

Study Questions, Week 13

- (1) What is meant by a *political system*? What are the important functions of political institutions?
- (2) What is the difference between *power* and *authority*? Identify the characteristics of the three types of *legitimate authority*, according to Max Weber.
- (3) Identify two contrasting views on how power is exercised in the United States. What are the arguments presented by proponents of each view? What evidence supports each view?
- (4) Why is *voter turnout* so low in the United States? Is this representative of *political participation* in general in the U.S.? What other forms of political participation exist, and to what extent do Americans participate?
- (5) What accounts for the fact that so few women hold political office?
- (6) What is meant by an *economic system*? What are the important functions of economic institutions?
- (7) What are the distinguishing characteristics of *capitalist* economic systems? What are the characteristics of a *socialist* economic system? What do capitalists value more than socialists, and what do socialists value more than capitalists?
- (8) What is the *informal* economy? What are some examples of informal economic activities? What are some of the benefits and costs of the informal sector?
- (9) How have *workplaces* and the *workforce* changed in the past sixty years? What is meant by *deindustrialization*? Explain how deindustrialization and industrial concentration complement each other.
- (10) What is meant by *globalization*? How has globalization shaped changes in economic systems and workplaces over the past sixty years?