

# Political Science Fundamentals

Political Science · Practice Test · 25 Questions

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**1. Which document is considered the supreme law of the United States?**

- A) The Declaration of Independence
- B) The Articles of Confederation
- C) The U.S. Constitution
- D) The Bill of Rights

**2. What term describes a government where the head of state is a monarch but their powers are limited by a constitution?**

- A) Absolute monarchy
- B) Constitutional monarchy
- C) Theocracy
- D) Autocracy

**3. The 'separation of powers' is a doctrine that typically divides government into which three branches?**

- A) Legislative, Executive, Judicial
- B) Military, Religious, Civil
- C) Federal, State, Local
- D) Monarchy, Democracy, Republic

**4. Which international organization was established in 1945 to promote peace and cooperation among countries?**

- A) The League of Nations
- B) The World Trade Organization
- C) The United Nations
- D) The European Union

**5. In a parliamentary system, what is the title of the head of government, such as in the United Kingdom or Australia?**

- A) President
- B) Prime Minister
- C) Governor General
- D) Chancellor

**6. What is the process called by which a bill becomes law in most democratic legislatures?**

- A) Veto
- B) Ratification
- C) Enactment
- D) Filibuster

**7. Which term refers to the right to vote in public, political elections?**

- A) Suffrage
- B) Sovereignty
- C) Federalism
- D) Diplomacy

**8. The concept of 'Checks and Balances' is primarily designed to do what?**

- A) Increase taxes
- B) Prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful
- C) Speed up the legislative process
- D) Elect a president for life

**9. Which political ideology advocates for the state to own or control the means of production to ensure equality?**

- A) Capitalism
- B) Libertarianism
- C) Socialism
- D) Nationalism

**10. What is a 'bicameral' legislature?**

- A) A legislature with one house
- B) A legislature with two houses
- C) A legislature with no voting power
- D) A legislature controlled by a king

**11. Which country is the world's oldest continuous democracy?**

- A) United Kingdom
- B) Greece
- C) Switzerland
- D) San Marino

**12. What does the term 'sovereignty' mean in political science?**

- A) The right of a state to govern itself
- B) The ability to tax citizens
- C) A form of military rule
- D) The process of electing a leader

**13. In the United States, which branch of government has the power to declare war?**

- A) The Supreme Court
- B) The President
- C) The Congress
- D) The Department of Defense

**14. Which of these describes a 'Totalitarian' state?**

- A) The government is elected by the people
- B) The state holds total authority over society and seeks to control all aspects of public and private life
- C) Citizens have absolute freedom of speech
- D) The government only controls the military

**15. What is the primary function of the judicial branch of government?**

- A) To create laws
- B) To enforce laws
- C) To interpret laws
- D) To collect taxes

**16. The 'Magna Carta', signed in 1215, is famous for establishing the principle that:**

- A) The monarch is above the law
- B) Everyone is subject to the law, even the king
- C) All citizens are equal regardless of status
- D) Parliament must meet annually

**17. Which political movement focuses on the protection and conservation of the environment?**

- A) Environmentalism
- B) Globalism
- C) Populism
- D) Anarchism

**18. What is an 'amendment' in the context of a constitution?**

- A) A type of tax
- B) A formal change or addition to the document
- C) A vote of no confidence
- D) A legal dispute

**19. Which global institution oversees the global financial system and provides loans to countries?**

- A) The Red Cross
- B) The International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- C) The Amnesty International
- D) The World Wildlife Fund

**20. What term describes a political system where power is held by a small group of people?**

- A) Democracy
- B) Oligarchy
- C) Monarchy
- D) Republic

**21. Who is considered the 'father' of modern communism?**

- A) Adam Smith
- B) Karl Marx
- C) John Locke
- D) Thomas Jefferson

**22. A 'referendum' is a vote by the electorate on what?**

- A) A single political issue
- B) The candidate for prime minister
- C) The national budget
- D) The retirement of a judge

**23. Which country operates under a federal system where power is shared between national and state governments?**

- A) Australia
- B) France
- C) China
- D) Japan

**24. What is the primary purpose of a 'political party'?**

- A) To organize people to achieve and exercise political power
- B) To manage the country's currency
- C) To provide education for all citizens
- D) To lead the armed forces

**25. In political science, what is a 'bureaucracy'?**

- A) A group of elected representatives
- B) The non-elected officials who manage government departments
- C) The judicial court system
- D) A military alliance