Political Science Essentials for Young Scholars

Political Science · Practice Test · 18 Questions

1. What is the formal term for a system of government where power is held by a small group of elite or wealthy individuals?

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

2. In the context of the United Nations, which body is primarily responsible for maintaining international peace and security?

A) General Assembly
B) Security Council
C) International Court of Justice
D) Secretariat

3. Which ancient Greek philosopher wrote 'The Republic', a work detailing his vision for an ideal city-state?

A) Aristotle
B) Socrates
C) Plato
D) Herodotus

4. What is the main function of the 'Judiciary' branch of government?

A) To enforce the laws
B) To write new laws
C) To interpret the laws
D) To collect taxes

5. A 'Confederation' is best described as a system where:

A) A central government holds all power
B) Local states retain most power while delegating limited authority
C) Power is divided equally between two houses
D) There is no government structure

6. The 'Magna Carta', signed in 1215, was a significant political document because it:

A) Established a total democracy
B) Limited the power of the monarch
C) Created the first parliament
D) Declared war on France

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7. What term refers to the process by which a country's government manages its income and spending to influence the economy?

A) Fiscal policy
B) Foreign policy
C) Monetary policy
D) Social policy

8. Which document is considered the 'supreme law' of the United States, outlining the structure of the federal government?

A) The Bill of Rights
B) The Declaration of Independence
C) The Constitution
D) The Articles of Confederation

9. In a parliamentary system, how is the head of government (the Prime Minister) typically chosen?

A) Direct national vote
B) Appointment by the monarch
C) Selection by the legislature
D) Random lottery

10. What is 'Suffrage'?

A) The right to vote in political elections
B) The process of impeaching a leader
C) The taxation of goods
D) The study of ancient laws

11. Which political ideology advocates for the state to own and control the major means of production?

A) Liberalism
B) Conservatism
C) Socialism
D) Libertarianism

12. What does the term 'Bicameral' mean in relation to a legislature?

A) Consisting of one house
B) Consisting of two houses
C) Having no voting power
D) Governed by a king

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13. Which international organization was established in 1945 to promote international cooperation and prevent future global conflicts?

A) The League of Nations
B) The United Nations
C) The European Union
D) NATO

14. A 'Republic' is a form of government in which:

A) The country is considered a 'public matter' and not the private concern of rulers
B) The monarch has absolute power
C) All citizens vote on every single law
D) There is no legal system

15. What is a 'Veto' power?

A) The power to propose a new law
B) The power to reject a decision or proposal made by a law-making body
C) The power to remove a judge
D) The power to start a war

16. Which political term refers to the ability to influence or command the behavior of others?

A) Power
B) Diplomacy
C) Sovereignty
D) Legislation

17. What is 'Sovereignty'?

A) The right of a state to govern itself without outside interference
B) A type of tax on imports
C) The process of electing a mayor
D) A belief in ancient traditions

18. The 'Separation of Powers' is a political doctrine intended to:

A) Give the president total control
B) Prevent any single branch of government from becoming too powerful
C) Encourage citizens to riot
D) Remove all laws

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