Chapter 12

**Knowledge based**

1. What is the ‘iron law of oligarchy’?
2. How do cartel parties differ from catch-all parties?
3. What is the meaning of ‘left’ in political terms?
4. Do political parties play the same role in new democracies as in the established democracies?
5. Must a democratic political party be internally democratic?

**Critical thinking**

1. Is a group that nominates candidates in order to put pressure on other parties, but with no real hope of winning an election itself, properly called a political party?
2. Is ‘political party’ better understood as a category, into which each case either does or does not fit, or as an ideal type, which each case can more or less closely approximate?
3. Is democracy conceivable without political parties?
4. Does the US have ‘real’ political parties?
5. Is the regulation of political parties’ finance compatible with political freedom?