

Political Science Final

Student's Name

Affiliated Institution

Political Sciences Final: Part 1

Multiple choice Answers

1. D.
2. B.
3. B.
4. A.
5. B.
6. A.
7. A
8. B
9. C
10. A
11. A
12. A
13. A
14. A
15. A
16. C
17. B
18. A
19. C
20. A

Part 2: Question and Answer

Question1

In the United States, political parties in each state nominate members of the Electoral College. This process is carried out by allowing members of parties to campaign and name their preferred candidate. The candidate with popular votes from the party qualifies to present his/her candidature to be voted in a member of the Electoral College (Miller, 2011).

The Congressional District gives the state a chance to split electoral votes among multiple candidates pursuing the seat in the Electoral College. For example, John McCain became a winner after the two congressional districts vote in 2008. Winner-take system controls both houses of the congressional district.

Question 2

Federal judges are appointed eternally to build their confidence and secure their jobs. Consequently, they are free to make unpopular decisions. Therefore, judges remain in power until they die or resign from the office. However, their discipline should always be paramount, conversely, a motion of impeachment is passed in the Senate concerning their conduct.

Practically, the sovereignty bestowed on judges under this category enhances quality service delivery without any objection from any party (Storey, 2007). The decisions reached by the federal judges are equally not questioned by the Congress or the Senate.

In the United States, a federal judge is only made through the appointment of the president and is confirmed by the Senate. Other judges serving in the federal courts include magistrates and bankruptcy judges. Primarily, federal judges resolve matters brought before the royal chambers under a general jurisdiction governing all courts within the state. Court judges set dates for hearings in contempt or sanctioning parties for improper behavior.

Question 3

According to the law on article II, section 2 gives the President powers to pardon and set free individuals who are undergoing a jail sentence. The pardons are rewarding for good behavior and are directed to the trial lawyer at the Department of Justice. This power is unlimited and cannot be overruled by any branch of the government (Miller, 2011).

The pardon power is not based on completion of a jail sentence but comes as a result of character transformation. The President may pardon anyone he wishes to by ordering the legal representative of the department to set the mentioned person free. Equally, the public prosecutor singles out the names of those under pardon scrutinizes their character and sends the letter back to the President for approval. The forgiven person obtains freedom again and is free to engage in various activities within the state without any restrictions provided he does not embark into criminal offenses.

Question 4

The advice and consent power concerning appointments in the department are centered on approval of the Senate to members appointed to hold public offices. An example of these officers is cabinet secretaries and ambassadors. Typically, the Senate questions an appointee before committee vote and approves the nomination through a motion and three-fifth votes.

This section also gives mandate the Senate to ratify the treaties and vet public officials nominated by the President. The process is steered up to enhance accountability and transparency in service delivery towards the state and citizens. The constitutional convention delegates the Senate with the duty to balance power in the federal government hence creating a strong executive control vested in the President of the United States. However, the President rules with advice from the Senate on matters of state interest (Storey, 2007).

Part 3: Essay

Q.1 Functions of the Electoral College and Should It Be Abolished

The Electoral College is a body found under the US constitution employed to check presidential elections. The elections are conducted by a vote of Congress through a popular vote from the registered voters. Notably, the Electoral College votes for the president and the vice president. Moreover, the Electoral College coordinates the electoral process by checking and validating the majority rule in response to the presidential election qualification. This process ensures that competent leaders with the ability to articulate their duties with the state expectations take leadership. Ideally, this helps to ensure that democracy of people is well expressed in an appropriate way that provides reliability and accountability of leaders' actions. Additionally, the body checks the authenticity of the elected president and ascertains if the newly appointed chair can rule the nation with the consent of people at mind (Storey, 2007).

Moreover, the Electoral College acts as an intermediary between governors and secretaries of state. Therefore, the body gives a report on the progress of the two disciplines of leaders to the Congress. This monitoring ensures that both governors and secretaries maintain a good public image and represent the citizens appropriately. Besides, the Electoral College acts as a trustee of the Congress. Therefore, the Electoral College checks the authenticity of candidates' certificates to establish their validity and confirms them before forwarding to the house of senate for reviewing. These actions ascertain legal sufficiency of the documents issued by the candidates and are delivered to show the legitimacy of the officials before elections. Any candidate that does not meet the standard qualifications of the nation for any post is ruled out.

The Electoral College is fundamental to the US elections and should be maintained. Its forums and operations often support transparency, accountability, and reliability of the national

elections evidence the effects of the body's actions. Therefore, the Electoral College contributes to creating cohesiveness of the state by ensuring justice and fairness in the electoral process (Storey, 2007). Moreover, the body has provided uniformity in all the US states creating more unity among the population. The body has ensured that one president is chosen in the country and is guided to provide same leadership to all the states in the country. The rules of the electoral commission are the same for all leaders in the diverse regions providing a common platform for evaluation. As a result, Americans have been submitted to equal opportunities and laws creating more unity, peace, and justice in their electoral process (Storey, 2007).

