

## Chapter 1- Politics and Political Science

### MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. Which political science subfield studies the interface of politics and economics?

- A) Public administration
- B) Public policy
- C) Comparative politics
- D) Political theory

**Answer:** B

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 4

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

2. \_\_\_\_\_ is a subfield of political science.

- A) Public administration
- B) Anthropology
- C) Biology
- D) Sociology

**Answer:** A

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 4

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

3. The subfield \_\_\_\_\_ studies major thinkers and attempts to define the good polity.

- A) public administration
- B) comparative politics
- C) public policy
- D) political theory

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 4

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

4. Which of the following best describes voter turnout in the U.S. in 2008 compared to the past?

- A) It increased from previous years

- B) It was stable from previous years
- C) It decreased slightly from previous years
- D) It decreased dramatically from previous years

**Answer:** A

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 3

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

5. Which are both true for most politicians?

- A) They think practically and are skeptical of power
- B) They seek popularity and hold firm views
- C) They offer single causes and think abstractly
- D) They seek accuracy and offer long term consequences

**Answer:** B

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 3

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

6. Which are both true for most political scientists?

- A) They think practically and seek accuracy
- B) They seek popularity and are skeptical of power
- C) They offer single causes and think abstractly
- D) They are skeptical of power and offer long term consequences

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 3

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

7. The notion that politicians think practically and political scientists think abstractly is indicative of which of the following?

- A) Political scientists often train politicians.
- B) Politicians often train political scientists.
- C) Political scientists and politicians are different in that the former studies the latter.
- D) Political scientists and politicians are often indistinguishable.

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 3

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

8. Foreign policy falls under the subfield of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) U.S. Politics
- B) Comparative Politics
- C) Political theory
- D) International Relations

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 4

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

9. Which of the following statements would best reflect the views of German Philosopher Hegel?

- A) Sometimes elections are impossible to predict.
- B) Politicians behave in an irrational manner.
- C) Political Science can be useful in explaining why people vote a certain way.
- D) Predicting political outcomes is usually random.

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 4

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

10. The techniques for studying questions objectively is most associated with the term \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) hypotheses
- B) empirical
- C) methodology
- D) sovereignty

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 7

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Discipline

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

11. The term, *polis* originated in \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) Italy
- B) The United States
- C) Great Britain
- D) Greece

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 5

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

12. Seymour Martin Lipset is associated with the social science \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) psychology
- B) anthropology
- C) sociology
- D) economics

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 6

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

13. Which best explains the differences between historians and political scientists?

- A) Historians look for generalizations, while political scientists are reluctant to generalize.
- B) Historians are reluctant to generalize, while political scientists look for generalizations.
- C) Historians are more likely to look for comparisons than political scientists.
- D) Historians tend to focus on nature-based explanations, while political scientists focus on nurture-based explanations.

**Answer:** B

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 5

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

14. Politics could be referred to the “master science” because politics \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) predates the other social sciences
- B) is more rigorous compared to other social sciences
- C) is more difficult to study than other social sciences
- D) relates to other social sciences

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 5

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

15. The notion that “red” states supported Mitt Romney, and “blue” states supported Barack Obama in the 2012 presidential election related to which social science?

- A) History
- B) Sociology
- C) Human geography
- D) Anthropology

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 5

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

16. Laswell’s question, “Who gets what?” applies best to the social science of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) economics
- B) human geography
- C) psychology
- D) anthropology

**Answer:** A

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 6

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

17. When we study France to compare it to other nations, we may draw from what field of social science?

- A) History
- B) Human Geography
- C) Economics
- D) Sociology

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 5

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

18. Anthropology applies most to political science based on which example?

- A) People are born with predispositions towards conservative or liberal views.
- B) People join groups because they have innate desires to be with others.
- C) Many ruling families maintained power by passing down their authority from one generation to the next.
- D) Power typically ends up with those with the most resources.

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 6

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

19. The fact that the United States has different tax rates for different levels of income relates to which phrase from the chapter?

