

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ HOUR: _____

AP GOVERNMENT

CHAPTER 11 SUMMARY QUESTIONS

DIRECTIONS: Read Chapter 11, pp. 265-289. Answer the questions below on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What are the three reasons why interests groups are so common in America? How does this compare with Great Britain's political culture?
2. What is the relationship between the strength of interest groups and political parties?
3. What are the four reasons the authors give for the proliferation/rise of interest groups?
4. What are interest groups and what is their primary purpose?
5. What are the different incentives for individuals to join interest groups?
6. What is a think tank? How and why are they used?
7. What are the basic types of social movements? Give an example of an interest group that has spawned from each.
8. What arguments does the book make about whether interest groups reflect an upper-class bias?
9. Summarize the activities that the book lists for how interest groups work to influence policy and give examples for each activity. Assess how successful each type of activity is in influencing policy. This is very important so be sure that you understand this section. Define the following terms: cues, ratings, earmarks, insider and outsider strategies, and grassroots lobbying.
10. Summarize the different types of PACs there are and how they operate. What are leadership PACs and Super PACs?
11. What are the arguments concerning whether PAC contributions affect how members of Congress vote?
12. Summarize legislation to regulate lobbyists. Be sure to include the revolving door, the 1978 Ethics in Government Act and the 1995 Lobbyist Disclosure Act
13. How have protests and civil disobedience and other non-traditional methods been used to influence politics?