

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

## Shatter the Status Quo: High School Comparative Politics Clash

Step into the shoes of a constitutional consultant to dissect power dynamics and institutional failures across distinct global regimes.

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**1. In the Russian Federation, the co-existence of a President and a Prime Minister suggests a semi-presidential system. However, when the President holds the power to dismiss the government and issue decrees with the force of law, this creates a 'hyper-presidential' imbalance. Which concept best describes this concentration of power?**

- A. Separation of powers
- B. Executive dominance
- C. Bicameralism
- D. Devolution

**2. In the Islamic Republic of Iran, the \_\_\_\_\_ is the highest authority, holding the power to appoint the head of the judiciary and half of the Guardian Council, effectively vetting all candidates for elected office.**

- A. President
- B. Chief Justice
- C. Supreme Leader
- D. Speaker of the Majlis

**3. In a 'Consociationalist' democracy, such as that found in Switzerland, power-sharing is mandated among different ethnic or linguistic groups to prevent conflict.**

- A. True
- B. False

**4. Unlike a federal system, the United Kingdom's process of 'Devolution' to Scotland and Wales is legally distinct because:**

- A. The central government can technically revoke these powers at any time.
- B. Regional governments have absolute sovereignty.
- C. It requires a unanimous vote from all UN member states.
- D. The regional legislatures are appointed by the Monarch.

**5. The Mexican political system transitioned from a 'Dominant Party' system led by the \_\_\_\_\_ for 71 years to a more competitive multi-party democracy in 2000.**

- A. PAN (National Action Party)
- B. PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party)
- C. Morena
- D. PRD (Party of the Democratic Revolution)

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

- A. True
- B. False

**7. When comparing 'First-Past-The-Post' (FPTP) electoral systems to 'Proportional Representation' (PR), which outcome is most likely in a PR system?**

- A. A two-party system dominates the executive branch.
- B. A single candidate wins based on a simple majority in a local district.
- C. Coalition governments are formed by several smaller parties.
- D. The executive is appointed by the supreme court.

**8. The concept of 'Illiberal Democracy,' a term popularized by Fareed Zakaria, refers to a government that holds elections but lacks \_\_\_\_\_, such as freedom of the press or an independent judiciary.**

- A. A national military
- B. Constitutional liberalism
- C. A central bank
- D. Compulsory voting

**9. Consider the 'Logic of Credit Claiming.' In a federal system like Australia's, when a policy succeeds, both state and national leaders may claim credit. What is the primary risk when a policy fails?**

- A. Automatic dissolution of the parliament
- B. The 'Blame Game' where levels of government avoid accountability
- C. Universal adoption of a unitary structure
- D. The abolition of the High Court

**10. The 'Judicial Review' power, used by courts to invalidate laws, is a universal feature found in every democratic nation's constitution.**

- A. True
- B. False