

Foundations of Political Thought

Political Philosophy · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Who is credited with the first recorded systematic use of the term 'political science' in the title of a major work?

- A) Aristotle
- B) Jean Bodin**
- C) Thomas Hobbes
- D) Niccolò Machiavelli

2. Which ancient legal document is the first known attempt to explicitly limit the powers of a monarch by law?

- A) Magna Carta**
- B) Code of Hammurabi
- C) The Twelve Tables
- D) Edict of Nantes

3. In which work was the 'state of nature' first rigorously formulated as a philosophical device to justify the necessity of sovereign authority?

- A) Leviathan
- B) Two Treatises of Government
- C) The Social Contract
- D) De Cive**

4. Which thinker introduced the concept of the 'general will' (volonté générale) as a foundational element of political legitimacy?

- A) Montesquieu
- B) Jean-Jacques Rousseau**
- C) John Locke
- D) Immanuel Kant

5. The concept of the 'separation of powers' was first systematically articulated in its modern tripartite form by which philosopher?

- A) Baron de Montesquieu**
- B) James Madison
- C) John Locke
- D) Cicero

6. Which work is recognized as the first systematic treatise on political economy, formally separating 'political' administration from 'economic' production?

A) The Wealth of Nations

B) The Prince

C) Politics

D) Utopia

7. The 'veil of ignorance' as a discovery in methodology for determining principles of justice was introduced by whom?

A) John Rawls

B) Robert Nozick

C) Jeremy Bentham

D) Karl Marx

8. Which philosopher is credited with the first modern philosophical defense of 'civil disobedience' in his essay of the same name?

A) Henry David Thoreau

B) Mahatma Gandhi

C) Leo Tolstoy

D) John Stuart Mill

9. Who first coined the term 'utopia' to describe an ideal socio-political system in his 1516 publication?

A) Thomas More

B) Francis Bacon

C) Plato

D) Tommaso Campanella

10. Which thinker first proposed the 'panopticon' as an architectural design for social and political surveillance?

A) Jeremy Bentham

B) Michel Foucault

C) Herbert Spencer

D) Auguste Comte

11. The first written constitution of a modern republic, which integrated the principle of popular sovereignty, was established in what year?

A) 1776

B) 1787

C) 1791

D) 1789

12. Who is the first political philosopher to formally define the 'social contract' as a voluntary agreement among individuals to form a society?

A) Thomas Hobbes

B) Hugo Grotius

C) John Locke

D) Jean-Jacques Rousseau

13. Which scholar is credited with inventing the term 'totalitarianism' to describe the regimes of the 20th century?

A) Giovanni Amendola

B) Hannah Arendt

C) Friedrich Hayek

D) George Orwell

14. The distinction between 'positive liberty' and 'negative liberty' was first formally categorized in a lecture by which philosopher?

A) Isaiah Berlin

B) T.H. Green

C) John Stuart Mill

D) Benjamin Constant

15. Which ancient thinker is attributed with the first 'classification of constitutions' based on the number of people who rule?

A) Herodotus

B) Plato

C) Aristotle

D) Socrates