liberals
4. Reform Party
5. Progressives

*Answer:* a *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 260

1. This party was formed as a result of a merger between the Progressive Conservatives and Canadian Alliance in October 2003.
2. Bloc Québécois
3. Conservative
4. Reform Party
5. Liberal-Conservative

*Answer:* b *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 261

1. Which party has been termed the self-styled “natural governing party” as a result of its electoral dominance?
2. Bloc Québécois
3. Conservative
4. Reform Party
5. Liberal

*Answer:* d *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 262

1. What key characteristic defined Pierre Trudeau’s approach to French Canada?
2. Hostility to special constitutional status for Quebec
3. Support for unilingual French language laws
4. Guaranteed representation for Quebec in the Senate
5. Sympathy for Quebec separatists

*Answer:* a *Difficulty:* challenging *Page:* 264

1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ scandal severely hurt the Liberals reputation and was responsible for their electoral defeat in 2006.
2. welfare
3. coalition
4. sponsorship
5. reciprocity

*Answer:* c *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 265

1. Today, political parties choose their leaders in a variety of ways, including one-member-one-vote and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ systems.
2. popular vote
3. delegate convention
4. majority ballot
5. proportional election

*Answer:* b *Difficulty:* challenging *Page:* 269

1. An \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the local organization of political party members.
2. electoral district association
3. electoral system
4. asymmetrical federation
5. electoral constituency

*Answer:* a *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 270

1. What federal parties were the first to use the one member, one vote method of leadership selection?
2. Reform Party and the New Democratic Party
3. The Liberal Party and the New Democratic Party
4. Liberal Party and Conservative Party
5. Reform Party and the Bloc Québécois

*Answer:* d *Difficulty:* challenging *Pages:* 271-272

1. What is the formal process that sets out the procedures for evaluating and possibly replacing a party leader?
2. the leadership review
3. the delegate convention
4. the open primary
5. the by-election

*Answer:* a *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 273

1. A record high of 76 women were elected to the House of Commons in 2011. The breakthrough is in large part due to the strong showing of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Green Party
3. Liberal Party
4. New Democratic Party
5. Conservative Party

*Answer:* c *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 274

**TRUE/FALSE**

1. Two-party systems typically produce single-party governments.

*Answer:* True *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 246

1. In the 1988 election, more Canadians voted for parties that opposed the Free Trade Agreement than for the Conservatives.

*Answer:* True *Difficulty:* challenging *Page:* 260

1. Canada has never had a female Prime Minister.

*Answer:* False *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 260

1. Political party members are disproportionately Canadian-born individuals of European ancestry.

*Answer:* True *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 270

1. The New Democrats are among only two major parties that operate at both the federal and provincial levels.

*Answer:* True *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 271

1. The Conservative party has a higher level of representation of visible minorities than the NDP.

*Answer:* False *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 274

1. In March 2011, three opposition parties joined forces to defeat the Conservative minority government of Stephen Harper on the grounds that it was in contempt of Parliament for refusing to reveal the true cost of various budget items.

*Answer:* True *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 243

1. The Liberal Party of Canada is considered an ideological party.

*Answer:* False *Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 245

1. The Bloc Québécois is well known for its commitment to social conservatism.

*Answer:* False *Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 267-268

1. Delegates at the 2012 biennial Liberal Party convention voted to create a new “supporter” class of Liberals who will be able to vote for their next leader without having to buy a party membership.

*Answer:* True *Difficulty:* challenging *Page:* 272

**SHORT ANSWER**

1. What is the definition of a brokerage party?

*Answer:* A brokerage party does not have a clear and coherent ideological program, but rather acts pragmatically to appeal to the greatest number of voters in an election.

*Difficulty:* easy *Page:* 245

1. What two groups joined together to form the New Democratic Party in 1961?

*Answer:* The Cooperative Commonwealth Federation joined together with the Canadian Labour Congress to form the NDP in 1961.

*Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 266

1. What constitutional event precipitated the formation of the Bloc Québécois in 1990?

*Answer:* The Bloc Québécois was formed following the defeat of the Meech Lake constitutional accord, which convinced PC cabinet member Lucien Bouchard that constitutional reform was futile and a new federal party was needed to achieve an independent Quebec.

*Difficulty:* moderate *Page:* 255

1. What factors combine to explain the Greens’ relative lack of electoral success?

*Answer:* The failure of the Green Party to win any seats in Parliament has been attributed partly to the single-member plurality electoral system, which does not reward parties with seats proportionate to their electoral strength, and its image as a “fringe” party which until recently had been ignored by the media.

*Difficulty:* challenging *Page:* 268