

Question Bank

Political Science

B.A. 1st Year, 2nd Semester

Course Title: Comparative Political Systems: Major Constitutions of the World

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

Section A: Long Questions (50)

1. Define Comparative Politics and discuss its nature and scope.
2. Distinguish between Unitary and Federal systems of government.
3. Explain the key features of Parliamentary and Presidential forms of government.
4. What is Constitutionalism? Discuss its significance in a democratic system.
5. Compare the features of written and unwritten constitutions.
6. Discuss the major features of the Constitution of the United Kingdom.
7. Describe the structure and powers of the Crown in the UK political system.
8. Explain the role and composition of the UK Parliament.
9. Analyze the functioning of the UK Executive in relation to the Parliament.
10. Explain the Party System in the United Kingdom.
11. Describe the historical background and salient features of the US Constitution.
12. Discuss the powers and functions of the US President.
13. Describe the structure and functions of the US Congress.
14. What is Judicial Review in the US? Explain its impact on American governance.
15. Explain the theory of Separation of Powers in the US political system.
16. Describe the system of Checks and Balances in the US Constitution.
17. Explain the historical development of the Russian Constitution.
18. Describe the fundamental rights and duties of Russian citizens.
19. Analyze the powers and functions of the Russian President.
20. Explain the structure and role of the Russian Federal Assembly.
21. Discuss the organization and role of the Russian Judiciary.
22. What is the significance of the Russian Federation?
23. Describe the historical context of the Swiss Constitution.
24. Explain the principles of Direct Democracy in Switzerland.
25. Discuss the composition and role of the Swiss Federal Executive Council.
26. Describe the structure and function of the Swiss Legislature.
27. Explain the role of the Federal Court in the Swiss political system.
28. Discuss the significance of Referendums in Swiss politics.
29. Describe the key features of the Australian Constitution.

30. Explain the Federal structure of Australia.
 31. Analyze the powers and functions of the Australian Executive.
 32. Describe the role of the Australian Parliament.
 33. Explain the functioning of the Australian Judiciary.
 34. Compare the federal systems of the USA, Russia, and Australia.
 35. Compare the roles of Executives in the UK, USA, and Russia.
 36. Compare the legislature of Switzerland and Australia.
 37. Distinguish between Parliamentary and Presidential systems with examples.
 38. Discuss the concept of judicial independence in the USA and Russia.
 39. Analyze the evolution of democratic principles in the Swiss and UK constitutions.
 40. Explain how constitutionalism is practiced differently in the USA and UK.
 41. Discuss the role of political parties in Australia and UK.
 42. Compare direct and representative democracy with reference to Switzerland and India.
 43. Examine the impact of historical background on constitutional development in the UK and USA.
 44. Compare the role of judiciary in UK and USA.
 45. Discuss how constitutional checks and balances prevent misuse of power in the US system.
 46. Explain the contribution of federalism to national unity in Australia and Russia.
 47. Describe the unique elements of the Swiss political system.
 48. Analyze the constitutional position of the Russian President.
 49. Discuss the advantages and limitations of Direct Democracy.
 50. Compare the constitutional frameworks of the UK and Australia.
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Section B: Short Questions (50)

1. Define Comparative Politics.
2. Mention two features of a Unitary system.
3. What is a Federal system?
4. Name two countries with a Presidential form of government.
5. Define Constitutionalism in brief.
6. What is the nature of the UK Constitution?
7. Who is the Head of State in the UK?
8. Mention any two powers of the Crown.
9. Name the two Houses of the UK Parliament.
10. Define the Party System.
11. Name the two major parties in the UK.
12. When was the US Constitution adopted?
13. Who is the current President of the USA?
14. What is the term of office for a US President?
15. Define Congress in the US system.
16. Name the two Houses of US Congress.
17. What is Judicial Review?
18. What do you mean by Separation of Powers?

