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இலங்கைப் பரீட்சைத் திணைக்களம்
Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka

අධ්‍යයන පොදු සහතික පත්‍ර (උසස් පෙළ) විභාගය, 2025
கல்விப் பொதுத் தராதரப் பத்திர (உயர் தர)ப் பரீட்சை, 2025
General Certificate of Education (Adv. Level) Examination, 2025

දේශපාලන විද්‍යාව I
அரசியல் விஞ்ஞானம் I
Political Science I

23 E I

පැය දෙකයි
இரண்டு மணித்தியாலம்
Two hours

Index No. : .....

Instructions:

- *This question paper consists of* ***two*** *parts as* **A** *and* **B**.
- *Part* **A** *contains* **30** *multiple choice questions and Part* **B** *contains* **20** *short answer type questions.*
- *Answer* ***all*** *questions on the question paper itself.*
- *Each question carries* **02** *marks making a total of* **100** *marks.*

For Examiner's use only.

Page No.	Question No.	Marks
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Total		

	Signature	Code Number
1st Examiner		
2nd Examiner		
Additional Chief Examiner		
Arithmetic Checker		
Chief Examiner		

Part A

- Select the **correct** or **most appropriate** answer to questions from **1** to **20** and write its number on the dotted line given within brackets.

1. Why do we study Political Science?

(1) to understand how the political systems function
(2) to know about the nature of social problems
(3) to learn about the human behaviour
(4) to recognize the spiritual basis of the state and government
(5) to understand the working of social organizations (.....)

2. Which of the following sets of disciplines is closely related to Political Science?

(1) Economics, Sociology, History, Geography and Physics
(2) Anthropology, Law, Economics, History and Chemistry
(3) Economics, Sociology, Geography, Law and History
(4) Philosophy, Economics, Anthropology, Sociology and Astronomy
(5) Law, Economics, Psychology, History and Geology (.....)

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3. Comparative approach in Political Science primarily focuses on
   (1) evaluating different political systems and their functioning.
   (2) what ought to be rather than what really is in politics.
   (3) studying the political behaviour of humans in society.
   (4) understanding different cultures.
   (5) interrelationship between politics and economics. (.....)

4. Which of the following best explains the nature of the state?
   (1) A voluntary organization without fixed geographical boundaries.
   (2) An organization composed of voluntary membership.
   (3) A temporary institutional entity created for defence and economic gain.
   (4) Sole owner of sovereign power.
   (5) An instrument of the government. (.....)

5. Which of the following political ideologies advocates for principles such as social equality and common ownership of the means of production?
   (1) Liberalism (2) Socialism (3) Fascism
   (4) Social Democracy (5) Nationalism (.....)

6. Which of the following correctly reflects the core feature of liberal democratic government?
   (1) Government is bound by constitutional limits.
   (2) Changing the government is generally a difficult process.
   (3) Individual freedoms are granted at the wish of the government.
   (4) Rulers stand above the law.
   (5) It always serves the interests of the elites. (.....)

7. In a representative democratic system of government
   (1) there is no separate class of professional politicians.
   (2) all political decisions are made by the people.
   (3) the distinction between the government and the governed are not clear.
   (4) citizens are obliged to carry-out all the governmental affairs.
   (5) people elect who will make decisions on their behalf as rulers. (.....)

8. Which of the following is a characteristic of federal government?
   (1) Sovereignty is shared at two levels of government.
   (2) A uniform legal and administrative system is maintained throughout the country.
   (3) Local governments derive their powers from the centre.
   (4) National legislature can make any law at its discretion.
   (5) Monopoly of all legislation is vested with the centre. (.....)

9. Select the statement which is in conformity with the theory of separation of powers.
   (1) Perfect separation of power is possible in modern states.
   (2) Judiciary must operate free from legislative and executive control.
   (3) Separation of powers is not an essential feature of democratic government.
   (4) Principle of the separation of powers can be found in the writings of Thomas Hobbs.
   (5) Separation of powers is applied strictly in the parliamentary system of government. (.....)

