

PSIR Answer Writing Module 2023**Test 1****Time Allowed: 1 Hour 30 Minutes****Max Marks: 120**Name: Astha JainTest Submission Date: 5/October/2022

Email Address: _____

Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. All questions are for **15 marks** each.
3. Word limit for each question is **200 words**.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the booklet in the space provided.
5. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
7. All parts of the question should be written at one place itself.
8. **Filling all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.**

Q. No.	Marks	Q. No.	Marks
Q1		Q5	
Q2		Q6	
Q3		Q7	
Q4		Q8	
Total Marks:		Evaluator Code:	

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ue.1

Explain the difference between political thought, political theory, political philosophy and political ideology? In what way Political Science can be treated as a science? (200 words, 15 Marks)

It's common to use political thought, political theory, political philosophy & ideology as same and interchangeable. But they can be differentiated.

- Political thought - It's the foundational basis of the subject.
 - It provides basic terminologies, concepts
 - It ponders over questions of political life.
- Political theory - can be understood as more generalised & comprehensive. It includes many thinkers. Eg - Theory of Justice
- Pol. philosophy - is a branch of theory. Theory can be both philosophical & scientific. Pol. philosophy deals with normative issues like Justice, equality.
- Ideology - Acc. to Gramsci, Ideology is the diluted form of philosophy. It contains

less ~~that~~ and used as a means to mobilise masses.

Political science as science —

"When i look at the paper of political science,
i am more puzzled about title than question"

- To call pol. science as science is often seen as a debatable issue. It's because we often see science as pure/natural science.

- Acc. to Aristotle, political science is an Applied science. It's application based.

- The methodology of political science is not like pure sciences — verification, quantity etc. It's normative.

- Behaviorism tend to make it a pure science but didn't succeed.

So, political science is not a pure science but an applied science.

- We can also understand science as an organised body of knowledge. In this way, political science is an organised



body of knowledge about various issues of political life.

The term political is derived from greek word 'polis' means state. So political science deals with state and its issues.

"Political science starts & ends with state".

If we look from a broad perspective, political science is a science which has application based utility.

Que.2

"Unexamined life is not worth living"-Socrates. Comment. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Socrates is considered as the wisest man. Plato said that he thank God that he is born in the age of Socrates.

Socrates is known as the father of ethics and philosophy, because he focused on the idea of good life and knowledge.

Scholars before Socrates were trying to understand physical properties of life. But Socrates held that it's not enough to know what constitutes 'life', it's more important to know what constitute "good life" means what is the way of living a good life.

In this context, he held that "Unexamined life is not worth living."

It means that if we don't examine our life, its purpose and principles to lead



a good life, it's not worth living.

Socrates talks about having the true knowledge of good life. Knowledge is necessary to lead a good/virtuous life because "Knowledge is virtue".

True knowledge can be gained through the method of ' DIALECTICS '.

Dialectics is a process through which our perceptions/illusions/false knowledge gets converted into True knowledge. Dialectics include logical argumentation to derive Truth.

Through this true knowledge, man can lead a good life - life which is worth living. Socrates always said "Know Thyself" in order to live a good life.

analysis - Socrates' views have both practical and academic utility.

Practical - we can apply this statement in Indian context. We should examine our beliefs, traditions and leave what is not true. Only through examining our life and practises, we can live happily.

Academic - Socrates Theory of knowledge which is linked to this statement, is the basis of Plato's theory of Idea, Philosopher king.

Socrates is a truly wise man. He always emphasised on constantly examining our life in order to live it happily. "Know Thyself" is his message because without knowing, we can't live like a human.

Q.3

"The law of nature is the basis of all morality". In the light of the statement explain Locke's theory of rights. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Locke is regarded as scholar of possessive individualism. He belongs to the tradition of social contract. His greatest contribution is his theory of Natural Rights, which is the foundation of rights found in Modern liberal States.

As a social contract scholar, Locke explains the human nature and State of Nature.

He has a balanced view about human nature. Acc. to him, human have both reason and passion.

"Reason in man tells him not to harm others in life, liberty, health and property."

Because man has reason (natural law), man is a moral and social being. His reason enables him to respect other's

rights.

Because man has reason, State of nature is a state of goodwill, peace and mutual assistance. Man is able to live with others peacefully, because of the presence of law of nature (reason) - No Law, No liberty.