- A) Politics is “the master science”
- B) The Constitution is the crown jewel of the Enlightenment
- C) “Man is by nature a political animal”
- D) Politics is the study of “who gets what”

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 5-6

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

20. Which of the following did Machiavelli contribute to the study of politics?

- A) Social contract theory
- B) The role of power in politics
- C) The role of wealth in society
- D) The connection between race and politics

**Answer:** B

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 7

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

21. The statement, “Man is by nature a political animal” is attributed to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) Niccolo’ Machiavelli
- B) Seymour Martin Lipset

- C) Mao Zedong
- D) Aristotle

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 7

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

22. The ability of A to get B to do what A wants is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) influence
- B) control
- C) authority
- D) power

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 7

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

23. Machiavelli is associated with the concept of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) culture
- B) sovereignty
- C) rationality
- D) power

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 7

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

24. Rationality is based on which of the following?

- A) Reason
- B) Myth
- C) Culture
- D) Biology

**Answer:** A

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 9

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

25. The famous Milgram study that asked subjects to administer pretend electrical shocks is associated with what explanation of power?

- A) Biological
- B) Psychological
- C) Cultural
- D) Rational

**Answer:** B

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 8

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

26. When people base their views on beliefs that may not be based in reality, they are behaving \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) irrationally
- B) rationally
- C) politically
- D) legitimately

**Answer:** A

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 9-10

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

27. \_\_\_\_\_ often try to win elections by focusing on religious values, family, and self-reliance.

- A) Libertarians
- B) Democrats
- C) Republicans
- D) Socialists

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 9

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

28. Aristotle's view that humans live naturally in herds is most related to what explanation for political power?



- A) Biology
- B) Psychology
- C) Anthropology
- D) Economics

**Answer:** A

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 8

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

29. Voting for someone who is charismatic but whose policies might not benefit you would be considered \_\_\_\_\_ behavior.

- A) irrational
- B) rational
- C) legitimate
- D) selfish

**Answer:** A

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 9-10

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

30. Which of the following explanations of power might examine the tolerance of individuals?

- A) Rational
- B) Control
- C) Authority
- D) Culture

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 9

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

31. The perceptions that Democrats will support education or Republicans will support defense relates to which philosopher?

- A) Immanuel Kant
- B) Aristotle
- C) Seymour Martin Lipset
- D) Hobbes

**Answer:** A

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 7

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

32. The government of \_\_\_\_\_ lacked legitimacy following World War II.

- A) Great Britain
- B) France
- C) West Germany
- D) Belgium

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 12

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

33. A political leaders' ability to command respect and exercise power is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) sovereignty
- B) corruption
- C) authority
- D) legitimacy

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 11

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

34. \_\_\_\_\_ is the use of public office for private gain.

- A) Sovereignty
- B) Corruption
- C) Authority
- D) Legitimacy

**Answer:** B

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 12

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

35. The notion that we acknowledge the rightful roles of our leaders or our laws is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) sovereignty
- B) authority
- C) legitimacy
- D) monarchy

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 11

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

36. Issues related to a border dispute between the United States and Canada would relate to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) sovereignty
- B) authority
- C) legitimacy
- D) monarchy

**Answer:** A

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 11

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

37. The notion that you respect the United States Congress, even though it is controlled by a party with which you do not agree, pertains to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) sovereignty
- B) authority
- C) legitimacy
- D) monarchy

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 13

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

38. Despite a disputed 2000 presidential election, once President George W. Bush took office, few people doubted his \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) charisma

- B) control
- C) legitimacy
- D) sovereignty

**Answer: C**

**Learning Objective: 1.4**

**Page Ref: 11**

**Topic/A-head: Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority**

**Skill Level: Apply What You Know**

39. Which of the following best exemplifies sovereignty?

- A) The United States negotiating a trade agreement with Canada
- B) The people of France acknowledging the authority of their president
- C) Israel asserting jurisdiction over the Gaza Strip
- D) President Obama have support of the people who elected him

**Answer: C**

**Learning Objective: 1.4**

**Page Ref: 11-12**

**Topic/A-head: Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority**

**Skill Level: Analyze It**

40. A theory that is tested in an attempt to prove or refute with evidence, is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) scholarship
- B) corruption
- C) a methodology
- D) a hypothesis

**Answer: D**

**Learning Objective: 1.5**

**Page Ref: 14**

**Topic/A-head: Is Politics a Science?**

**Skill Level: Remember the Facts**

41. The term for measuring with numbers is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) quantify
- B) hypothesis
- C) qualify
- D) empirical

**Answer: A**

**Learning Objective: 1.5**

**Page Ref:** 14

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

42. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ is an initial theory a researcher starts with to be proved with evidence.

