

Advanced Political Science Assessment

Political Science · Answer Key · 25 Questions

1. Which political theorist coined the term 'hegemony' to describe the ideological dominance of the ruling class in his 'Prison Notebooks'?

- A) Antonio Gramsci**
- B) Louis Althusser
- C) Herbert Marcuse
- D) Max Horkheimer

2. In the context of the UN Security Council, which of the following is not a permanent member with veto power?

- A) China
- B) France
- C) Germany**
- D) Russia

3. The 'Great Compromise' of 1787 at the United States Constitutional Convention resulted in which legislative structure?

- A) Unicameral legislature with equal representation
- B) Bicameral legislature with mixed representation**
- C) Unicameral legislature based on population
- D) Bicameral legislature based strictly on population

4. Which seminal work by Thomas Hobbes argues that absolute sovereignty is necessary to escape the 'state of nature'?

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

5. The Maastricht Treaty, signed in 1992, officially established which supranational organization?

- A) The North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- B) The European Union**
- C) The World Trade Organization
- D) The Council of Europe

6. Which political system is characterized by the 'fusion of powers' between the executive and legislative branches?

- A) Presidential system
- B) Federal system
- C) Parliamentary system**
- D) Confederal system

7. What is the primary function of the 'whip' in a Westminster parliamentary system?

- A) To draft legislation for the opposition
- B) To enforce party discipline and voting behavior**
- C) To represent the monarch in parliament
- D) To preside over judicial appointments

8. Which international agreement established the principle of 'cuius regio, eius religio' (whose realm, his religion) in 1555?

- A) Peace of Westphalia
- B) Peace of Augsburg**
- C) Treaty of Versailles
- D) Congress of Vienna

9. In political science, what does the term 'gerrymandering' specifically refer to?

- A) The manipulation of electoral boundaries to favor one party**
- B) The bribery of government officials
- C) The illegal financing of political campaigns
- D) The delay of legislative proceedings

10. Which political philosopher authored 'A Theory of Justice' and introduced the concept of the 'veil of ignorance'?

- A) Robert Nozick
- B) Isaiah Berlin
- C) John Rawls**
- D) Michael Sandel

11. The concept of 'soft power', defined as the ability to attract and co-opt rather than coerce, was developed by which scholar?

- A) Kenneth Waltz
- B) Joseph Nye**
- C) John Mearsheimer
- D) Henry Kissinger

12. Which of the following is a classic example of a 'unitary' state where central government retains supreme authority?

- A) United States
- B) Australia
- C) France**
- D) Switzerland

13. What is the core tenet of the 'Realist' school of international relations?

- A) Emphasis on international institutions
- B) The state as the primary actor in an anarchic system**
- C) The belief in perpetual global peace
- D) Focus on individual human rights

14. The '1951 Refugee Convention' defines a refugee primarily based on what criteria?

- A) Economic hardship
- B) Environmental displacement
- C) Well-founded fear of persecution**
- D) Voluntary migration

15. Which legislative body is the upper house of the German parliament, representing the individual states (Länder)?

- A) Bundestag
- B) Bundesrat**
- C) Diet
- D) Sejm

16. What is the term for a system of government where power is divided between a central authority and constituent political units?

- A) Unitary system
- B) Federalism**
- C) Oligarchy
- D) Autocracy

17. Which amendment to the U.S. Constitution formally abolished slavery?

- A) 12th Amendment
- B) 13th Amendment**
- C) 14th Amendment
- D) 15th Amendment

18. The 'Balfour Declaration' of 1917 was issued by the government of which nation?

- A) France
- B) United States
- C) United Kingdom**
- D) Ottoman Empire

19. Who is credited with the 'Iron Law of Oligarchy', which states that all organizations eventually develop into oligarchies?

- A) Vilfredo Pareto
- B) Gaetano Mosca
- C) Robert Michels**
- D) Max Weber

20. In constitutional law, what does 'stare decisis' mean?

- A) To stand by things decided**
- B) To separate church and state
- C) To veto legislative acts
- D) To impeach the executive

21. Which branch of government is responsible for interpreting the laws in a separation of powers system?

- A) Executive
- B) Legislative
- C) Judiciary**
- D) Bureaucracy

22. The 'Treaty of Tordesillas' (1494) was primarily intended to divide newly discovered lands between which two powers?

- A) England and France
- B) Spain and Portugal**
- C) Netherlands and Spain
- D) Britain and Portugal

23. Which political concept refers to the right to rule as recognized by the governed?

- A) Power
- B) Authority
- C) Legitimacy**
- D) Influence

24. In game theory, the 'Prisoner's Dilemma' is often used to model which political situation?

A) Voting behavior

B) Arms races between nations

C) Cabinet selection

D) Constitutional drafting

25. Which landmark 1803 U.S. Supreme Court case established the principle of judicial review?

A) McCulloch v. Maryland

B) Marbury v. Madison

C) Gibbons v. Ogden

D) Dred Scott v. Sandford