

Question Bank

Political Science

B.A. 1st Year, 1st Semester

Course Title: Basic Concepts of Political Science

Total Questions: 150 (50 Long, 50 Short, 50 MCQs)

Section A: Long Questions

1. Define and distinguish between Politics and Political Science.
2. Explain the scope and importance of Political Philosophy.
3. Discuss the evolution of Political Thought and its relevance today.
4. Elaborate on the significance of Political Theory in the study of Political Science.
5. Differentiate between Political Thought and Political Theory.
6. Write a critical note on the development of Political Science as a discipline.
7. Examine the relationship between Political Philosophy and Political Science.
8. Discuss the interdisciplinary nature of Political Science.
9. Evaluate the major approaches to the study of Political Science.
10. Analyze the normative and empirical dimensions of Political Theory.
11. Compare Western and Indian traditions of Political Thought.
12. Discuss the importance of values and ethics in Political Philosophy.
13. Define the State and explain its essential elements.
14. What is a Nation? How does it differ from a State?
15. Discuss the characteristics and role of Civil Society in modern democracies.
16. What is a Political System? Explain its features and importance.
17. Describe Austin's Theory of Sovereignty with examples.
18. Explain the Pluralist Theory of Sovereignty and its critique of monism.
19. Compare and contrast the views of Austin and Pluralists on Sovereignty.
20. Trace the evolution of the concept of Civil Society.
21. Discuss the relationship between State and Civil Society.
22. Explain the interdependence of Nation, State, and Civil Society.
23. Critically examine the role of the modern Political System in shaping governance.
24. What challenges do Civil Society organizations face in democratic states?
25. Explain the Divine Origin Theory of the State and its criticisms.
26. Discuss the Social Contract Theory as explained by Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau.
27. Elaborate on the Evolutionary Theory of the origin of the State.
28. What are the main features of the Liberal theory of the State?

29. Analyze the characteristics of the Welfare State.
 30. Describe the Socialist concept of the State and its functions.
 31. Explain the role of Political Parties in a democratic system.
 32. Discuss the significance and functioning of Pressure Groups.
 33. Define Public Opinion and describe its formation and role in politics.
 34. Explain the different types of Democracy and their characteristics.
 35. How do Pressure Groups influence policy making in a democracy?
 36. Discuss the relationship between Public Opinion and Media in democratic systems.
 37. What are Rights? Discuss various types of Rights.
 38. Explain the concept of Duties and their classification.
 39. Discuss the philosophical foundation of Political Obligation.
 40. Define Power. How is it different from Authority?
 41. Explain the different types of Authority as given by Max Weber.
 42. Discuss the concept of Legitimacy and its sources.
 43. Define Liberty and explain the distinction between Positive and Negative Liberty.
 44. What do you understand by Equality? Discuss different dimensions of Equality.
 45. Analyze the meaning and importance of Justice in Political Theory.
 46. Discuss the nature and role of Law in the maintenance of social order.
 47. How do Rights and Duties complement each other in a democratic society?
 48. Examine the relevance of Political Obligation in the modern state.
 49. Evaluate the concept of Social Justice in contemporary political thought.
 50. Discuss how Liberty and Equality can be reconciled in political theory.
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Section B: Short Answer Questions

1. Define Politics in brief.
2. What is Political Science?
3. Write a short note on Political Philosophy.
4. What is the subject matter of Political Theory?
5. Mention two differences between Political Thought and Political Philosophy.
6. How is Political Science a science?
7. What is the empirical approach in Political Science?
8. State any two features of Political Philosophy.
9. What is the role of Political Theory?
10. Give two examples of ancient political thinkers.
11. Define Political Thought in one sentence.
12. Mention two branches of Political Science.
13. Define State with two elements.
14. What is the difference between a State and a Nation.
15. Define Civil Society.
16. What is Sovereignty?
17. Mention two features of Austin's theory of Sovereignty.
18. Define Political System.
19. What are the two main views on Sovereignty?

