Unit III Review Sheet

**Test Review Unit 3: Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Mass Media**

**Interest Groups**

1. Why have interest groups grown in number and power since the foundation of the US government?

2. Identify the types of interest groups that operate and understand the goals of each.

3. How do interest groups influence government? (What tactics do they employ?)

4. What makes some interest group more effective than others?

5. What role do lobbyists play in influencing government? (How do they help politicians?)

6. Review the Federal Regulation of Lobbying Act (1946) and the Lobbying Disclosure Act (1995).

7. What role do PAC's play in the campaign process?

8. Who do PAC's typically give money to?

9. What are the positive and negative effects of PAC's?

**Political Parties**

10. Why have political parties grown weaker over the years?

11. How does a Third Party Candidate help and hurt the presidential election process?

12. Why is it so difficult for a Third Party Candidate to win the presidency?

13. How have party politics influence Congress?

14. How have party politics influenced the Executive Branch?

**Mass Media**

15. Do the media influence public opinion? (Argue both the arguments for and against)

16. What are the roles of media? (How do these help / hurt democracy?)

17. How has the media altered the campaign process?

**Previous Concepts to Review**

· The Electoral College system

· Advantages of incumbency

· Factors that influence voter turnout

· The various campaign reform bills that regulate how money can be spent (Buckley v. Valeo, Federal Elections Campaign Acts (1971-1974), McCain-Feingold Bill (2002), and the lack of limits on independent expenditures