Chapter 6: Assessment

Political Dictionary

suffrage (p. 148) 
electorate (p. 149) 
transit (p. 150) 
registration (p. 154) 
poll books (p. 155) 
illiteracy (p. 196) 
poll tax (p. 197) 
gerrymandering (p. 198) 
judgment (p. 191) 
preference (p. 162) 
affirmative action (p. 164) 
political efficacy (p. 186) 
poll tax (p. 197) 
preference (p. 162) 
affirmative action (p. 164) 
political efficacy (p. 186) 
poll tax (p. 197) 
preference (p. 162) 
affirmative action (p. 164) 
political efficacy (p. 186) 
policy socialization (p. 168) 
gender gap (p. 169) 
policy socialization (p. 168) 
gender gap (p. 169) 
party identification (p. 171) 
split-ticketing (p. 171) 
party identification (p. 171) 
split-ticketing (p. 171)

Practicing the Vocabulary

Using Words in Context For each of the terms below, write a sentence that shows how it relates to this chapter.

1. Suffrage 
2. Electorate 
3. Registration 
4. Policy socialization 
5. Political efficacy 
6. Gender gap 
7. Party identification 
8. Split-ticketing

Fill in the Blank Choose a term from the list above that best completes the sentence.
11. Suffrage and ________ mean approximately the same thing.
12. A ____________ is a court order that can be used to compel a public official to carry out a law
13. Some people do not have a sense of ________ and therefore do not bother to vote.
14. Voters with a strong allegiance to a party often engage in ________ when they go to the polls.

Critical Thinking

31. Applying the Chapter Skill What criteria would you use in deciding for whom to vote in an election?
32. Identifying Central Issues What does the record of the election of suffrage tell you about trends in the United States from 1799 to the present?
33. Demonstrating Reasoned Judgment Do you think that residential aliens, those who have summer homes in a town, and other non-paying residents (for example, college students) should be allowed to vote in elections that determine how their taxes will be spent? Explain the reasons for your answers.
34. Testing Conclusions Some people suggest that we should not try to increase voter turnout in this country because that would only encourage uninformed voting and result in bad choices made for the wrong reasons. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Participation Activities

37. Current Events Watch There are still places in the world where people are struggling to achieve the right to choose the leaders who govern them. Select one such country and read about recent efforts to gain or expand suffrage there. Write a brief report on the struggle. Conclude by predicting whether and when the struggle for suffrage will succeed.
38. Time Line Activity Using information from the chapter, make a time line of the federal laws (including constitutional amendments) that were designed to ensure the suffrage of African Americans. Which, in your opinion, was the most important law? Why?
39. It’s Your Turn You have been hired to increase voter turnout in local elections in your community. Review the causes for low voter turnout and determine how they might apply to various groups in your community. Prepare a proposal to the election committee. Describe three tactics you would use to increase local voter turnout and explain why they might work. (Writing a Proposal)

Analyzing Political Cartoons

Use your knowledge of American history and government and this cartoon to answer the questions below

[Cartoon Image]

35. Many factors affect voter behavior. At which factor is the cartoonist poking fun?
36. What do you think the cartoonist thinks of the way the American electorate chooses its leaders today versus 150 years ago?