20. State two functions of Civil Society.
 21. Mention two criticisms of the monistic view of Sovereignty.
 22. Give two characteristics of a Nation.
 23. What is the territorial element of the State?
 24. Define Pluralism in brief.
 25. Define Divine Theory in one line.
 26. Who proposed the Social Contract Theory?
 27. What is the Evolutionary Theory?
 28. Write two features of the Liberal State.
 29. Define Welfare State.
 30. Mention two objectives of a Socialist State.
 31. Define Political Party?
 32. What are Pressure Groups?
 33. Define Public Opinion.
 34. Write two types of Democracy.
 35. Give one function of a political party.
 36. Name any one pressure group in India.
 37. Define Rights.
 38. What are Duties?
 39. Define Political Obligation.
 40. What is Power in Politics?
 41. Define Authority.
 42. What is meant by Legitimacy?
 43. What is Negative Liberty?
 44. Define Equality.
 45. Write a short note on Justice.
 46. Define Law in brief.
 47. Mention any two sources of law.
 48. What is social equality?
 49. State one difference between power and authority.
 50. What is legal obligation?
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Section C: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

1. Who is known as the father of Political Science?
 - A. Plato
 - B. Aristotle ☒
 - C. Machiavelli
 - D. Rousseau
2. Political Theory mainly deals with:
 - A. Facts
 - B. Laws
 - C. Norms ☒
 - D. Hypothesis

3. The term 'Political Science' was first used by:
 - A. Aristotle ☒
 - B. Hobbes
 - C. Locke
 - D. Bentham
4. Empirical Political Theory focuses on:
 - A. What ought to be
 - B. Ideals
 - C. Observations and facts ☒
 - D. Values
5. Political Philosophy is concerned with:
 - A. Administrative issues
 - B. Ideal states ☒
 - C. Economic data
 - D. Social work
6. The main focus of Political Thought is:
 - A. Political activities
 - B. Political ideas over time ☒
 - C. Constitution
 - D. Government
7. Which of these is not a feature of Political Science?
 - A. Normative nature
 - B. Empirical base
 - C. Absolute truth ☒
 - D. Study of power
8. The essential element of a State is:
 - A. Religion
 - B. Population ☒
 - C. Language
 - D. Wealth
9. "A State is a politically organized people of a definite territory" – Who said this?
 - A. Aristotle
 - B. MacIver ☒
 - C. Austin
 - D. Machiavelli
10. Which of the following is a feature of Sovereignty?
 - A. Partial power
 - B. Limited power
 - C. Absolute power ☒
 - D. Local power
11. Austin's theory of Sovereignty is:
 - A. Legal ☒
 - B. Moral
 - C. Social
 - D. Economic

12. Pluralist theory emphasizes:
- A. One sovereign
 - B. Multiple centers of power ☒
 - C. Divine right
 - D. Command theory
13. Who is associated with the command theory of law?
- A. Hobbes
 - B. Austin ☒
 - C. Mill
 - D. Bentham
14. Civil Society acts as a:
- A. Government branch
 - B. Social force ☒
 - C. Political party
 - D. State organ
15. A Political System includes:
- A. Only the legislature
 - B. All institutions of governance ☒
 - C. Judiciary only
 - D. Police forces
16. Who among the following propounded the Divine Theory?
- A. Hobbes
 - B. Locke
 - C. Bossuet ☒
 - D. Rousseau
17. The Social Contract Theory is based on:
- A. Revolution
 - B. War
 - C. Agreement ☒
 - D. Evolution
18. Welfare State is mainly concerned with:
- A. Religious affairs
 - B. Moral values
 - C. People's welfare ☒
 - D. Political revolution
19. The Evolutionary theory of the State believes in:
- A. Sudden creation
 - B. Gradual development ☒
 - C. Religious origin
 - D. Force
20. A Pressure Group:
- A. Contests elections
 - B. Does not contest elections ☒
 - C. Is a political party
 - D. Forms government

21. Which thinker emphasized separation of powers?

- A. Rousseau
- B. Montesquieu ☒
- C. Hobbes
- D. Hegel

22. Political Parties serve as a:

- A. Judicial body
- B. Legislative unit
- C. Link between people and government ☒
- D. Military force

