

Crash Course U.S. Government - Day 49

1. **Government** refers to the _____, _____, and _____ of policies, and **politics** explains the _____.

2. What is **public opinion**? _____

3. Why does public opinion matter in America? _____

4. What type of opinion is more likely to be stable and reflect reasonable judgments about government and politics? _____

5. What does Condorcet's Jury Theorem show? _____

6. What are the three things to take into account if we want public opinion to influence government?

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

7. What is one way the public communicates with the government? _____

8. Why are polls not always a reliable measure of public opinion? _____

Answers

1. what, who, how, why
2. How a nation's population collectively views vital policy issues and evaluates political leaders.
3. Answers may vary but could include mention of democracy, the power people have to vote for laws and leaders, or Lincoln's quote of a government "of the people, by the people, for the people."
4. collective opinion
5. a larger group of jurors is more likely to correctly gauge a defendant's guilt or innocence
6.
 - 1) we have a reasonably good idea that the public knows what they want
 - 2) they should be able to communicate what they want to government officials
 - 3) the government should pay attention to public opinion and respond accordingly
7. answers include voting, election results, or polling
8. polls can be skewed, not all polls ask enough people to get a statistical sampling, the margin of error may be too high, there may be selection bias, when the question is asked or the way it is asked may influence the response