These are some typical multiple choice questions in the AP US Govt/Econ class.

• Marginal costs exist because:

 A) the decision to produce more of some product means the sacrifice of other products.

 B) wants are scarce relative to resources.

 C) households and businesses make rational decisions.

 D) most decisions do not involve sacrifices or tradeoffs.

• In national income accounting, consumption expenditures include:

 A) purchases of both new and used consumer goods.

 B) consumer durable goods and consumer nondurable goods, but not services.

 C) consumer durable goods, consumer nondurable goods, and services.

 D) changes in business inventories.

• A recession is a period in which:

A) cost-push inflation is present. C) demand-pull inflation is present.

B) nominal domestic output falls. D) real domestic output falls.

• A central issue in the framing of the U.S. Constitution was that of

 a. how strong to make the central government.

 b. how best to divide powers among the sections of the country.

 c. how best to break with Great Britain.

 d. how to adopt liberty but still allow slave holding.

 e. how to allow for the reintroduction of a monarchy.

• For a newspaper to be found guilty of libel, the accused party must

 a. prove beyond reasonable doubt that what was printed was damaging, even if it was printed accidentally.

 b. sue the reporter who wrote the story and not the newspaper that published it.

 c. sue the newspaper that published the story and not the reporter who wrote it.

 d. provide clear and convincing evidence that what was printed was malicious.

 e. establish that what was printed could have been interpreted in more than one manner.

• All of the following serve as checks on the power of the federal courts EXCEPT:

 a. Federal judges can be impeached.

 b. Congress can pass a law clarifying ‘legislative intent.”

 c. The voters can oust federal judges in national elections.

 d. Presidents, governors, and local executives can refrain from enforcing court rulings.

 e. Congress and the state legislatures can amend the Constitution.

These are some typical essay questions in the AP US Govt/Econ class.

• The federal bureaucracy as part of the executive branch exercises substantial independence in implementing governmental policies and programs. Most workers in the federal bureaucracy are civil-service employees who are organized under a merit system.

 (a) Describe one key characteristic of the merit system.

 (b) For each of the following, describe one factor that contributes to bureaucratic independence.

 • The structure of the federal bureaucracy

 • The complexity of public policy problems

 (c) For each of the following, explain one Constitutional provision that it can use to check the bureaucracy.

 • Congress

 • The courts

 • Interest groups

• Discuss the impact on the economy if TWO of the following were to occur. Be as thorough as possible and include examples.

 • There is massive flooding along the length of the Mississippi River

 • An earthquake cripples Los Angeles and closes the Port of LA/Long Beach

 • Apple releases its next generation iPhone

 • The Summer or Winter Olympics are held in an American city