

20–1: Exploring Nationalism

CHAPTER 16: VISIONS OF NATIONAL IDENTITY

1. The word *cosmopolitan* can **best** be defined as a
 - A. practice that involves several countries working together to solve problems
 - B. doctrine that embraces ethnic diversity
 - C. practice of borrowing, adopting, and adapting values from many countries
 - D. plan of action that guides individuals' decisions about political, economic and social issues

2. A pluralistic society is built on the belief that
 - A. diversity is beneficial
 - B. the country's immigration system does not work
 - C. society needs to find an essential common purpose
 - D. people can have only one national identity

3. According to the principle of reasonable accommodation, Muslim women in Canada should be allowed to wear a hijab because this practice
 - A. does not violate any constitutional rights or freedoms
 - B. conforms to the policy of multiculturalism
 - C. propels them into the mainstream of Canadian culture
 - D. promotes the Canadian belief in gender equality

4. Asymmetrical federalism allows the provinces of Canada to
 - A. unilaterally drop out of Confederation
 - B. exercise differing degrees of control in different areas
 - C. adjust their representation in parliament based on demographic shifts
 - D. challenge federal laws and opt out of legislation that is harmful to their province

5. Asymmetrical federalism could undermine Canadian unity because it violates the principle of
 - A. representative democracy
 - B. responsible government
 - C. provincial equality
 - D. inherent rights

Use the following viewpoints to answer questions 6 to 8.

Possible Visions of Canada

I. Pauline Marois, Parti Québécois leader

“It will always be difficult for a small people speaking French in America, to assume its place, to continue to exist. It cannot be otherwise. There are 300 million Anglophones surrounding us. We have to find ways to clearly indicate that in Québec, things happen in French.”

II. Janice Gross Stein, director of Munk Centre for International Studies at the University of Toronto “Networks of immigrants now connect Canada around the globe... These networks are invaluable channels as Canada seeks to make its voice heard on international issues. We should lead in developing practices of multiple citizenship to strengthen these connections.”

III. Stephen Harper, prime minister of Canada

“It is simply difficult — extremely difficult — for someone to become bilingual in a country that is not. And make no mistake, Canada is not a bilingual country. In fact, it is less bilingual today than it ever has been... So there you have it. As a religion, bilingualism is the god that failed. It has led to no fairness, produced no unity, and cost Canadian taxpayers untold millions.”

IV. Gilles Duceppe, leader of the Bloc Québécois

“Multiculturalism as a model of integration does not work in Québec. Immigrant culture and beliefs must merge with Québec’s culture and beliefs if the latter is to survive. They are coming to a nation of values, a culture, and history. The model developed in Québec reflects that reality. It’s in total contradiction with the definition of a Canada that is bilingual and multicultural.”

V. Will Kymlicka, Canada Research Chair in Political Philosophy, Queens University)

“There are a few things we can say with some confidence about the effects of multiculturalism in practice. None of the countries that have moved along the multiculturalist path in the West have subsequently descended into civil war or anarchy, or faced military coups, or suffered economic collapse. On the contrary, even a casual inspection of the list of countries, which are ‘strong’ in their commitment to multiculturalism policies shows that they are amongst the most peaceful, stable, and prosperous societies on the planet.”

6. Taken together, these sources **best** support the generalization that Canada’s search for identity
- A. has caused considerable regional and provincial resentment
 - B. continues to be a complicated process
 - C. is futile and a colossal waste of money
 - D. has created a rally-round-the-Canadian-flag mentality
7. Which author is **most** likely to agree with the conclusion that diversity has put Canada in a better position to embrace globalization?
- A. Janice Gross Stein
 - B. Pauline Marois
 - C. Stephen Harper
 - D. Will Kymlicka
8. Which statement is **incorrect**?
- A. Harper [viewpoint III] expresses a belief common to Western alienation.
 - B. Duceppe [viewpoint IV] speaks from a sovereigntist point of view.
 - C. Marois [viewpoint I] expresses concern about assimilation.
 - D. Kymlicka [viewpoint V] presents views associated with supranationalism.

Use the following source to answer question 9.

