

Foundations of Political Philosophy

Political Philosophy · Practice Test · 12 Questions

1. Which philosopher is best known for the theory of the 'social contract' and the idea that people have natural rights to life, liberty, and property?

- A) John Locke
- B) Karl Marx
- C) Niccolò Machiavelli
- D) Plato

2. What term describes a form of government where power is held by a small group of wealthy or influential people?

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

3. In a representative democracy, who holds the ultimate political power?

- A) The monarch
- B) The military
- C) The citizens
- D) The judiciary

4. What is the primary purpose of a constitution in a democratic nation?

- A) To list all personal opinions of citizens
- B) To establish the fundamental laws and principles of government
- C) To dictate the daily market prices of goods
- D) To abolish all forms of taxation

5. Which document, signed in 1215, is often cited as the first to limit the powers of a king and protect legal rights?

- A) The Treaty of Versailles
- B) The Magna Carta
- C) The Declaration of Independence
- D) The Communist Manifesto

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

- A) The expansion of international trade
- B) The concentration of authority in one branch
- C) The holding of regular elections
- D) The creation of local councils

7. Which form of government is characterized by a single ruler who has absolute power and is not restricted by laws or a constitution?

- A) Constitutional Monarchy
- B) Autocracy
- C) Federal Republic
- D) Parliamentary Democracy

8. Who wrote 'The Republic', a work that explores the definition of justice and the structure of an ideal city-state?

- A) Aristotle
- B) Socrates
- C) Plato
- D) Thomas Hobbes

9. What is the main role of the judiciary in a political system?

- A) To draft new tax legislation
- B) To execute military operations
- C) To interpret and apply the law
- D) To manage national education standards

10. The concept of 'rule of law' means that:

- A) Laws change based on the popularity of the leader
- B) Everyone, including government officials, is subject to the law
- C) The military makes the laws during times of peace
- D) Only the wealthy must follow the law

11. Which political ideology advocates for the state or community to own the means of production to ensure equality?

- A) Socialism
- B) Libertarianism
- C) Fascism
- D) Individualism

12. What is the definition of a 'sovereign' state?

- A) A state that has no central government
- B) A state with full control over its own territory and affairs
- C) A state that is ruled by a foreign power
- D) A state that has no written laws