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ශ්‍රී ලංකා විභාග දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව
இலங்கைப் பரீட்சைத் திணைக்களம்
Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka

අධ්‍යයන පොදු සහතික පත්‍ර (උසස් පෙළ) විභාගය, 2026
கல்விப் பொதுத் தராதரப் பத்திர (உயர் தர)ப் பரீட்சை, 2026
General Certificate of Education (Adv. Level) Examination, 2026

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
1	1 - 3	
2	4 - 11	
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6	31 - 38	
7	39 - 47	
8	48 - 50	
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. Which of the following is regarded as an essential feature of politics?

(1) power
(2) peaceful coexistence
(3) ethics
(4) violence
(5) participation

(.....)

2. Which of the following statement most accurately reflects the traditional view of Political Science?

(1) The study of state and government
(2) The study of human rights
(3) The study of public policy
(4) The study of political behaviour
(5) The study of international relations

(.....)

3. Which of the following approaches in Political Science uses theories, concepts, and methodologies from other disciplines?

(1) Philosophical approach
(2) Multidisciplinary approach
(3) Comparative approach
(4) Political economy approach
(5) Feminist approach

(.....)

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4. Which of the following is regarded as an essential component of the State?
   (1) Social institutions (2) Natural resources
   (3) Government (4) Technology
   (5) Powerful military (.....)

5. Which of the following statements accurately describes the State?
   (1) State can exist without sovereignty.
   (2) State is subordinate to social institutions.
   (3) State is a political organization.
   (4) State can exist without formal governmental institutions.
   (5) State encompasses cultural and religious institutions. (.....)

6. Which of the following political ideologies advocates that the nation should be the foundation of the state?
   (1) Liberalism (2) Nationalism
   (3) Socialism (4) Secularism
   (5) Republicanism (.....)

7. Which of the following statements best describes government?
   (1) A machinery, through which state authority is exercised.
   (2) An organization which politically represents the entire society.
   (3) A permanent institutional entity.
   (4) Stands above all other organizations.
   (5) A collection of private organizations. (.....)

8. Liberalism primarily emphasizes on
   (1) state control of media.
   (2) state control of entire economic activities.
   (3) an absolute monarchy and a hereditary rule.
   (4) protection of individual liberty and rights.
   (5) concentration of powers in the hands of executive. (.....)

9. Which of the following statements best describes the semi-presidential system of government?
   (1) Executive power is concentrated solely in the hands of the president.
   (2) The president can be removed through a vote of no-confidence motion.
   (3) The executive branch is completely independent of the legislature.
   (4) It combines certain features of both presidential and parliamentary systems of government.
   (5) Prime Minister serves as the Head of state. (.....)

10. Which of the following is a key characteristic of a limited government?
   (1) Constitutional restrictions on governmental power
   (2) Absence of rule of law
   (3) Concentration of all governmental powers in a single ruler
   (4) Absence of a system of checks and balances on governmental power
   (5) No legally guaranteed protections for citizens rights (.....)

11. Among the descriptions given to the concepts below, only one is the correct. Choose the concept with the correct description.
   (1) Nation State - A sovereign political association whose citizens share a common national identity.
   (2) Liberal democracy - A form of direct democracy which discourages political participation.
   (3) Written constitution - An essential feature of a unitary state.
   (4) Confederation - A system in which all powers are held by a central government.
   (5) Human rights - Rights granted by the state to the citizens. (.....)

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0861

12. Among the following statements regarding the constitutional systems of given countries, only one statement is correct. Select the correct statement.
    (1) While the parliament of the United Kingdom is sovereign, devolved administrations in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland exercise limited powers.
    (2) The constitution of Switzerland does not clearly define the powers of the federal government and the Cantons.
    (3) The constitution of India grants greater powers to the state governments than the union (central) government.
    (4) The constitution of the United States of America only lists the powers of the state governments.
    (5) The governmental system of France is regarded as a classical example of a semi-federal system. (.....)

13. Conflict resolution is generally understood as
    (1) a quick and simple process.
    (2) a short-term activity.
    (3) a long-term process.
    (4) an activity carried out only by Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs.)
    (5) an activity which involves only state. (.....)

14. In a Unitary State
    (1) Sovereignty is shared between central government and state governments.
    (2) Legislature is essentially consists of two chambers.
    (3) Separation of power remains an essential feature.
    (4) Local governments derive their powers from the central government.
    (5) Central government cannot make any law at its discretion. (.....)

