

Advanced Public Policy Concepts

Public Policy · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. Which of the following policy evaluation criteria is primarily concerned with the extent to which a policy achieves its intended objectives?

- A) Equity
- B) Efficiency
- C) Effectiveness**
- D) Legitimacy

2. The 'iron triangle' in public policy refers to a mutually beneficial relationship between which three sets of actors?

- A) Legislators, Executive Agencies, and Interest Groups**
- B) Interest Groups, Media Outlets, and Academics
- C) Judiciary, Bureaucrats, and Lobbyists
- D) Political Parties, Campaign Donors, and Think Tanks

3. In policy implementation, 'street-level bureaucrats' are most accurately defined as:

- A) Senior officials responsible for overall policy direction
- B) Elected representatives who debate and vote on legislation
- C) Frontline public service workers who interact directly with citizens**
- D) Policy analysts who research and recommend policy alternatives

4. The concept of 'policy feedback' suggests that:

- A) Policies are solely determined by public opinion
- B) Past policies influence the creation and feasibility of future policies**
- C) Economic conditions dictate policy outcomes without regard to implementation
- D) Policy success is guaranteed if initial goals are well-articulated

5. Which theoretical perspective emphasizes the role of ideas, norms, and discourse in shaping public policy agendas?

- A) Rational Choice Theory
- B) Institutionalism
- C) Constructivism**
- D) Elite Theory

6. The 'agenda-setting' process in public policy is best described as:

- A) The final stage of policy implementation
- B) The process by which certain issues gain prominence on the government's list of priorities**
- C) The evaluation of policy outcomes
- D) The negotiation of policy compromises

7. According to Downs' 'issue-attention cycle,' public attention to an issue typically follows a pattern of:

- A) Sustained high attention, followed by gradual decline
- B) Sudden rise, peak, rapid decline, and then partial re-emergence**
- C) Consistent low attention throughout
- D) Cyclical rise and fall without distinct peaks

8. Which of the following represents a key challenge in 'policy transfer' (the movement of policy ideas across jurisdictions)?

- A) The uniformity of bureaucratic structures across all governments
- B) The inherent adaptability of all policy solutions to new contexts
- C) The difficulty of adapting policies to unique local conditions and political cultures**
- D) The automatic acceptance of successful policies by other nations