Foundational Concepts in Public Policy

Public Policy · Practice Test · 21 Questions

1. Which landmark US Supreme Court case in 1954 declared state-sponsored segregation in public schools unconstitutional?

A) Plessy v. Ferguson
B) Gideon v. Wainwright
C) Brown v. Board of Education
D) Miranda v. Arizona

2. The Social Security Act, a cornerstone of the US welfare system, was signed into law in what year?

A) 1929
B) 1935
C) 1941
D) 1950

3. The Clean Air Act, a significant piece of environmental legislation, was first enacted in the United States in which decade?

A) 1950s
B) 1960s
C) 1970s
D) 1980s

4. Which piece of UK legislation, enacted in 1948, established the National Health Service (NHS)?

A) The Welfare Reform Act 1998
B) The National Health Service Act 1946
C) The Social Care Act 2012
D) The Health and Social Care Act 2012

5. The 'New Deal' policies, implemented by US President Franklin D. Roosevelt, were a response to what major economic crisis?

A) The Cold War
B) The Civil Rights Movement
C) The Great Depression
D) World War I

6. The establishment of the United Nations in 1945 was a direct result of lessons learned from which global conflict?

A) The Korean War
B) The Vietnam War
C) World War I
D) World War II

7. The Equal Pay Act of 1963 in the United States aimed to address what specific issue?

A) Racial discrimination in employment
B) Gender-based wage disparities
C) Age discrimination in hiring
D) Discrimination against disabled workers

8. Which influential political philosopher's ideas on the social contract significantly shaped early concepts of government and public policy?

A) Niccolò Machiavelli
B) John Locke
C) Karl Marx
D) Adam Smith

9. The Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890 was primarily enacted to address what economic concern in the United States?

A) Monopolistic business practices
B) Unfair labor practices
C) Consumer protection from unsafe products
D) Environmental pollution

10. The 'Great Society' programs, launched by US President Lyndon B. Johnson in the 1960s, focused on addressing issues of?

A) National security and defense
B) Poverty and racial injustice
C) Space exploration
D) International trade agreements

11. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1948, was a landmark in establishing?

A) International trade laws
B) Global environmental standards
C) Fundamental human rights principles
D) Rules for international warfare

12. The Medicare and Medicaid programs in the United States, providing health insurance for the elderly and low-income individuals respectively, were established in what year?

A) 1955
B) 1965
C) 1975
D) 1985

13. The establishment of the European Union (EU) evolved from earlier economic cooperation efforts, most notably the?

A) North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
B) European Economic Community (EEC)
C) Warsaw Pact
D) Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON)

14. The concept of 'welfare capitalism' gained prominence in the early 20th century as a response to what?

A) The rise of international communism
B) Growing labor movements and calls for reform
C) The decline of industrial production
D) The spread of global pandemics

15. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 in the United States outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in which area?

A) International diplomacy
B) Public accommodations and employment
C) Education funding for private schools
D) Military conscription

16. Which major historical event led to the widespread implementation of public health policies focused on sanitation and disease prevention in many Western countries during the 19th century?

A) The Renaissance
B) The Industrial Revolution
C) The Age of Exploration
D) The Enlightenment

17. The Bretton Woods Agreement in 1944 established the framework for international economic cooperation, leading to the creation of which two key financial institutions?

A) World Trade Organization and Bank for International Settlements
B) International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank
C) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and European Central Bank
D) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and New Development Bank (NDB)

18. The establishment of the Australian Constitution in 1901 marked the beginning of what significant political development for the continent?

A) Independence from the United Kingdom
B) Federation and the creation of the Commonwealth of Australia
C) Abolition of the monarchy
D) Establishment of a socialist state

19. The principle of 'laissez-faire' economics, which advocates for minimal government intervention in the economy, is most closely associated with which historical period and movement?

A) Mercantilism
B) The Enlightenment and classical liberalism
C) Keynesian economics
D) Socialism

20. The landmark legislation known as the 'Affordable Care Act' (ACA) was signed into law in the United States in what year?

A) 2005
B) 2009
C) 2010
D) 2014

21. Which significant policy shift in the UK during the post-World War II era led to the nationalization of key industries like coal, railways, and steel?

A) The Thatcher Reforms
B) The Attlee Government's Welfare State expansion
C) The introduction of the Poll Tax
D) The devolution of power to Scotland and Wales