

Foundations of Political Philosophy

Political Science · Practice Test · 20 Questions

1. Which political philosopher wrote the influential work 'The Social Contract' in 1762?

- A) John Locke
- B) Jean-Jacques Rousseau
- C) Thomas Hobbes
- D) Baruch Spinoza

2. In 'Leviathan', what form of government did Thomas Hobbes argue was necessary to prevent chaos?

- A) Direct Democracy
- B) Absolute Monarchy
- C) Constitutional Republic
- D) Theocracy

3. Which philosopher is known for the theory of the 'separation of powers' in 'The Spirit of the Laws'?

- A) Montesquieu
- B) Voltaire
- C) Diderot
- D) Rousseau

4. John Locke's concept of natural rights influenced the American Declaration of Independence. Which of the following is NOT one of the three rights he famously listed?

- A) Life
- B) Liberty
- C) Property
- D) Happiness

5. Who authored 'The Republic', a work that describes the ideal city-state ruled by a philosopher-king?

- A) Aristotle
- B) Socrates
- C) Plato
- D) Cicero

6. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels co-authored which 1848 document outlining the principles of communism?

- A) The Wealth of Nations
- B) The Communist Manifesto
- C) Das Kapital
- D) The German Ideology

7. Which philosopher is widely considered the father of modern political philosophy for his work 'The Prince'?

- A) Niccolò Machiavelli
- B) Thomas More
- C) Erasmus
- D) Francis Bacon

8. What concept describes the idea that government legitimacy comes from the consent of the people?

- A) Divine Right
- B) Popular Sovereignty
- C) Feudalism
- D) Totalitarianism

9. John Stuart Mill is best known for developing which ethical and political theory in his essay 'Utilitarianism'?

- A) Virtue Ethics
- B) Deontology
- C) Utilitarianism
- D) Existentialism

10. Which ancient Greek philosopher described humans as 'political animals' in his work 'Politics'?

- A) Plato
- B) Aristotle
- C) Epicurus
- D) Zeno

11. Edmund Burke is known as the philosophical founder of which political ideology?

- A) Liberalism
- B) Conservatism
- C) Anarchism
- D) Socialism

12. Who wrote 'A Theory of Justice' in 1971, introducing the 'veil of ignorance' thought experiment?

- A) Robert Nozick
- B) John Rawls
- C) Isaiah Berlin
- D) Hannah Arendt

13. In the context of the American founding, which document was written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay?

- A) The Bill of Rights
- B) The Federalist Papers
- C) Common Sense
- D) The Articles of Confederation

14. Which French philosopher advocated for civil liberties, including freedom of speech and religion, in the 18th century?

- A) Voltaire
- B) Rousseau
- C) Montesquieu
- D) D'Alembert

15. What is the primary focus of 'Libertarianism' as a political philosophy?

- A) Collective ownership
- B) Maximized individual liberty
- C) State control of industry
- D) Equality of outcome

16. Alexis de Tocqueville is famous for his analytical study of which country's political system?

- A) France
- B) Great Britain
- C) United States
- D) Germany

17. The concept of the 'Protestant Ethic' and its relation to the development of capitalism was written by which sociologist?

- A) Max Weber
- B) Émile Durkheim
- C) Karl Marx
- D) Auguste Comte

18. Who wrote 'On Liberty', defending the rights of the individual against the 'tyranny of the majority'?

- A) John Stuart Mill
- B) Jeremy Bentham
- C) Thomas Paine
- D) Herbert Spencer

19. Which political term refers to a society governed by the wealthy or those with the most money?

- A) Oligarchy
- B) Plutocracy
- C) Technocracy
- D) Aristocracy

20. Mary Wollstonecraft is primarily remembered for her contributions to which political movement?

- A) Early Feminism
- B) Abolitionism
- C) Environmentalism
- D) Royalism