Moreover, this electoral body safeguards the interests of the minority groups through its established rules; for example, in cases when the minorities vote are not neglected but are treated equally to the majorities' to determine winners. As a result, the voices of all the citizens are given equal opportunities. Moreover, the influence created by the body in the electoral process is extended in leadership. Therefore, all leaders including the president are expected to show equality to all the people in the country including the minority groups. Therefore, the electoral body is a major factor that contributes to the unity of the nation and safeguards the rights of every individual. As a result, the body should not be abolished.

Additionally, the college political stability has been enhanced by embracing the local and federal systems in the government. Both the central and local government systems are represented in the house of the congress. The full representation of the people has protected the president from impersonation by the third party movement. Besides, the presentation has provided a common ground for law making (Storey, 2007). Therefore, all the bodies integrate their views, opinions, knowledge, power, observations, and capability to rule the nation in a better way. As a result, the country is not politically divided but managed as one in different

levels. Through these operations, the radical changes of policies based on political parties have been minimized. Moreover, non-divergent interests of the two houses have been achieved through the control of organizational conflict and political debate forums contributing to a politically stable state.

Q2.The System and Reasons for the US Senators Election System before 1914

Before 1914, the US senators were chosen directly by state officials. The driving force that established this mode of election was the need to enhance proper coordination of voting procedures during the election of Senate representatives in the United States. However, that practice is associated with some negative elements such as party dominance and hereditary. For example, the Republican Party would take the Senate offices for an extended period because the president was a member of their party. Additionally, the state officials depicted to have compromised with bribery in favoring their people to take power. Moreover, the US elections were linked to election deadlocks and biased legislations. For example, the political parties controlled the Senate elections where most of the current leaders bent the law to suit their interests. However, in some cases, the parties would meet and present their choice of candidates to minimize wrangles where the majority votes would win.

The electoral process, in this period, was guided by the 1866 Act in the Constitution. The laws of the Senate were divided into two, one was elections by the chamber members, and the other was multi-party elections of the nominated candidates from the different unions. During the process, each committee would meet separately after the legislature preparations and nominate their candidate. On the following day, the two houses (that is the senate and house of Congress) would then meet jointly and vote for the senator. The candidate with majority votes after the process would be declared elected. In case of a tie, a joint session was established in the event

calling the chambers to repeat the voting process until a candidate with more votes is attained (Miller, 2011).

Notably, during that error, Senate elections were based on legislative partnership in political coalitions. The majority parties overlooked the minority parties affecting cohesion of political parties under the legislation. This fact was evident in North Dakota elections of 1893, where Republicans had a majority representation of 19 seats against 17 seats for Democrats. Republicans never agreed upon their candidature due to their higher number. Therefore, in the event, the Republican nominee Casey, despite her two extra votes, lost to the Democrat William due to inequality. In this case, injustice was depicted, and more conflicts arose among the leaders. The state House was controlled by a majority margin and as a result, the state government was divided into increased conflicts (Miller, 2011).

The US legislations allowed development of institutions to deal with bicameral coordination of electing the US senators. The party controlled state legislatures predicting which candidate would win the Senate seat with the majority party electing a co-partisan to the Senate. Nominated senators during this period were selected on multiple bases. Some of the factors considered included the ones chosen by the majority party in a region and economic divisions (Miller, 2011). The federal law was used to separate the roll call of voters into two broad categories. One of the groups being the *separate ballots* was held on the first day of voting practice. Additionally, *the joint ballots* were used for voting during the second day of balloting (Miller, 2011).

Therefore, the system of using state officials to elect senators in the United States before 1914 was recommended amongst leaders. Moreover, the citizens embraced the system because they assumed the governmental body would help the state to form permanent recognition and

maintain the loyalty of the nation's leadership. Besides, the relatively large number of population thought that system would enhance the ways to protect states from being overshadowed by the federal government (Miller, 2011). As a result, the states would efficiently maintain their freedom, recognition, prestige, and national pride. At the same time, the state would limit the federal government from overpowering the states through absolute authority. However, the Senate used the system to bar the public from voting to ensure that their interests were not hindered by the votes. In this way they promoted their autonomy regarding decision-making process. Some of the arguments against the public voting from the senators were the need for frequent accountability and avoidance in taking views that are detached from the Congress plan.

However, a free and fair public voting system was introduced in 1914, and the state legislation supported the new system. Their purpose was to give the states direct and indirect representation as well as to safeguard them against the federal government self-interest against other people or regions. Therefore, all states had equal participation in issues regarding the federal government through a new system unlike that of before 1914.

References

Miller, R. (2011). *The electoral college: An analysis*. Hauppauge, NY: Nova Science Publishers.

Storey, W. (2007). *US government and politics*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.