10. In the parliamentary system of government
   (1) term of office of the Prime Minister is limited.
   (2) Prime Minister serves as head of government as well as head of State.
   (3) relationship between the Cabinet and the Legislature is not clearly defined.
   (4) government emerges from the legislature.
   (5) political executive is not constitutionally responsible to the legislature. (.....)

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0708

11. Among the descriptions given to the concepts below, only one is correct. Choose the concept with the correct description.

(1) Citizen - A full member of a state, entitled to the rights and obligations associated with that status.
(2) Behaviouralism - An approach to study the functioning of social and political institutions.
(3) Sovereignty - Ultimate source of authority over volunteer associations.
(4) Natural rights - Those rights given to humans by rulers.
(5) Rule of Law - A system where laws are changed at the will of the ruler. (.....)

12. According to the social contract theory, the State is

(1) secondary to civil society.
(2) a result of a historical evolution.
(3) a product of an agreement among the people.
(4) a creation of god.
(5) not expected to serve the interests of the people. (.....)

13. Which of the following pairs correctly matches the thinker with his political ideas?

(1) Aristotle - "man is by nature a political animal"
(2) A.V. Dicey - "power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely"
(3) John Locke - "absolute government is the only alternative to anarchy and disorder"
(4) Jean Bodin - "citizens possess natural rights to life, liberty and property"
(5) Montesquieu - "A government of laws and not a government of men" (.....)

14. Which of the following statements regarding the constitutions of five countries is correct?

(1) Switzerland is a federal state with semi-federal features.
(2) Indian constitution is totally based on classical federal principles.
(3) The constitution of the United States of America is flexible and easy to change.
(4) Conventions are key written elements of the constitution of the United Kingdom.
(5) The present French constitution does not explicitly state that France is a unitary state. (.....)

15. Which of the following is a characteristic of public policy?

(1) It is only influenced by political parties.
(2) It is a random set of government decisions.
(3) It is formulated to address societal problems.
(4) It applies only to business organizations.
(5) It always promotes private interests. (.....)

16. Which of the following best describes the concept of conflict management?

(1) seeks to resolve the conflict
(2) discourages collaboration and compromise among parties involved in conflict
(3) ignores the root causes of conflict
(4) focuses on minimising the negative effects of conflict
(5) always promotes one party's interest (.....)

17. Which of the following is an element of national power?

(1) International morality (2) Environment (3) Civil Society
(4) Military (5) Public Opinion (.....)

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18. Which statement about the British Parliament is correct?

(1) It is responsible to the King for its legislative functions.

(2) It is legally supreme.

(3) The Monarch is still not a part of the Parliament.

(4) Members of the House of Commons are elected through the system of proportional representation.

(5) Both houses are given equal powers over legislation. (.....)

19. Which of the following government maintained cordial relations with the Non-Aligned Movement?

(1) D.S. Senanayake's government (1947 - 1952)

(2) Sir John Kotalawala's government (1953 - 1956)

(3) Sirimawo Bandaranaike's government (1970 - 1977)

(4) J.R. Jayewardene's government (1977 - 1989)

(5) Ranasinghe Premadasa's government (1989 - 1993) (.....)

20. Multi-National Corporations (MNCs) are

(1) powerful corporations mainly engaged in trade and business at the global level.

(2) known for advocating for human rights at the global level.

(3) engaged in mitigating climate change.

(4) a powerful security block emerged after the second world war.

(5) actively engaged in nation-building in developing countries. (.....)

- Select the answer that includes the **correct set of statements** for questions from **21** to **25** and write its number on the dotted line given within brackets.

21. During the British rule in Ceylon

A - popular bases of government were gradually expanded.

B - an English educated westernised middle class emerged.

C - an independent judicial system developed.

D - a common system of administration evolved for the whole country.

E - discontinued the policy of government intervention in economic affairs.

(1) A B C D (2) A B C E (3) A B D E (4) A C D E (5) B C D E (.....)

22. During the Donoughmore period (1931 - 1947)

A - expenditure on social welfare was considerably increased.

B - comprehensive measures of social and industrial legislations were introduced.

