## American Government: Stories of a Nation for the AP® Course **Guided Reading**

Section 15.1: Acting Collectively

Name	
Date	_ Class

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#### Before you read

Before reading this section, take a moment to read the Learning Target and vocabulary terms you will encounter.

Learning Target: Describe the factors that impact whether or not interest groups will be effective in reaching their policy objectives.

#### **AP® Key Concepts**

interest groups social movements theory of participatory democracy civil society pluralist theory elitist theory

policy agenda collective action collective good free riders selective benefits

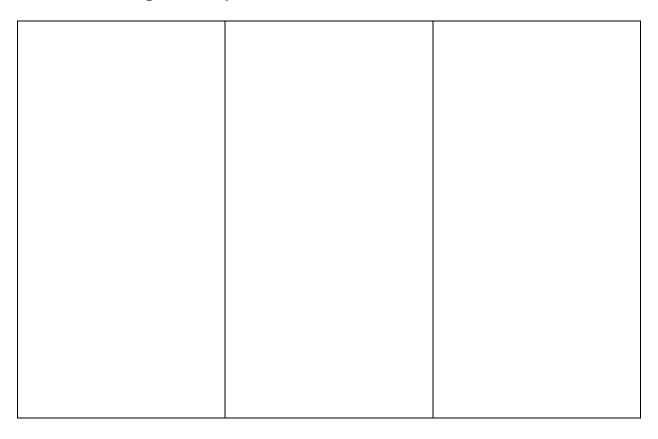
### While you read

Use the following table to take notes as you read the section.

Incentives to join interest groups	Characteristics of interest groups	Impact on policy
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Section 15.1: Acting Collectively



## After you read

Once you've finished reading the section, answer the following questions.

- 1. Interest groups are formed when people voluntarily come together in order to:
  - A. get certain policies enacted.
  - B. force elected officials out of office.
  - C. demand that government listens to the people.
  - D. keep an eye on political parties.
- 2. While interest groups tend to focus on one issue, social movements tend to:
  - A. gain more support over the life of the movement.
  - B. focus on educating the public to bring about social change.
  - C. be even more narrow on certain legislation.
  - D. require less organization and get more done.
- 3. During the Obama Administration, "net neutrality" became the:
  - A. term used to describe the use of the internet for illegal activities.
  - B. regulatory framework for the internet.
  - C. framework for building the internet.
  - D. term used to protect internet users accused of illegal activity.

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<ul> <li>4. The new net neutrality rules allow internet service providers to create: <ul> <li>A. "fast lanes" for users who pay for special treatment.</li> <li>B. more rules for users.</li> <li>C. ghost accounts for users.</li> <li>D. more ads targeted at specific users.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul> <li>5. One way to limit the damage factions can do is to allow for between factions.</li> <li>A. alliances</li> <li>B. competition</li> <li>C. associations</li> <li>D. division</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>6. When citizens impact policymaking by their involvement in civil society, it is called the: <ul> <li>A. theory of participatory democracy.</li> <li>B. pluralist theory.</li> <li>C. elitist theory.</li> <li>D. collective action theory.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul> <li>7. Groups that are working under a pluralist theory often share power in order to: <ul> <li>A. keep the elitists in power.</li> <li>B. keep any one group from gaining power.</li> <li>C. keep the government from gaining too much power.</li> <li>D. keep factions from forming.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul> <li>8. Under the elitist theory, it is believed that those with great wealth control the policy agenda, which is the: <ul> <li>A. policy action of an interest group.</li> <li>B. policies that are important to a political party.</li> <li>C. set policies that policymakers focus on.</li> <li>D. executive orders a president creates.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul> <li>9. Interest groups often face issues in collective action, which is when: <ul> <li>A. individuals get a free ride.</li> <li>B. individuals contribute time, money, and energy to a group goal.</li> <li>C. individuals push for selective benefits.</li> <li>D. individuals refuse to join the interest group but want to use the benefits.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- 10. Many interest groups have begun to try to overcome the problems free riders cause with selective benefits, which are:
  - A. benefits for members of the group only.
  - B. paid for with membership fees only.
  - C. paid for using fines collected from free riders.
  - D. benefits that members get to choose first.