Due to certain inconvenience, man enters into social contract and creates the STATE. But man doesn't transfer his natural rights because no rational man would ever agree to give it to state.

Theory of Natural Rights is given by Locke. He explains that nature has given man the right to life, liberty and property. Man enjoys these rights in state of nature. After State came into being, man doesn't transfer these rights.

These rights are fundamental/basic and

precondition for leading a good life, so man don't transfer these rights. They are inalienable, and part of man's personality. Locke considers Right to Property as the most important right.

Analysis - As Locke gives the theory of Natural Rights, he is called as Individualist in and out. He gives these rights to man against the state's intervention and to limit state's power. Locke defence of absolute Right to Property puts him as "Scholar of Possessive Individualism"
- MacPherson.

Although, Locke is called as capitalist scholar, we can't underestimate the importance of Natural Rights which gives power and protection to individuals.

Que.4

"The fact is that a man who wants to act virtuously in every way necessarily comes to grief among so many who are not virtuous" - Machiavelli. Comment. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Machiavelli is the first person who established the autonomy of political science as a discipline. He freed pol. science from the clutches of ethics and religion.

His book 'The Prince' is his most important contribution. In this book, he gives advices to a person who wants to be a Prince about the art of 'STATECRAFT'

Machiavelli gives many advices to Prince about the art of management of power and profession of politics. He is the first one who separated ethics and politics and declared that prince can't aim to be good in all situations.

He said that if a man/prince will try

to find goodness/virtue in every situation will only get grief and dissatisfaction.

This is because politics is not a profession of goodness. Human nature is not good so prince will only face grief if he tries to be good in every situation.

Human is selfish, ungrateful, fickle minded, greedy and fearful. Because he is selfish, he will not think about Prince's interest. He is ungrateful so he will forget Prince's favor. He will be greedy and hungry for power.

So in politics, people are not good so Prince can't afford to be good. He has to learn how to be bad.

"Prince has to be clever like a fox and brave like a lion."

only in this way, he can avoid grief and cheat and can act judiciously.



Analysis - Machiavelli is a realistic and practical person. He understands that we can't act good all the time. It's not a feasible option. Thus we have to understand the demand of the profession and time and act accordingly.

for eg - Gandhiji was always for goodness and non-violence. But he has to sanction violence in Quit India Movement and declared 'Do or die'

Machiavelli's advices are transcendental and universal. Kautilya also had similar views. His emphasis on time and situation, to act is very insightful. His ethics is contextual.



ue.5

Hobbes's political theory is based on psychological egoism and the social contract. Discuss (200 words, 15 Marks)

Hobbes is known as the greatest individualist. He is called as "Father of all of us" by Marx (a communist). His theory is based on his analysis of human nature.

Hobbes has witnessed the troubled phase of British history - Puritan Revolution. This experience of anarchy, lawlessness and lack of security of life, has shaped his views about human nature.

He established man as utilitarian and other features of man's psychology based on science. He used Resolutive - Compositive method of Galileo, to understand human psychology.

He observed that man is made up of matter (materialism). Matter is made up of particles and particles in our brain are in motion.

Two basic motion's of love and aversion.
We love things which gives pleasure. So,
man is utilitarianism.

Utilitarian man is possessive, selfish, power
seeking. This reflects universal
psychological egoism — means man's
psychology / thinking is essentially egoistic.
He can only think about himself.

Due to this nature, State of nature is
painful. Life is poor, brutish and short.

To come out of this painful situation, man
enters into contract and creates a
state.

Society and state came into being after the
contract. All rights and power to make
law lies with state (except Right to life).

In his theory of social contract, Hobbes
establish that State is sovereign, supreme
authority and monopoly over use of violence.

Hobbes' political theory is based on the psychological egoism and resultant social contract. His political obligation (relation between man & state) can be understood through his social contract.

Man obliged State because state ensures law and order and preservation of life.

Que.6

"Dear is Plato, but dearer still is truth" - Aristotle. In the light of the above statement establish that Aristotle is not only the greatest disciple of Plato, but is also his greatest critic. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Aristotle is regarded as the greatest disciple of Plato as well as his greatest critic. Aristotle studied in Plato's academy and analysed Plato's work. He observed many problems in Plato's theories. So, he tried to correct them.