- A) quantify
- B) hypothesis
- C) qualify
- D) empirical

**Answer:** B

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 14

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

43. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to something based on observable evidence.

- A) Quantify
- B) Hypothesis
- C) Qualify
- D) Empirical

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 14

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

44. Political scientists \_\_\_\_\_ data which makes the discipline more like the natural sciences.

- A) balance
- B) reason
- C) rationalize
- D) quantify

**Answer:** D

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 14

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

45. Reason, balance, and theory pertain to which of the following?

- A) Balance
- B) Power
- C) Scholarship
- D) Methodology

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 14

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

46. When scholars consider various approaches to studying a given topic, they are most concerned with \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) reason
- B) balance
- C) theory
- D) rationality

**Answer:** B

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 15

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

47. Relating concepts in a way that connects them in an empirical manner is the basis of \_\_\_\_\_ building.

- A) scholarship
- B) theory
- C) power
- D) culture

**Answer:** B

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 15

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

48. Description of political phenomena often lacks \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) rationality
- B) reasoning
- C) theory
- D) balance

**Answer:** C

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 15

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

49. Which of the following is the best example of theory?

- A) People join groups because of an innate desire to be with others who have similar views.
- B) Democratic governments last longer than non-Democratic governments.
- C) Republicans are older than Democrats.
- D) Corruption is rampant in government.

**Answer:** A

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 14-15

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

50. Max Weber would most likely be concerned with which of the following issues?

- A) Utilizing theory when conducting research
- B) Limiting bias when conducting research
- C) Using quantitative rather than qualitative data
- D) Using qualitative data instead of quantitative data

**Answer:** B

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 14-15

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

## **TRUE/FALSE QUESTIONS**

51. Generally speaking, political scientists are skeptical of power.

**Answer:** True

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 3

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

52. Conflict and diplomacy are the primary areas of interest within the subfield of comparative politics.

**Answer:** FALSE

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 4

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

53. Politicians often see more causes for political phenomena than political scientists.

**Answer:** FALSE

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 3

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

54. Harold Lasswell argued that politics is the study of “who gets what.”

**Answer:** TRUE

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 5

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

55. Political science methodologies usually involve subjectivity.

**Answer:** FALSE

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 6-7

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

56. Human behavior that is inherited is referred to as culture.

**Answer:** FALSE

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 8-9

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

57. Biological explanations of political power focus on learned behaviors.

**Answer:** FALSE

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 7-8

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power?

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts



58. If a political leader convinces the public to support legislation that is against their own interests, they are behaving irrationally.

**Answer:** TRUE

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 9-10

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

59. Corruption involves using public office for private gain.

**Answer:** TRUE

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 12

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

60. If Iraq and Iran argue over control of land area, this debate deals with sovereignty.

**Answer:** TRUE

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 12

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

### **FILL-IN-THE-BLANK QUESTIONS**

61. Aristotle, the founder of the \_\_\_\_\_, called politics “the master science.”

**Answer:** discipline

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 5

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

62. Tom Paine’s \_\_\_\_\_ discussed why America should separate from Britain.

**Answer:** Common Sense

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 10

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

63. Contrary to biological, psychological, or cultural schools of thought, some theorists suggest that people are \_\_\_\_\_ and are capable of reasoning.

**Answer:** rational

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 9

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

64. A \_\_\_\_\_ approach to power might examine whether people have a genetic predisposition to join with other people with similar views.

**Answer:** biological

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 7

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

65. A leader is said to have \_\_\_\_\_ when he or she can get others to obey them.

**Answer:** authority

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 12-13

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

66. \_\_\_\_\_ undermines legitimacy, such as when crooked officials are part of government.

