

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

## Leviathan vs. The Social Contract: College Comparative Politics Quiz

Evaluate the structural tensions between consolidated executive power and decentralized governance through the lens of institutional design and political stability.

---

**1. In the context of the 'Resource Curse' (Paradox of Plenty), how do rentier states like Oman or Qatar typically bypass the traditional social contract found in liberal democracies?**

- A. By implementing aggressive value-added taxes to fund civic participation
- B. By replacing taxation-based representation with state-provided welfare and subsidies
- C. By devolving legislative power to regional tribal assemblies
- D. By utilizing international loans to fund private sector industrialization

**2. The institutional arrangement in which a country like Japan maintains a highly centralized authority with local governments exercising only powers delegated by the national diet is known as a \_\_\_\_\_ system.**

- A. Confederal
- B. Federal
- C. Unitary
- D. Semiconsolidated

**3. Arend Lijphart's 'Consociationalism' model suggests that deeply divided societies are best served by majoritarian, 'winner-take-all' executive branches.**

- A. True
- B. False

**4. Which mechanism of executive-legislative relations is most characteristic of Mexico's current presidential system compared to a traditional Westminster model?**

- A. The executive is a member of the legislative body and subject to a vote of no confidence
- B. The legislature serves at the pleasure of the head of state
- C. The executive and legislature are elected independently, creating the potential for 'divided government'
- D. The judiciary acts as the primary tie-breaker in all legislative disputes

**5. When analyzing the 'Double Democratic Deficit,' scholars often point to the \_\_\_\_\_, where a popularly elected president and a prime minister from a different party share executive power.**

- A. Asymmetric Federation
- B. Cohabitation
- C. Clientelism
- D. Bureaucratic Authoritarianism

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

**6. In a 'First-Past-The-Post' (FPTP) electoral system, a political party can theoretically win a majority of seats in the legislature while receiving a minority of the total popular vote.**

- A. True
- B. False

**7. What distinguishes 'Competitive Authoritarianism' (Levitsky & Way) from traditional 'Hard' Authoritarianism?**

- A. The complete absence of periodic elections
- B. The formal existence of democratic institutions that are subverted by an uneven playing field
- C. The reliance on a hereditary monarchy for legitimacy
- D. The total abolition of the private sector and move toward command economics

**8. The concept of \_\_\_\_\_ federalism, seen in nations like Russia or Spain, occurs when certain subnational regions are granted more autonomy or different powers than others.**

- A. Symmetric
- B. Congruent
- C. Asymmetric
- D. Corporate

**9. How does 'Democratic Backsliding' typically manifest in modern illiberal democracies like Hungary?**

- A. Through sudden and violent military coups
- B. Through the immediate suspension of the constitution
- C. Through incremental executive aggrandizement and the weakening of judicial independence
- D. Through the voluntary dissolution of the executive branch into a direct democracy

**10. In a Pure Parliamentary system, the Head of State and the Head of Government are always the same individual.**

- A. True
- B. False