19. Define Checks and Balances.
 20. When was the Constitution of Russia adopted?
 21. Who is the current President of Russia?
 22. Mention any two rights of Russian citizens.
 23. What is the Federation Council in Russia?
 24. Name the apex judicial body in Russia.
 25. What is the State Duma?
 26. Define Russian Federation.
 27. What is Direct Democracy?
 28. What is the Federal Executive Council in Switzerland?
 29. What is a Referendum?
 30. What are the two Chambers of the Swiss Legislature?
 31. Define the role of the Federal Court in Switzerland.
 32. Mention one unique feature of Swiss democracy.
 33. When did Australia become a federation?
 34. Who is the ceremonial Head of State in Australia?
 35. Name the two Houses of the Australian Parliament.
 36. Define the role of the Governor-General.
 37. Mention one function of the Australian High Court.
 38. What is the federal structure?
 39. Name any one major political party in Australia.
 40. Define judicial independence.
 41. Mention one similarity between UK and Australian Constitutions.
 42. Define codified constitution.
 43. What is a parliamentary system?
 44. Who exercises real power in a parliamentary system?
 45. What is a bicameral legislature?
 46. What is a written constitution?
 47. Mention one advantage of federalism.
 48. Name a country that practices direct democracy.
 49. What is the main role of the legislature?
 50. What is the purpose of separation of powers?
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Section C: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) (50)

1. Which of the following is a federal state?
 - A. UK
 - B. USA ☒
 - C. France
 - D. Japan
2. The UK has which type of Constitution?
 - A. Written
 - B. Rigid

- C. Unwritten ☒
 - D. Flexible
3. The Head of State in the UK is:
- A. Prime Minister
 - B. Speaker
 - C. Monarch ☒
 - D. President
4. The US President is elected for a term of:
- A. 3 years
 - B. 4 years ☒
 - C. 5 years
 - D. 6 years
5. Judicial Review in the USA is exercised by:
- A. Congress
 - B. Senate
 - C. Supreme Court ☒
 - D. President
6. Which of the following countries has a Presidential form of government?
- A. UK
 - B. USA ☒
 - C. Australia
 - D. Canada
7. The concept of Separation of Powers was propounded by:
- A. Locke
 - B. Rousseau
 - C. Montesquieu ☒
 - D. Marx
8. The upper house of the US Congress is:
- A. House of Commons
 - B. Senate ☒
 - C. House of Representatives
 - D. National Assembly
9. The State Duma is the lower house of:
- A. UK Parliament
 - B. US Congress
 - C. Russian Parliament ☒
 - D. Swiss Parliament
10. Which country practices direct democracy through referendums?
- A. Russia
 - B. Switzerland ☒
 - C. USA
 - D. UK
11. Who appoints the Governor-General in Australia?
- A. President
 - B. Prime Minister

- C. Monarch ☒
 - D. Parliament
12. The Russian Constitution was adopted in:
- A. 1990
 - B. 1991
 - C. 1993 ☒
 - D. 1995
13. The Head of the Executive in the USA is:
- A. Vice President
 - B. Secretary of State
 - C. President ☒
 - D. Speaker
14. The Council of State in Switzerland is part of:
- A. Judiciary
 - B. Legislature ☒
 - C. Executive
 - D. Election Commission
15. Which of the following is not a feature of federalism?
- A. Division of Powers
 - B. Unitary authority ☒
 - C. Dual government
 - D. Written constitution
16. Which country has an unwritten constitution?
- A. USA
 - B. Australia
 - C. UK ☒
 - D. Switzerland
17. The Swiss system is notable for its use of:
- A. Veto
 - B. Referendum ☒
 - C. Decrees
 - D. Executive orders
18. The term “judicial independence” means:
- A. Courts must follow executive directions
 - B. Judges must be politically active
 - C. Judiciary functions without external pressure ☒
 - D. Laws made independently
19. The President of Russia is elected for a term of:
- A. 4 years
 - B. 5 years
 - C. 6 years ☒
 - D. 7 years
20. Which of these is a key feature of the US political system?
- A. Collective leadership
 - B. Hereditary monarchy