**Answer:** Corruption

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 12

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

67. When \_\_\_\_\_ is low, police may be necessary to coerce the people into maintaining order.

**Answer:** legitimacy

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 11-12

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

68. German sociologist, \_\_\_\_\_ warned that a researcher's political views could bias their studies.

**Answer:** Max Weber

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 14-15

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

69. In the 1950s, the American Political Science Association worried about the weakness of

\_\_\_\_\_.  
**Answer:** political parties

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 16

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

70. Political Science is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ discipline and utilizes both quantitative and qualitative data.

**Answer:** empirical

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 14

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Remember the Facts

### **SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

71. How are political scientists different from politicians?

**Learning Objective:** 1.1

**Page Ref:** 3

**Topic/A-head:** What is Political Science?

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

72. How might a political scientist use a study of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Britain in their research?

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 5

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

73. How is politics seen as the struggle for power? How can this be problematic?

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 11

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

74. How might corruption undermine legitimacy?

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 12

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

75. Differentiate between primary and secondary sources of information.

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 15

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts

## **ESSAY QUESTIONS**

76. How is political science an interdisciplinary major?

**Answer: An ideal response will:**

- a. Discuss how political science relates to history, human, geography, economics, sociology, anthropology, and psychology.
- b. Discuss how history, for example, allows for comparisons across nations and time periods. These can be compared to current political regimes.
- c. Discuss how human geography is relevant because it allows us to look at how people exist within territories.
- d. Discuss how economics and politics influence each other.
- e. Discuss how sociology is relevant because it allows us to examine political views of various groups based on religion, class, gender, age, etc.
- f. Discuss how anthropology is useful for its focus on culture.
- g. Discuss how psychology is relevant for its contributions on attitudes and motivations behind political behaviors.

**Learning Objective:** 1.2

**Page Ref:** 5-7

**Topic/A-head:** The Master Science

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

77. Why is culture important to political scientists?

**Answer: An ideal response will:**

- a. Include a discussion of the nature versus nurture debate. The answer should indicate that culture deals with what is learned.
- b. Indicate that communities are formed and maintained because of cultural values which are transmitted by parents, schools, churches, and the media.
- c. Discuss the relevance of political culture in elections. For example, people may vote based on their beliefs in equality, tolerance, or limited government.
- d. Discuss how culture may affect politics and economics.

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 8-9

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Apply What You Know

78. Is the public rational? How might the public utilize rationality today?

**Answer: An ideal response will:**

- a. Include an understanding that rationality assumes that people know what they want and act in a way to maximize their desires.
- b. Include an understanding that rationality assumes reason.
- c. Discuss whether or not people behave rationally. Do they vote based on their own interests? Is it worth the time and effort to follow politics?

**Learning Objective:** 1.3

**Page Ref:** 9

**Topic/A-head:** Political Power

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

79. How are Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority related?

**Answer: An ideal response will:**

- a. Include an understanding of legitimacy, sovereignty, and authority. Legitimacy is the mass feeling that the government's rule is rightful and should be obeyed. Sovereignty deals with the national government having control over its own territory. Authority deals with political leaders having the ability to command respect to exercise power.
- b. Discuss how these often go together. Sovereignty may lead to legitimacy and authority, for example. Having one of these may increase the others.
- c. Discuss how lacking one of the three may lead to erosion in the others. For example, lacking legitimacy, make authority difficult without coercion.

**Learning Objective:** 1.4

**Page Ref:** 11-13

**Topic/A-head:** Legitimacy, Sovereignty, and Authority

**Skill Level:** Analyze It

80. How can Politics be treated as a science?

**Answer: An ideal response will:**

- a. Include a discussion of how some political scientists have tried to become more like natural sciences.
- b. Discuss how political scientists attempt to quantify data, manipulate data statistically, and attempt to validate hypotheses.
- c. Discuss how political science is an empirical discipline.
- d. Discuss how political scientists build scholarship based on reason, balance, supporting evidence, and that much of this scholarship is based on theory.

**Learning Objective:** 1.5

**Page Ref:** 14-15

**Topic/A-head:** Is Politics a Science?

**Skill Level:** Understand the Concepts