Week 1 Quiz

1. Historically speaking, when a country has been unable or unwilling to reform its extractive institutions, how have its citizens reacted, according to Acemoglu?

* by appealing to religious authorities
* by peacefully protesting
* by rebelling
* by leaving the country

1. Which of the following is true about Zimbabwe?

* (under “Introduction”) It was first recognized as a nation in 1923, and has had multiple leaders since.
* (under “People and Society”) It has one of the world’s 100 highest life expectancies at birth.
* (under “People and Society”) The vast majority of its population is illiterate.
* (under “Economy”) There is a severe unemployment (or underemployment) crisis in the country.

1. How did Mugabe ensure loyalty to his rule after Zimbabwe’s independence?

* by building monuments to old Zimbabwean heroes
* by providing political supporters with government jobs
* by giving students free college educations
* by handing businesses to white political opponents

1. llowing outcomes?

* and legislation intended to reward opposition and punish supporters
* a com mutually beneficial compromises to keep real challenges from emerging
* an alliance between the incumbents and election officials to ensure incumbents are reelected
* regulation plete inability to develop widespread dissatisfaction with the status quo

1. Which of the following is true about Sierra Leone?

* (under “People and Society”) It has one of the world’s lowest maternal mortality rates.
* (under “Economy”) Automobile manufacturing is one of its primary industries.
* (under “Introduction”) Around a third of its population was displaced during the civil war that ended in 2002.
* (under “People and Society”) Less than 10 percent of its population lives in urban areas.

1. Which of the following is given as a sign that the state of Sierra Leone was failing under Joseph Momoh?

* The country’s infrastructure was not maintained.
* Leadership claims were contested and it wasn’t clear who was in charge.
* Government-sponsored television and radio took over.
* Teachers and other government employees were being paid too much.

1. How did Sierra Leonean president Siaka Stevens regard the Sierra Leonean military?

* as a threat to his power that must be stamped out
* as a crucial defender of the nation’s freedom
* as a force that could project Sierra Leone’s power throughout Africa
* as a bunch of impotent weaklings not to be bothered with

1. Which of the following is true about Colombia?

* (under “Economy”) Based on GDP (purchasing power parity), it has one of the 50 smallest economies in the world.
* (under “Economy”) The vast majority of its exports go to China.
* (under “Economy”) One of its primary agricultural products is coffee.
* (under “People and Society”) The majority of Colombians live in the countryside.

1. In a state that is practically ruled by a paramilitary group, the paramilitary group will do which of the following?

* oppose political candidates in elections
* answer to local political representatives
* shut down the justice system
* exercise military control over an area

1. Paramilitary groups are especially interested in what kind of regions?

* regions that are rural and sparsely populated
* regions that are popular destinations for tourists
* regions that are very poor
* regions that are rich with natural resources

1. Which of the following is true about North Korea?

* (under “Government”) It is a democracy.
* (under “Economy”) Its GDP per capita (PPP) puts it among the richest third of all countries.
* (under “Economy”) One of its most important industries is military products.
* (under “People and Society”) Its life expectancy is higher than the life expectancy in South Korea (~80 years).

1. Which of the following was an outcome of the currency reform in North Korea?

* The personal savings of everyone in the country were wiped out.
* Wealth transferred from a small group of rogue elites back to the workers.
* Two zeros were added to the value of all of North Korea’s currency.
* People who had been profiting from black market transactions made out very well.

1. Extractive institutions tend to arise in which kinds of nations?

* nations that have laissez-faire economic policies
* nations that have political instability
* nations that are poor
* nations that have political power concentrated in the hands of a small group

1. Which of the following statements about countries and wealth is the most true, according to the text?

* Having a small elite will lead to a reduction in its power and wealth over time.
* Having a small political elite will lead to a small economic elite.
* Having a poor country will lead to the creation of an elite.
* Having a small economic elite will lead to a small political elite.

1. In which of the following ways does the Russian government exhibit characteristics of an extractive state? Choose the BEST answer.

* It has disbanded democratic governance for communism.
* The country often changes its electoral law to favor incumbents supported by the country’s ruling party.
* All members of the upper chamber of its parliament (the Duma) are hand-picked by the Russian president.
* It is a single-party state.