C - Ceylonese ministers gradually became more powerful.

D - political party system developed and well established.

E - the functions of existing government departments expanded.

(1) A B C D (2) A B C E (3) A B D E (4) A C D E (5) B C D E (.....)

23. The Soulbury Commission recommended to establish

A - a second chamber with veto power over legislation passed by the House of Representatives.

B - a portfolio of defence and external affairs held by the Prime Minister.

C - a public services commission consisting of three members.

D - multi-member constituencies.

E - a judicial services commission.

(1) A B C D (2) A B C E (3) A B D E (4) A C D E (5) B C D E (.....)

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24. Several key features of the 1972 Constitution of Sri Lanka that departed from the Soulbury Constitution of 1947/1948 were

A - inclusion of the principle of state policy.
B - ensured the supremacy of the National State Assembly.
C - establishment of a Constitutional Court.
D - inclusion of fundamental rights and freedoms.
E - introduction of a new electoral system.

(1) A B C D (2) A B C E (3) A B D E (4) A C D E (5) B C D E (.....)

25. In Sri Lanka, between 1947-1972

A - the British monarch was the head of state.
B - the political system operated within a Westminster cabinet model.
C - the two major political parties were the UNP and SLFP.
D - there was no chapter on fundamental rights in the Constitution.
E - the constitution was not amended.

(1) A B C D (2) A B C E (3) A B D E (4) A C D E (5) B C D E (.....)

● Questions numbered **26** to **30** contain two statements each. From the table given below, select the response out of the responses (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) that best fits the two statements and write the number of the relevant response on the dotted line given within brackets.

No.	First Statement	Second Statement
(1)	True	True
(2)	True	False
(3)	False	True
(4)	False	False
(5)	True	True and further describes the first statement

	First Statement	Second Statement	
26.	The 14th Amendment to the 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka introduced the system of national list to the present electoral system.	Twenty nine Members of Parliament are appointed on the basis of the national proportion of votes each party and independent group received.	(.....)
27.	The 17th Amendment to the 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka provided limited checks and balances on President's powers.	The 18th Amendment to the 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka continued the Constitutional Council.	(.....)
28.	Under the 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka, the constitutionality of legislation can be challenged prior to its enactment.	The 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka did not introduce full judicial review of legislation.	(.....)
29.	Under the 13th Amendment to the 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka, the Governor of a province is appointed by the Chief Minister of the province.	According to the 13th Amendment to the 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka, the Provincial Governor represents the President.	(.....)
30.	The 19th Amendment to the 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka enabled the President to dissolve Parliament after two years of its term.	According to the present Constitution of Sri Lanka, Bills passed by Parliament become laws after the approval of the President.	(.....)

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Part B

31. Name **two** leading Greek political thinkers.

(1) .....

(2) .....

32. Identify **two** political functions of citizens.

(1) .....

(2) .....

33. Name **two** leading thinkers who contributed to the development of political economy approach.

(1) .....

(2) .....

34. The liberal political theory of state has evolved through three stages. Name **two** of them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

35. There are several forms/traditions of feminism. Name **two** of them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

36. List **two** main features of a unitary state.

(1) .....

(2) .....

37. (1) Among the Constitutional systems of five countries that you have studied which one has the Semi-presidential system?

.....

(2) Give an example of the most powerful second chamber among the five countries that you have studied.

.....

38. France has three tiers of sub-national government. Name **two** of them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

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39. There are two approaches to understand the functions of conflict. Name them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

40. There are two main actors of international politics. Name them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

41. India has three lists that enumerate the division of legislative powers between the Centre and the States. Name **two** of them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

42. The 1833 Colebrook Constitution of Ceylon established two councils. Name them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

43. Two candidates contested the first election held in 1912 for the newly established 'Educated Ceylonese Electrotate' under the Crew-McCallum reform. Name them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

44. Under the Donoughmore Constitution, two main functions of the government were combined within the State Council. What were those **two** functions?

(1) .....

(2) .....

