

Introduction to Political Philosophy

Political Philosophy · Answer Key · 25 Questions

1. Which ancient Greek philosopher wrote 'The Republic', a work that discusses the concept of justice and the ideal state?

- A) Aristotle
- B) Socrates
- C) Plato**
- D) Epicurus

2. In a direct democracy, who makes the decisions on laws and government policies?

- A) A king or queen
- B) The citizens themselves**
- C) A group of wealthy elites
- D) Appointed judges

3. What is the primary purpose of a constitution in a modern nation?

- A) To list all the laws of the land
- B) To describe the history of a country
- C) To establish the rules and framework of a government**
- D) To set the taxes for the year

4. Which form of government is ruled by a single person who often inherits their position through a family line?

- A) Monarchy**
- B) Republic
- C) Anarchy
- D) Oligarchy

5. John Locke, an English philosopher, argued that all people have natural rights. Which of the following is one of those rights?

- A) Property**
- B) Technology
- C) Entertainment
- D) Fashion

6. What is the term for a system of government where power is held by a small group of powerful or wealthy people?

- A) Democracy
- B) Oligarchy**
- C) Theocracy
- D) Dictatorship

7. In a parliamentary system, what is the title of the head of government in countries like Australia or the United Kingdom?

- A) President
- B) Governor
- C) Prime Minister**
- D) Chief Justice

8. What concept describes the idea that the power of a government should be limited by laws to prevent abuse?

- A) Absolute power
- B) Rule of law**
- C) Dictatorship
- D) Totalitarianism

9. The 'Social Contract' theory suggests that people agree to give up some freedoms in exchange for what?

- A) Unlimited wealth
- B) Free travel
- C) Protection and order**
- D) Total privacy

10. Which document, signed in 1215, is famous for limiting the power of the King of England for the first time?

- A) The Bill of Rights
- B) The Magna Carta**
- C) The Declaration of Independence
- D) The Communist Manifesto

11. What is the name for a system where a central government shares power with regional or state governments?

- A) Federalism**
- B) Unitary system
- C) Absolute monarchy
- D) Autocracy

12. Which political philosopher wrote 'Leviathan' and argued that a strong government is needed to keep order?

- A) Karl Marx
- B) Thomas Hobbes**
- C) Jean-Jacques Rousseau
- D) John Stuart Mill

13. In a republic, who do the citizens typically elect to make decisions on their behalf?

- A) Their parents
- B) A king
- C) Representatives**
- D) Religious leaders

14. Which term describes a system where the government owns and controls the major industries and resources?

- A) Capitalism
- B) Socialism**
- C) Liberalism
- D) Libertarianism

15. What is the primary role of a 'Legislature' in a government?

- A) To carry out the law
- B) To interpret the law
- C) To make the laws**
- D) To arrest criminals

16. A government where religious leaders hold the main political power is known as what?

- A) Theocracy**
- B) Democracy
- C) Technocracy
- D) Plutocracy

17. Which branch of government is responsible for interpreting the laws and the constitution?

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

18. What does the 'separation of powers' aim to prevent within a government?

- A) The formation of political parties
- B) The concentration of too much power in one branch**
- C) The holding of public elections
- D) The creation of new laws

19. Who is often referred to as the 'father of modern political science' for his book 'The Prince'?

A) Niccolò Machiavelli

- B) Voltaire
- C) Montesquieu
- D) Cicero

20. What is the main role of the 'Executive' branch of government?

A) To make new laws

B) To enforce and carry out laws

- C) To decide if laws are fair
- D) To write the constitution

21. What term refers to the right of citizens to vote in government elections?

A) Suffrage

- B) Censorship
- C) Mandate
- D) Veto

22. Which philosopher is famous for his ideas on the 'separation of powers' between different government branches?

A) Baron de Montesquieu

- B) Thomas Paine
- C) Immanuel Kant
- D) Confucius

23. In a totalitarian state, how much control does the government have over the lives of its citizens?

A) Very little

B) Only over taxes

C) Almost complete control

D) Only over education

24. What is a 'referendum' in the context of political decision-making?

A) A private meeting of politicians

B) A vote by citizens on a specific proposal or law

- C) The process of electing a president
- D) A report by a judge

25. Which political system emphasizes individual freedom, private property, and free markets?

A) Classical Liberalism

B) Communism

C) Fascism

D) Monarchism