

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Will You Rule or Rebel? 9th Grade Political Philosophy Quiz

Analyze key concepts like civil disobedience and distributive justice to sharpen critical reasoning for modern civic engagement.

1. In her 18th-century work, Mary Wollstonecraft argued that the exclusion of women from political life was a violation of reason. This perspective primarily challenges which concept?

Answer: B) The legitimacy of patriarchal authority

Wollstonecraft used Enlightenment principles of reason to argue that political authority should not be based on gender, directly challenging patriarchal systems.

2. Henry David Thoreau's influential essay on _____ argues that individuals should prioritize their own conscience over the dictates of government laws.

Answer: B) Civil disobedience

Thoreau's philosophy focused on non-violent resistance to laws perceived as unjust, a concept later adopted by leaders like Martin Luther King Jr.

3. According to the philosophy of Utilitarianism, the best political action is the one that results in the greatest happiness for the greatest number of people.

Answer: A) True

Utilitarianism, championed by thinkers like Jeremy Bentham, measures the morality of a policy by its overall consequences for the community's well-being.

4. Sun Yat-sen's 'Three Principles of the People'—Nationalism, Democracy, and Livelihood—aimed to reform which nation's political identity?

Answer: B) China

Sun Yat-sen is known as the father of modern China, and his philosophy integrated Western democratic thought with Chinese social needs.

5. The concept of 'Cosmopolitanism' suggests that all human beings belong to a single community, based on _____.

Answer: C) Shared morality and citizenship

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Cosmopolitan philosophy argues that individuals should see themselves as 'citizens of the world' rather than being strictly tied to a single state.

6. The concept of 'Negative Liberty' refers to the freedom from external obstacles or interference by the state.

Answer: A) True

Isaiah Berlin famously distinguished 'negative' liberty (freedom from interference) from 'positive' liberty (the capacity to act on one's free will).

7. Frantz Fanon's work regarding decolonization argues that political freedom is impossible without first addressing the _____ effects of colonial rule.

Answer: B) Psychological

Fanon explored how colonialism affects the mental health and self-perception of a population, arguing that liberation requires a 'decolonization of the mind.'

8. The philosopher Hannah Arendt is best known for her analysis of _____, a political system that seeks total control over every aspect of public and private life.

Answer: C) Totalitarianism

In 'The Origins of Totalitarianism,' Arendt examines how systems like Nazism and Stalinism use propaganda and terror to eliminate individual agency.

9. Ecofeminism is a branch of political philosophy that argues that the mistreatment of the environment and the oppression of women are unrelated issues.

Answer: B) False

Ecofeminists argue that there are deep connections between the societal domination of women and the exploitation of the natural world.

10. In her work on 'The Capability Approach,' Martha Nussbaum argues that justice should be measured by:

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

Nussbaum's approach shifts the focus of justice from wealth to substantive opportunities, like health, education, and political participation.