

CPW4U: CANADIAN & WORLD POLITICS

THE LANGUAGE OF POLITICS

Basic Concepts List

SOCIETY, GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, POWER, LEGITIMACY, AUTHORITY, SOVEREIGNTY, STATE, CITIZENSHIP, NATION, POLITICAL CULTURE, POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION, LAW, CONSTITUTIONALISM, INTERNATIONAL ORDER

Exercise 1

By inserting the appropriate letter in the space provided, indicate whether the named concept (*in boldface italics*) is used correctly C or incorrectly I in each of the following sentences.

_____ 1. Quebec may be a “distinct society” because its population is predominantly French in language and culture. But it is a **SOCIETY** in the broadest sense of the term because its people, like in every other province of Canada, live by common rules of conduct.

_____ 2. When the French people voted against approving a proposed new constitution for the European Union recently, they were performing an act of **GOVERNMENT**.

_____ 3. The Premier of Ontario, Dalton McGuinty’s current campaign to persuade his province’s voters that his government is owed \$23 billion dollars by the Government of Canada has all the hallmarks of an act of **POLITICS**, properly defined.

_____ 4. No matter how corrupted it turns out to be, the now infamous Sponsorship Programme, mounted in Quebec after the 1995 referendum on sovereignty there, was an exercise of governmental **POWER**.

_____ 5. Sadaam Hussein was in power in Iraq for so long (30 plus years) because the majority of the Iraqi people believed his rule to have **LEGITIMACY**.

_____ 6. The new Pope, Benedict XVI, has **AUTHORITY** of the legal variety, but does not seem to possess the charismatic strain of authority like his predecessor did.

_____ 7. Canada has been showing the flag in the High Arctic more in recent years due to challenges to its **SOVEREIGNTY** made by countries like Denmark (which controls the neighbouring territory of Greenland) and the United States, which does not recognize Arctic waters as Canadian.

_____ 8. Quebec and Scotland like many other parts of larger countries are *STATES* all but in name.

_____ 9. That Canadian *CITIZENSHIP* is much prized around the world is attested to by the many thousands of would-be immigrants clamouring to be let into the country every year.

_____ 10. To use the word *NATION* - as in the name of the supreme world body we know as the United Nations - is technically incorrect, as only states are eligible for membership in this organization.

_____ 11. Oddly enough, American *POLITICAL CULTURE* is characterized by basically anti-government attitudes.

_____ 12. If your parents vote Liberal and you do the same thing when you first reach the legal voting age, then, to some degree, you are exhibiting the effects of *POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION*.

_____ 13. Canada is an example of a country - unlike say, North Korea - where the rule of *LAW* prevails.

_____ 14. A state may be said to reflect the principle of *CONSTITUTIONALISM* to the extent that it has essentially unlimited powers with Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia being perhaps the prime exemplars of the past century.

_____ 15. The American-led War on Terrorism is probably the Bush Administration's central policy prescription to achieve *INTERNATIONAL ORDER* in the post 9/11 world of today.

Exercise 2

Complete each of the following statements by filling in the blanks with the most appropriate term selected from the Basic Concepts List above.

1. Since its formation in the heyday of the province's "Quiet Revolution", the Parti Quebecois has run on a platform of _____ Association. Which, for its supporters, basically means the best of both worlds - independence with no loss of benefits from association with the rest of Canada.
2. During the period of the "Cold War", the American view of _____ was embodied in a policy of containment of the Soviet Union and its communist allies.
3. Human groups like bands, tribes and nations are all different forms of _____.

4. The late Pope John-Paul was perhaps the most charismatic _____ figure of his time.
5. In every country that has one, its Constitution is regarded as the basic _____ of the land.
6. According to public opinion surveys, Canadians and Americans exhibit increasingly divergent rather than convergent views on political matters with the former becoming increasingly liberal-minded and latter increasingly conservative. This is evidence of the distinctive _____ of the two neighbours.
7. By and large, Political Science is concerned with the wielding of _____ ostensibly in the public interest.
8. The fundamental unit of analysis and action in International Politics is the _____.
9. When governments of any type fall it is usually because they have somehow lost their _____ in the eyes of their subjects or citizens.
10. Today among young people it seems the most powerful agents of _____ are their peer groups.
11. "Jus soli" and "jus sanguinis", two principles of ancient vintage, remain the basic determinants of who qualifies for _____ in most countries today.
12. The part of society that makes and enforces the rules that its members are required to follow is what we call its _____.
13. The United Kingdom, unlike its cross-channel neighbour France, is a state but not a _____ since its people identify with four different cultural entities (English, Welsh, Scottish and Irish) not one.
14. Wherever government has limited powers you can bet that it is due to the application of the doctrine of _____.
15. The practice of _____ in the mature democracies is universally regarded with scepticism by the public-at-large. Yet its alternatives amount to a life of slavery or worse.