

**AP United States Government
Chapter 11 Study Guide – Interest Groups**

Name: _____

Vocabulary: On index cards, define the following terms.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Interest group | 8. Collective good | 15. Political action committees |
| 2. Pluralist theory | 9. Free-rider problem | 16. Amicus curiae briefs |
| 3. Elite theory | 10. Olson’s law of large groups | 17. Class action lawsuits |
| 4. Hyperpluralist theory | 11. Selective benefits | 18. Union shop |
| 5. Subgovernments | 12. Single-issue groups | 19. Right-to-work laws |
| 6. Potential group | 13. Lobbying | 20. Public interest lobbies |
| 7. Actual group | 14. Electioneering | |

Questions: Complete the following as you read chapter 11 in your textbook.

1. Name two factors that distinguish interest groups from political parties.

a.

b.

2. Complete the following table on the theories of interest group politics.

Theory	Definition	Role of Groups	Who Holds Power	Group Impact on Public Policy
Pluralist Theory				
Elite Theory				
Hyperpluralist Theory				

3. List five essential arguments of group theory of politics.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
4. List four major points made by the elitist view of the interest group system.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
5. List the three major points of the hyperpluralist position on group politics.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
6. What is the difference between a potential group and an actual group?
7. Give an example of a single-issue group.
8. List the four general strategies used by interest groups to shape public policy.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
9. What are the two basic types of lobbyists?
 - a.
 - b.

10. List four important ways lobbyists can help a member of Congress.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

11. What are the five most common answers from PAC directors as to why they give money to certain candidates?

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

12. What was the major purpose of the Taft-Hartley Act?

13. List three issues that trade and product associations seek when lobbying Capitol Hill.

- a.
- b.
- c.

14. List three items environmental groups have promoted and three items they have opposed.

Promoted:

- a.
- b.
- c.

Opposed:

- a.
- b.
- c.

15. Name two important organizations involved in promoting equality and summarize their major goals.

- a.
- b.

16. What is meant by a public interest lobby?

17. Summarize the pluralist, elitist, and hyperpluralist perspectives on interest groups and democracy.

a. Pluralist:

b. Elitist:

c. Hyperpluralist:

18. How do interest groups affect the scope of government?