

Government AP

Chapter One Vocabulary

A Meridian® Study Guide by John Ho and Jeff Gu

- ❖ **Chapter 1 Vocabulary:** Definitions are from the textbook and may have been modified for clarity.

Vocabulary	Definition
1. Globalization	Increasing <i>interdependence of citizens across the world</i> . Governments are affected by international military, economic, and social conditions.
2. Government	The legitimate <i>use of force to control human behavior</i> . It also refers to the organization authorized to exercise that force.
3. National Sovereignty	A political entity's externally <i>recognized right to exercise final authority</i> over its affairs.
4. Order	The rule of law to <i>protect life and property</i> . It is the oldest purpose of government.
5. Liberalism	Belief that states should leave <i>individuals free to follow their own pursuits</i> . It differs from the term "liberal".
6. Communism	A political system in which <i>ownership of all land and productive facilities is in the hands of the people</i> and equally shared. In practice, it is controlled by an authoritarian government.
7. Public Goods	<i>Benefits and services</i> , such as parks and sanitation, that benefit all citizens but are not likely to be produced by individuals.
8. Freedom	...of: The <i>absence of constraints</i> on behavior, such as freedom of speech or freedom of religion.
	...from: <i>Immunity</i> from a condition, as in freedom from want.
9. Police Power	The authority of government to <i>maintain order</i> and safeguard citizen's health, morals, safety, and welfare.
10. Political Equality	<i>Equality in political decision making</i> , most often by assigning one vote per person, with all votes counted equally.
11. Social Equality	<i>Equality in wealth, education, and status</i> .
12. Equality of Opportunity	The idea that each person is guaranteed the same chance to succeed in life.
13. Equality of Outcome	The concept that <i>government must ensure that people are equal</i> , and that government must attempt to redistribute wealth to achieve economic and social equality.
14. Rights	The <i>benefits of the government</i> to which all citizens are entitled.
15. Political Ideology	A consistent set of values and beliefs about the proper purpose and scope of government.
16. Totalitarianism	A political philosophy that <i>advocates unlimited power</i> to the government to enable it to control all sectors of society.
17. Socialism	A form of government where it plays a <i>strong role in regulating private industries and directing the economy</i> . It allows some private ownership of production.
18. Democratic Socialism	A socialist form of government that guarantees civil liberties such as freedom of speech and religion. Citizens determine the extent of government control through free elections and political parties.

19. Capitalism	The system of government that favors free enterprise (privately owned businesses operating without government regulation).
20. Libertarianism	A political ideology that is opposed to all government action <i>except those necessary to protect life and property.</i>
21. Libertarians	Those who advocate government protection for protection of life and property only. They are <i>opposed to a government role in either order or equality.</i>
22. Laissez-Faire	An economic doctrine that <i>opposes any form of government intervention in business.</i>
23. Liberals	Those who are willing to use the government to <i>promote freedom but not order.</i>
24. Anarchism	A political philosophy that <i>opposes government in any form.</i>
25. Conservative	Those willing to use government to <i>promote order but not equality.</i>
26. Communitarians	Those willing to use the government to <i>promote both order and equality.</i>

❖ Summary of Political Ideologies

Group	Government Ideology			
	Freedom	Order	Equality	Other
Libertarians	-	✘	✘	-
Liberals	✓	✘	-	-
Anarchism	✘	✘	✘	No Government
Conservatives	-	✓	✘	-
Laissez Faire	-	-	-	No Business Intervention
Communitarians	-	✓	✓	-
Totalitarianism	-	✓	-	Total Control
Socialism	-	-	✓	Controlled Economy
Democratic Socialism	✓	-	-	-
Capitalism	-	-	-	Free enterprise