15. Which of the following statements describes a feature of sovereignty?
    (1) Allows states to interfere in the affairs of other states
    (2) Enjoyed by all the social institutions
    (3) It is enjoyed exclusively by the state
    (4) Varies based on the size of the population
    (5) It is an essential feature of a government (.....)

16. Which of the following thinkers is closely associated with the social contract theory of state?
    (1) Karl Marx (2) Adam Smith
    (3) John Locke (4) Edmund Burke
    (5) J. S. Mill (.....)

17. Which of the following statements explains the role of political parties in the public policy making process?
    (1) Involve only in the policy implementation process
    (2) Do not advocate for policy reforms
    (3) Always compete with bureaucracy in the policy making process
    (4) Bring citizens interests to the policy agenda
    (5) Disregards the interests of socially excluded people in the policy making process. (.....)

18. Which of the following statements describes the concept of constitutionalism?
    (1) Widely practiced in the authoritarian forms of government
    (2) Rejects the principle of separation of powers
    (3) Advocates for limiting governmental power through constitutional means
    (4) Limits individual freedoms
    (5) Enable rulers to enact laws at their will (.....)

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19. Choose the international inter-governmental organization (IGOs) among the following

(1) Amnesty International
(2) International Committee of the Red Cross
(3) World Wildlife Fund
(4) International Monetary Fund
(5) Human Rights Watch (.....)

20. Which of the following directly contributes to anarchy in international politics?

(1) Cooperation among states
(2) Inter-dependency among states
(3) Conflict and war among states
(4) International law and morality
(5) International organizations (.....)

- 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. The Colebrooke Reforms

A - established a unified system of government in the country.
B - reduced the autocratic nature of government.
C - adopted English as the language of administration
D - abolished **rajakariya** system
E - strengthened the arbitary rule of the Governor

(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. The Board of Ministers under the Donoughmore Constitution:

A - was not a cabinet of the Westminster style in the full sense.
B - was chaired by the Chief Secretary.
C - included the Governor as a member.
D - did not have a Prime Minister.
E - consisted of ten members.

(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 Constitution of 1947/1948:

A - established a system of government based on liberal democratic principles.
B - provided for special provisions for the protection of minority rights.
C - continued the system of representative democracy.
D - remained in force until 1972.
E - established a relatively powerful second chamber, known as the Senate.

(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 (.....)

24. The 1972 Constitution of Sri Lanka

A - abolished the constitutional monarchical form of government.
B - established a republican form of government.
C - retained certain features of the Westminster system of government.
D - made Sri Lanka free, sovereign, and independent state.
E - strengthened the principle of separation of powers.

(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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25. Some democratic features of Sri Lanka's political system continued since 1978.

A - A high level of voter turn out in elections.
B - The office of the president remains central institution of state power.
C - Fundamental rights are guaranteed through the constitutional provisions.
D - Governments are always changed through periodical elections.
E - Presence of a vibrant civil society.

(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 1978 constitution of Sri Lanka introduced a presidential system of government.	The 1978 constitution of Sri Lanka introduced a semi-presidential system of government.	(.....)
27.	According to the 13th Amendment to the 1978 constitution of Sri Lanka, President appoints the provincial Governors.	Provincial Governors hold office at the pleasure of the president.	(.....)
28.	Sri Lanka has a large number of political parties that contest elections.	Each and every party enjoys substantial electoral support across the country.	(.....)
29.	Under the 1978 constitution of Sri Lanka, referendum can be considered as an important instrument of direct democracy.	After 1982, no referendum has been held in Sri Lanka.	(.....)
30.	The present constitution of Sri Lanka requires the Prime Minister to hold the ministerial portfolio of foreign affairs.	The present constitution of Sri Lanka provides for the Prime Minister shall act as speaker of Parliament whenever the speaker is absent.	(.....)

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Part B

31. The modern state is organized on certain basic principles. Name any **two** of them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

32. Name any **two** forms of governmental system based on the organization of sovereign power?

(1) .....

(2) .....

33. Name any **two** forms of governmental system based on the organization of executive powers.

(1) .....

(2) .....

34. (1) Name the political concept that prevents concentration of powers in a single authority/institution.

.....

(2) Which political concept describes the ultimate power of state to make and enforce decisions within a political community?

