

## Answer Key: Sovereignty & Statecraft: Analytical Insights for College Scholars

Scholars deconstruct the ethical foundations of authority and evaluate the tension between institutional power and distributive equity through rigorous case analysis.

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**1. In the context of the 'Capability Approach' proposed by Martha Nussbaum, what is the primary metric for evaluating a state's political success?**

**Answer:** C) What individuals are actually able to do and be

Nussbaum's Capability Approach shifts the focus from resource distribution to the functional opportunities available to citizens, emphasizing human dignity and flourishing.

**2. Frantz Fanon's political philosophy suggests that decolonization is not merely a political transition but a profound psychological transformation of both the colonizer and the colonized.**

**Answer:** A) True

In 'The Wretched of the Earth,' Fanon argues that colonialism is a system of total violence that requires a complete restructuring of the human psyche to overcome.

**3. In her analysis of the human condition, \_\_\_\_\_ distinguished between 'labor,' 'work,' and 'action,' identifying 'action' as the highest realization of political life.**

**Answer:** B) Hannah Arendt

Hannah Arendt's 'The Human Condition' posits that 'action' (the vita activa) is the mode through which individuals engage in the public sphere to create something new.

**4. Which concept best describes Michel Foucault's theory of power that regulates populations through tracking, statistics, and public health rather than sovereign decree?**

**Answer:** B) Biopower

Foucault used 'biopower' to describe how modern states exercise control by managing the biological lives of the population.

**5. Isaiah Berlin's distinction between 'Two Concepts of Liberty' identifies 'Positive Liberty' as which of the following?**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer:** C) The freedom to act as the result of one's own will and self-mastery

Positive liberty refers to the possibility of acting—or the fact of acting—in such a way as to take control of one's life and realize one's fundamental purposes.

**6. The concept of 'Agonism,' which views political conflict as a healthy and necessary part of democracy rather than an obstacle to consensus, is most strongly associated with \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** A) Chantal Mouffe

Mouffe argues that a vibrant democracy requires the clash of 'adversaries' rather than the elimination of conflict through technocratic consensus.

**7. The 'Difference Principle' suggests that social and economic inequalities are only justified if they result in the greatest benefit to the least advantaged members of society.**

**Answer:** A) True

This is a core pillar of John Rawls's 'Justice as Fairness,' ensuring that inequality serves a functional purpose for the marginalized.

**8. In 'The Racial Contract,' Charles Mills critiques traditional social contract theory by arguing that its foundational principles:**

**Answer:** C) Are built upon an unspoken agreement to maintain white supremacy

Mills argues that the political 'contract' is actually a racial one that excludes non-whites from the full status of personhood.

**9. Communitarianism argues that the 'unencumbered self' of liberalism is a myth because individuals are always embedded in specific social and historical contexts.**

**Answer:** A) True

Communitarians like Michael Sandel argue that our identities and obligations are shaped by the communities we belong to, challenging the atomistic view of liberalism.

**10. The political doctrine of \_\_\_\_\_ asserts that a state's legitimacy is derived solely from its ability to maximize the total happiness or 'utility' of its population.**

**Answer:** B) Utilitarianism

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Utilitarian thinkers like Bentham and Mill argue that the best political actions are those that produce the greatest good for the greatest number.