In this context, 'he held that Dear is Plato, but dearer is truth' which means that although he rever Plato but it's his duty to rectify Plato and establish the Truth.

Aristotle criticised Plato's Theory of Idea. Plato held that idea is the ultimate reality and world of idea is the real world. This world is just illusion.

But Aristotle reject this argument. He believed that idea is not independent of matter and out of this world.



Idea and matter coexist in this world, as potentiality and actuality.

Aristotle also criticised Plato's Theory of Communism of property and family.

Criticism of Communism of property -

Common ownership as suggested by Plato is not right.

"Everyone's property is no one's responsibility"

• Private property has its virtues - source of motivation, age old institution, stability.

Criticism of Communism of family and wife -

- acc. to Aristotle, it's barbaric, and not practice.

- Family is a useful institution - source of emotional stability & socialisation.

Aristotle's biggest criticism is of Plato's Theory of Philosopher King -

- Aristotle prefers Rule of law over 1 person.
- Philosopher king is best but not best practicable.
- Not easy to find philosopher king
- "Law is a reason without passion."
- Philosopher king will be a tyrant. So the best rule is of 'POLITY' - rule of middle class.

Through these criticisms of Plato's theories, we can see Aristotle's attempt to rectify radicalism & impracticality of Plato.

Thus, he emerged as greatest critic & disciple of Plato.

Locke is the proponent of the doctrine of possessive individualism par excellence. Elaborate (200 words, 15 Marks)

MacPherson held that Locke is the "Scholar of Possessive Individualism"

Possessive Individualism — It's the philosophy of Capitalism. It held that man is individualistic and whatever man possesses is his own property, because he has put his labour on it. Society has no contribution to it.

Thus, man should have absolute right to property (product of his personality).

Locke is an individualist. He gives the theory of Natural Rights, his most important contribution.

In his theory of Natural Rights, he gives Right to life, liberty & property to every man.

Among all the rights, he held that Right to property is the most important.

So, he use right to property for life and liberty as well. This is most important because without right to property, man can't enjoy life and liberty.

Right to Property

Locke is the scholar of emerging bourgeoisie class. He defends the absolute right to property of man. He held that property belongs to those who have put his labour into it (worth) and make it valuable.

Thus, he criticised feudalism's basis of property ownership — BIRTH.

He also put certain limitations on right to property —

a) Spoilage limitation

b) Labour

c) Not harm other's property

Analysis — Due to his defence of absolute Right to property, MacPherson called Locke as scholar of 'Possessive Individualism'.

MacPherson also said that limits put on Right to property are no limits.

Other scholars give different views on Locke. Some held him as liberator of individual and enterprise, some called him as advocate of Calvinism.

Through his Right to property and man's absolute right over his personality, Locke can be said as proponent of possessive individualism.

Que.8

"Like men, like State; governments vary as the characters of men vary....."- Plato. Critically Evaluate. (200 words, 15 Marks)

Plato is called as the father of political philosophy. He focused on the idea of justice and ideal state. His book 'Republic' is regarded as best book on education (Rousseau). But it deals with many aspects of an ideal state such as JUSTICE.

Main concern of Plato was "how to make Athens an ideal state." He tried to understand the reason for downfall of Athens.

He observed that Athens's bad condition is due to ignorance of ruling class. Its rulers were running after money & power, people were also doing same. Whole society become corrupt.

If Athens has to be made an ideal/just state, people has to become just. This is because -



"State is individual writ large"

If individual is small 'a', State is Capital 'A'. The principles of Justice which will be applied at individual level, will also be applied at State level.

Plato suggest that justice in individual will be the base of Just State. Soul of an Individual has 3 characteristic - Reason, Courage and appetite.

Justice will be done when all works acc. to their dominant soul trait. Man of Reason should be in law making, Man of courage - soldier and Man of Appetite in Producer Class.

This principle of Justice will be applied at state level. In state everybody will function acc. to their class - Functional Specialisation

Analysis - His statement that "like men, like State" is very apt. There is no denial that character of state will be decided by the character of citizens in it.

For eg. In India, corruption is very normal and all are engaged in it. This makes the whole administration corrupt.

Dr. A.P.J. Kalam also held that to eradicate corruption, we have to start from our homes

Plato rightly points out that state depend upon its people. He will also establish that ideal state is the result of just citizens.



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