The 1996 report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples made it clear that Canada is a _____. It said that Aboriginal governments are “one of three orders of government in Canada — federal, provincial/territorial, and Aboriginal.”

9. Which of the following phrases **best** fills in the blank?
- A. nation of nations
 - B. bilingual, multicultural nation
 - C. fair and equal nation
 - D. pluralistic nation

Use the following sources to answer questions 10 to 12.

Source I

“Looking at artistic voices represented across Canada, it becomes clear that our identity — who and what we are as individuals, communities, regions, and a country — can never be told in just one story. The cultures, histories, and relationships among Canadian communities have always been changing.”

— Jane Ash Poitras, artist, 1997

Source II

“Tolerance, openness and understanding towards other peoples’ cultures, social structures, values and faiths are now essential to the very survival of an interdependent world. Pluralism is no longer simply an asset or a prerequisite for progress and development; it is vital to our existence.”

— Prince Karim al-Hussaini, the Aga Khan, philanthropist and spiritual leader of Shia Ismaili Muslims, 2005

Source III

“If a person can have only one identity, then the choice between the national and global becomes an ‘all or nothing’ contest. But to see the problem in these stark and exclusive terms reflects a profound misunderstanding of the nature of human identity, in particular its inescapable plurality.”

— Amartya Sen, Nobel Prize winner in economics, 2006

Source IV

A pluralistic society reflects an inclusive approach that is characterized by respect for diversity. It assumes that diversity is beneficial and that cultural, religious, spiritual, ideological, gender, linguistic, environmental, and philosophical groups should enjoy autonomy.

10. Which issue is central to the sources as a group?

- A. Is it important for nation-states to be pluralistic?
- B. Is there an economic benefit to nation-states who tolerate diversity?
- C. Is it more difficult to develop a strong sense of nationalism in pluralistic societies?
- D. Is it desirable for nation-states to control the amount and kind of diversity they allow?

11. The views expressed in Source II would **most** likely get support from

- A. a homesick Canadian soldier in Afghanistan
- B. a recent Canadian immigrant with cosmopolitan views
- C. an unemployed Canadian who is part of the unskilled labor force
- D. a British member of the EU parliament who recently voted against accepting the euro

12. Source III refers to a problem that originates from

- A. an intolerant attitude
- B. no freedom of choice
- C. ultranationalist sentiments
- D. competing identities

Use the following sources to answer questions 13 to 15.

Source I

“If you don’t have a nation, a country of your own, you have no platform to act in the world... In order for us to truly live up to our potential in the world, and this includes reducing international inequalities, Canada must have its own sovereignty, its own freedom to move.”

— David Orchard, farmer, lawyer, and Canadian nationalist, in *ZNET*, 2004

Source II

“Despite the reveries and fantasies of some, the age of empire is over. Power is already diffusing widely in the 21st century. A new kind of global politics must take shape, built not on U.S. or Chinese pre-eminence, but on global co-operation across regions.

— Jeffrey Sachs, in *Common Wealth: Economics for a Crowded Planet*, 2008

Source III

“We are all on the same planet, drinking the same water, affected by the same type of forces. And these things have no respect for national borders. Regardless of diversity and difference, we all have things in common. We are united in that diversity.”

— Andy Knight, University of Alberta political scientist, 2007

Source IV

“Despite our foreign aid programs and our record in peacekeeping, Canada is a country greatly diminished since the Second World War. The truth is, we carry little weight in the world. Were the Canadian state to disappear tomorrow, many beyond our borders would notice but few would mourn.”

— Neil Bissoondath, author and cultural commentator, 2000

13. Which title is the **most** accurate and comprehensive description for these sources as a group?

- A. Nationalism and Globalism: A New Partnership
- B. Keeping to the Most Travelled Path
- C. New World, New Rules
- D. First Dinosaurs, Now Nationalism

14. Which source challenges the claim that Canada is a middle power?

- A. Source I
- B. Source II
- C. Source III
- D. Source IV

15. Which sources express views that **disagree**?

- A. Sources IV and II
- B. Sources III and IV
- C. Sources I and II
- D. Sources III and II