.....

35. Who were the **two** major political thinkers developed the liberal democratic concept of 'limited government'?

(1) .....

(2) .....

36. (1) Who was the leader of Fascist Italy?

.....

(2) Who was the leader of Nazy Germany?

.....

37. According to the 13th Amendment to the 1978 constitution of Sri Lanka, powers between central government and provincial councils have been devolved under three lists. Name any **two** of them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

38. (i) What is the political ideology that advocates for economic equality?

.....

(ii) What is the political ideology that advocates for gender equality?

.....

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39. Name **two** leading theorists who contributed to the sociological approach to the study of politics.

(1) .....

(2) .....

40. The British parliament consists of two chambers. Name them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

41. Name **two** factors that contribute to the development of political parties. Name them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

42. Name any **two** stages of public policy process.

(1) .....

(2) .....

43. Some inter-governmental organizations operate at regional level. Name any **two** of them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

44. There are certain internal factors which influence Sri Lanka's foreign policy. Name **two** of them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

45. (i) Who is the scholar who developed the concept of **sustainable peace**?

.....

(ii) Who is the scholar who developed the concept of **conflict transformation**?

.....

46. During the Donoughmore period (1931-1947), several welfare-oriented policies and reforms were introduced. Name any two of them.

(1) .....

(2) .....

47. What were the two independent commissions established by the Soulbury Constitution of 1947/1948?

(1) .....

(2) .....

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48. Name any **two** of fundamental rights included in the 1972 constitution of Sri Lanka.

(1) .....

(2) .....

49. (i) Which institution was the supreme organ of the state power under the 1972 constitution of Sri Lanka?

.....

(ii) What was the official title of the Head of the State under the 1972 constitution of Sri Lanka?

.....

50. (i) Which court has the jurisdiction to hear parliamentary election petitions in Sri Lanka under the present constitution?

.....

(ii) Which court hears and determines presidential election petition in Sri Lanka under the present constitution?

.....

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இலங்கைப் பரீட்சைத் திணைக்களம்
Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka

අධ්‍යයන පොදු සහතික පත්‍ර (උසස් පෙළ) විභාගය, 2026
கல்விப் பொதுத் தராதரப் பத்திர (உயர் தர)ப் பரீட்சை, 2026
General Certificate of Education (Adv. Level) Examination, 2026

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 describe the following approaches to the study of Political Science.
   (i) Sociological approach
   (ii) Comparative approach (10 × 2 = 20 *marks*)

2. Distinguish between the state and the government with examples. (20 *marks*)

3. Discuss briefly the main features of any **two** of the following political ideologies.
   (i) Feminism
   (ii) Social democracy
   (iii) Fascism (10 × 2 = 20 *marks*)

Part II

4. Briefly discuss the powers and functions of any **two** of the following under the Donoughmore Constitution.
   (i) Governor
   (ii) Officers of the State
   (iii) The State Council
   (iv) The Board of Ministers (10 × 2 = 20 *marks*)

5. (i) Enumerate **five** constitutional safeguards provided for the protection of minorities under the Soulbury Constitution of 1947/1948. (05 *marks*)
   (ii) Evaluate the effectiveness of the constitutional safeguards for the protection of minorities under the Soulbury Constitution of 1947/1948. (15 *marks*)

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6. Explain the key features of the First Republican Constitution of 1972 of Sri Lanka. (20 *marks*)

7. (i) Describe the composition, powers, and functions of the Parliament under the present Constitution of Sri Lanka.

   (ii) Discuss the relationship between the President and the Parliament under the present Constitution of Sri Lanka. (10 × 2 = 20 *marks*)

Part III

8. Briefly discuss any **two** of the following.
   (i) The unitary features of governmental system of France.
   (ii) The key features of Indian federalism.
   (iii) The powers of state governments of the United States of America.
   (10 × 2 = 20 *marks*)

9. Describe any **four** factors that have influenced to determine the foreign policy of Sri Lanka since independence. (20 *marks*)

10. Write short notes on any **two** of the following topics.
   (i) The 19th amendment to the 1978 constitution of Sri Lanka.
   (ii) Main features of representative democracy.
   (iii) Non-State actors in international politics.
   (iv) Role of the opposition in the parliamentary system of government.
   (v) The simple classification of conflict.
   (10 × 2 = 20 *marks*)

* * *

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