

***CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS TODAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> ED.***

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**CHAPTER 1. CALIFORNIA POLITICS IN PERSPECTIVE**

**Chapter Summary**

Chapter 1 gives a current overview of California's issues, including the state's deplorable fiscal situation. It introduces the concept of economic inequality that is so visible in California, and it explores the possibility that the state is too large to be well governed. In explaining the state's status as number one in population relative to the other forty-nine states, the chapter explores California's political standing in the nation.

In addition, it explains the role of the federal government in relation to the states and introduces the terms *federalism* and *unitary powers*. Concepts such as *ballot initiative*, *globalization*, and the terms *liberal* and *conservative* are introduced.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Discuss the relationship of the federal and state governments. Which tasks are allocated to the states? What impact does federalism have on California?
2. Discuss population growth in California, including the history and the range of attitudes about population growth. Include in your discussion the "Debating the Issues" box on page six. Express your personal views and substantiate them with evidence.
3. Explain how population, economic events, and federal policies have impacted Californians.
4. Discuss the ways in which the federal government's actions have impacted California's economy through the decades.
5. Discuss globalization and its impact on California's economy.

## Test Bank

### Multiple Choice

1. California is number one in the nation in
  - a. social equity.
  - b. electoral votes.
  - c. members in the House of Representatives.
  - d. Both B and C are correct.

*Answer: D; Page Reference:3 ; Bloom's Category: Understanding*

2. How does California rank in population size when compared to the rest of the United States?
  - a. Tenth largest based on population
  - b. Third largest based on population
  - c. First based on population
  - d. Last based on population

*Answer: C; Page Reference:2 ; Bloom's Category: Understanding*

3. The definition of *federalism* is
  - a. total control of the states by the federal government.
  - b. permission for California to function like its own country.
  - c. a political system in which power is distributed to the national and state governments allowing for some independence from each other.
  - d. the federal government has ultimate authority over citizens and can reclaim that authority at any time.

*Answer: C; Page Reference:4 ; Bloom's Category: Understanding*

4. The federal government regulates
  - a. interstate commerce.
  - b. community college fees/public college tuition.
  - c. foreign policy.
  - d. Both A and D are correct.

*Answer: D; Page Reference:5-6 ; Bloom's Category: Understanding, Application*

5. The state determines the grounds for
  - a. divorce.
  - b. defense spending.
  - c. immigration law.
  - d. interstate commerce.

*Answer: A; Page Reference:4 ; Bloom's Category: Understanding, Application*

*True or False*

1. Each Californian lives in several election jurisdictions, including a congressional district, a state Senate district, an assembly district, a county supervisorial district, plus a city and a school and/or community college district.

*Answer: True; Page Reference:6 ; Bloom's Category: Understanding*

2. California has a democratic majority in its state legislature.

*Answer: True; Page Reference:1 ; Bloom's Category: Understanding*

3. California has the largest congressional delegation in the United States.

*Answer: True; Page Reference:3 ; Bloom's Category: Understanding, Application*

4. California has often served as a model for new political ideas that then spread to other states.

*Answer: True; Page Reference:5-6 ; Bloom's Category: Application*

5. The U.S. Constitution requires each state to honor the laws of other states.

*Answer: True; Page Reference:5 ; Bloom's Category: Understanding, Application*