23. Political Obligation means:

- A. Obeying moral law
- B. Obeying family
- C. Obeying laws of the State ☒
- D. Obeying teachers

24. Liberty means:

- A. Absence of law
- B. Unrestricted freedom
- C. Regulated freedom ☒
- D. Total control

25. Which of the following is not a type of equality?

- A. Social
- B. Political
- C. Natural
- D. Numerical ☒

26. Justice is primarily concerned with:

- A. Inequality
- B. Fairness ☒
- C. Liberty
- D. Wealth

27. Authority is legitimate when it is:

- A. Feared
- B. Loved
- C. Accepted ☒
- D. Forced

28. Legal authority is based on:

- A. Tradition
- B. Election
- C. Law ☒
- D. Revolution

29. Equality before law is a:

- A. Moral right
- B. Social right
- C. Political right ☒
- D. Economic right

30. The principle of 'greatest happiness of the greatest number' is associated with:
- A. Rousseau
 - B. Hobbes
 - C. Bentham ☒
 - D. Mill
31. Who among the following is not a social contract theorist?
- A. Hobbes
 - B. Locke
 - C. Rousseau
 - D. Hegel ☒
32. Which concept is central to Liberalism?
- A. Authority
 - B. Liberty ☒
 - C. Force
 - D. Revolution
33. Which of the following is an essential element of the Nation?
- A. Sovereignty
 - B. Common Culture ☒
 - C. Government
 - D. Constitution
34. Which of these is not an element of the State?
- A. Territory
 - B. Government
 - C. Constitution ☒
 - D. Sovereignty
35. Which type of democracy involves direct participation of citizens?
- A. Representative
 - B. Indirect
 - C. Participatory ☒
 - D. Parliamentary
36. Who defined sovereignty as "the determinate human superior"?
- A. Hobbes
 - B. Austin ☒
 - C. Locke
 - D. Mill
37. Which thinker is associated with utilitarianism?
- A. Rousseau
 - B. Jeremy Bentham ☒
 - C. Aristotle
 - D. Rawls
38. What type of equality refers to equal access to opportunities?
- A. Political
 - B. Economic
 - C. Social
 - D. Equality of opportunity ☒

39. Political parties mainly aim to:
- A. Promote culture
 - B. Contest elections ☒
 - C. Educate public
 - D. Influence judiciary
40. The concept of justice as fairness was given by:
- A. Plato
 - B. John Rawls ☒
 - C. Aristotle
 - D. Machiavelli
41. Who said "Man is by nature a political animal"?
- A. Hobbes
 - B. Aristotle ☒
 - C. Plato
 - D. Rousseau
42. Which theory of state gives importance to gradual development?
- A. Divine
 - B. Social Contract
 - C. Evolutionary ☒
 - D. Legal
43. Which one is not a form of authority identified by Max Weber?
- A. Traditional
 - B. Charismatic
 - C. Rational-legal
 - D. Electoral ☒
44. A system in which government is formed by elected representatives is called:
- A. Autocracy
 - B. Theocracy
 - C. Democracy ☒
 - D. Aristocracy
45. Law is a command of the sovereign according to:
- A. Locke
 - B. Bentham
 - C. Austin ☒
 - D. Mill
46. Equality aims at:
- A. Uniformity
 - B. Discrimination
 - C. Fairness ☒
 - D. Individualism
47. Who gave the concept of general will?
- A. Hobbes
 - B. Locke
 - C. Rousseau ☒
 - D. Aristotle

48. Which thinker is associated with the phrase “Leviathan”?

- A. Rousseau
- B. Hobbes ☒
- C. Locke
- D. Rawls

49. Which of the following is not a function of the State?

- A. Protection
- B. Welfare
- C. Education
- D. Religious conversion ☒

50. Political obligation is best described as:

- A. Duty to obey parents
- B. Duty to obey religion
- C. Duty to obey law and government ☒
- D. Duty to protest