- C. Separation of Powers ☒
 - D. Direct democracy
21. Who is the real executive in a Parliamentary system?
- A. President
 - B. Prime Minister ☒
 - C. Speaker
 - D. Monarch
22. In which country is the executive collective and not individual?
- A. UK
 - B. Switzerland ☒
 - C. USA
 - D. Russia
23. The Australian Parliament is:
- A. Unicameral
 - B. Bicameral ☒
 - C. Presidential
 - D. Executive dominated
24. Who can dissolve the House of Representatives in Australia?
- A. Prime Minister
 - B. President
 - C. Monarch
 - D. Governor-General ☒
25. Which country's judiciary practices judicial review most prominently?
- A. UK
 - B. Russia
 - C. USA ☒
 - D. Australia
26. The "House of Lords" belongs to which country?
- A. Russia
 - B. Australia
 - C. UK ☒
 - D. USA
27. Which country has a codified constitution?
- A. UK
 - B. USA ☒
 - C. Canada
 - D. India
28. The Head of State and Head of Government are the same in:
- A. Switzerland
 - B. UK
 - C. USA ☒
 - D. Australia
29. The upper house of the Russian Parliament is:
- A. State Duma
 - B. National Council

- C. Federation Council ☒
 - D. Senate
30. Australia became a federation in:
- A. 1788
 - B. 1901 ☒
 - C. 1920
 - D. 1947
31. Which organ of government interprets laws?
- A. Executive
 - B. Legislature
 - C. Judiciary ☒
 - D. President
32. The main law-making body in any political system is:
- A. Executive
 - B. Parliament ☒
 - C. Judiciary
 - D. Police
33. A referendum allows:
- A. Executive decision
 - B. Judicial activism
 - C. People's direct vote on laws ☒
 - D. Military rule
34. The Swiss executive is known as:
- A. Federal Council ☒
 - B. Federal Cabinet
 - C. Parliament
 - D. Council of Ministers
35. Which term describes the US Congress?
- A. Unicameral
 - B. Executive branch
 - C. Bicameral ☒
 - D. Judicial body
36. The Judiciary in Switzerland is headed by:
- A. Supreme Tribunal
 - B. Federal Court ☒
 - C. High Council
 - D. Judicial Assembly
37. The idea of constitutional monarchy is best seen in:
- A. UK ☒
 - B. USA
 - C. Russia
 - D. Australia
38. The main source of law in the USA is:
- A. Parliament
 - B. Common law

- C. Constitution ☒
 - D. President's orders
39. Checks and Balances ensure:
- A. Stronger legislature
 - B. Executive dominance
 - C. Mutual control among branches ☒
 - D. Absolute monarchy
40. Swiss legislature consists of:
- A. One House
 - B. Two Houses ☒
 - C. Three Chambers
 - D. Executive Council
41. In Australia, laws are finally approved by:
- A. Parliament
 - B. Judiciary
 - C. Governor-General ☒
 - D. Prime Minister
42. Which political system emphasizes legal-rational authority?
- A. Tribal
 - B. Feudal
 - C. Modern democracy ☒
 - D. Monarchy
43. In Russia, real executive powers lie with the:
- A. Prime Minister
 - B. President ☒
 - C. Duma
 - D. Judiciary
44. The term "bicameral" refers to:
- A. Two-party system
 - B. Two-houses legislature ☒
 - C. Dual judiciary
 - D. Double executive
45. In Switzerland, initiative and referendum are tools of:
- A. Judicial review
 - B. Executive control
 - C. Direct democracy ☒
 - D. Federalism
46. Russia's upper house is called:
- A. State Assembly
 - B. Federation Council ☒
 - C. Council of Elders
 - D. National Duma
47. The USA follows which system of governance?
- A. Parliamentary
 - B. Presidential ☒

- C. Hybrid
 - D. Monarchy
48. UK's Prime Minister is:
- A. Ceremonial head
 - B. Real executive ☒
 - C. Head of Judiciary
 - D. Speaker
49. The main feature of Swiss democracy is:
- A. Referendum and initiative ☒
 - B. Absolute monarchy
 - C. Military rule
 - D. One-party system
50. In Australia, federalism means:
- A. Unitary rule
 - B. Division of powers between center and states ☒
 - C. Presidential control
 - D. Military governance