45. When the First Parliamentary election in Ceylon was held in 1947, there were several political parties in the country. Name **two** of them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

46. (1) Who gave assent to a Bill passed by the Parliament for it to become law under the Soulbury Constitution of 1947/1948?

.....

(2) Who endorsed the certificate that made a Bill to become law passed by the National State Assembly under the First Republican Constitution of 1972?

.....

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47. (1) Which amendment to the Second Republican Constitution of Sri Lanka gave citizens the right to information?

.....

(2) Which amendment to the Second Republican Constitution of Sri Lanka abolished Presidential term limits?

.....

48. Identify **two** key features of the parliamentary system of government that are included in the 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka.

(1) .....

(2) .....

49. Name **two** international financial institutions that currently assist Sri Lanka to recover from the economic crisis.

(1) .....

(2) .....

50. In the modern world, states mainly employ three strategies to achieve their foreign policy objectives. Name **two** of them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

***

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இலங்கைப் பரீட்சைத் திணைக்களம்
Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka

අධ්‍යයන පොදු සහතික පත්‍ර (උසස් පෙළ) විභාගය, 2025
கல்விப் பொதுத் தராதரப் பத்திர (உயர் தர)ப் பரீட்சை, 2025
General Certificate of Education (Adv. Level) Examination, 2025

දේශපාලන විද්‍යාව II
அரசியல் விஞ்ஞானம் II
Political Science II

23 E II

පැය තුනයි
மூன்று மணித்தியாலம்
Three hours

අමතර කියවීම් කාලය - මිනිත්තු 10 යි
மேலதிக வாசிப்பு நேரம் - 10 நிமிடங்கள்
Additional Reading Time - 10 minutes

Use additional reading time to go through the question paper, select the questions you will answer and decide which of them you will prioritise.

Instructions:

* *This paper consists of **three** parts.*
* *Answer **five** questions, selecting at least **one** question from part I, **two** questions from part II and **one** question from part III.*

Part I

1. Briefly discuss any **two** of the following sub-fields of Political Science.

(i) Political Institutions

(ii) Political theory

(iii) Political ideology

(iv) Comparative politics (10 × 2 = 20 *marks*)

2. "State is the highest political association that exercises sovereign power within the defined territorial boarders." Discuss. (20 *marks*)

3. Discuss the key features of any **two** of the following systems of government.

(i) Presidential system of government

(ii) Parliamentary system of government

(iii) Semi-presidential (mixed) system of government. (10 × 2 = 20 *marks*)

Part II

4. Discuss any **two** of the following in relation to the Colebrook-Cameron reforms.

(i) Reduction of Governor's power

(ii) Laying the foundation for an independent judiciary

(iii) Centralization of the administrative system (10 × 2 = 20 *marks*)

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5. (i) Why was the executive committee system was introduced under the Donoughmore Constitution? (05 *marks*)
   (ii) What were the criticisms levelled against its working? (15 *marks*)

6. Compare the powers and functions of the House of Representatives under the Soulbury Constitution of 1947/48 of Sri Lanka with that of the National State Assembly under the First Republican Constitution of 1972. (20 *marks*)

7. (i) List any **five** key areas of jurisdiction of the Supreme Court under the present constitution of Sri Lanka. (05 *marks*)
   (ii) 'Sri Lanka's present constitution adequately guarantees the independence of the judiciary.' Critically evaluate. (15 *marks*)

Part III

8. Briefly discuss any **two** of the following:
   (i) Key features of the Constitution of the United States of America
   (ii) Changing nature of the unitary system of government in the United Kingdom
   (iii) Self-rule powers of the Swizz Cantons (10 × 2 = 20 *marks*)

9. Discuss the impact of new world political and economic trends on Sri Lanka. (20 *marks*)

10. Write short notes on any **two** of the following.
   (i) Role of political parties in the policy making process
   (ii) The concept of peace building
   (iii) United Nations' role in ensuring world peace
   (iv) Secularism
   (v) Undemocratic features of the executive presidency under the present constitution of Sri Lanka
   (10 × 2 = 20 *marks*)

* * *

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