

Introducing Comparative Politics - The Essentials
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Chapter 2: The Modern State

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. According to Max Weber, modern states are distinguished by _____.

- A. homogenous populations
- B. charismatic leaders
- C. national economic planning
- D. rational-legal legitimacy

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. A state is _____.

- A. an administrative apparatus that develops and administers laws and generates and implements public policies in a specific territory
- B. a group of people who perceive themselves as sharing a sense of belonging, and who often have a common language, culture, and set of traditions
- C. a nation
- D. an organization that only partially provides adequate political goods to its citizens

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Chapter Introduction

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. The modern state spread throughout the world primarily through _____.

- A. trade relations
- B. observation
- C. colonial conquest
- D. missionaries

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Export of the Modern State

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. At what point did the modern state come to cover virtually the entire globe?

- A. soon after the Peace of Westphalia
- B. in the aftermath of WWI
- C. following World War II
- D. at the end of the Cold War

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: The Export of the Modern State

Difficulty Level: Easy

5. The modern state first appeared and developed in _____.

A. North America

B. Europe

C. Asia

D. Oceania

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Historical Origins of Modern States

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. The evolution from absolutism to the modern state occurred when _____.

A. ethnically homogenous states were created

B. the Industrial Revolution took place

C. a state came to be seen as separate from its ruler

D. national economies developed

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Modern States in Europe

Difficulty Level: Easy

7. A “nation” is _____.

- A. an administrative apparatus that develops and administers laws and generates and implements public policies in a specific territory
- B. a state
- C. an organization that only partially provides adequate political goods to its citizens
- D. a group of people who perceive themselves as sharing a sense of belonging, and who often have a common language, culture, and set of traditions

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Chapter Introduction

Difficulty Level: Easy

8. A modern state’s territory _____.

- A. can never change, regardless of the circumstances
- B. changes very often, in most cases

- C. can change through independence, secession, acquisition, and other means
- D. usually contains a number of unclaimed areas

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. External sovereignty implies _____.

- A. recognition by the international community of states
- B. acceptance by citizens of the state's legitimate rulers
- C. democracy within the territory of the state
- D. sole authority to make and enforce laws and policies within a territory

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: External and Internal Sovereignty

Difficulty Level: Easy

10. In modern states, the bureaucracy _____.

- A. is necessary to carry out administrative tasks
- B. is always slow and inefficient

- C. is useless and plays only a limited role
- D. is a small group of elites who implement the laws

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State | Bureaucracy

Difficulty Level: Easy

11. The idea that the state is the sole authority within its territory that can make and enforce laws is best called _____.

- A. internal sovereignty
- B. external sovereignty
- C. state strength
- D. legitimacy

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State | Bureaucracy

Difficulty Level: Easy

12. The term “divine right” is closely associated with which form of legitimacy?

- A. charismatic legitimacy
- B. rational-legal legitimacy
- C. traditional legitimacy
- D. hereditary legitimacy

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State | Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Easy

13. Feudal states _____.

- A. claimed and had undisputed sovereignty
- B. neither claimed nor had undisputed sovereignty
- C. are typical of today's Eastern Europe
- D. are typical of the precolonial American continent

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Modern States in Europe

Difficulty Level: Easy

14. At the core of feudalism was what concept?

- A. Kings are chosen by divine right and their rule is unquestioned.
- B. The lord gave his vassal a piece of property in exchange for loyalty.
- C. All power came from military might.
- D. Those who have wealth will rise above those who do not.

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Modern States in Europe

Difficulty Level: Medium

15. According to Perry Anderson, absolutist states usually had _____.

- A. a casual mercenary militia
- B. a centralized bureaucracy
- C. irregular and sporadic taxation
- D. a well-regulated militia

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Modern States in Europe

Difficulty Level: Easy

16. The “first wave” of export of the modern state refers to _____.

- A. the American continent in the 16th century
- B. Asia in the 19th century
- C. Africa in the mid-19th century
- D. the early 1960s

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Export of the Modern State

Difficulty Level: Easy

17. A weak state is a state that _____.

- A. is generally capable of providing adequate political goods to its citizens
- B. only partially provides adequate political goods to its citizens
- C. is so weak that it loses effective sovereignty over part or all of its territory
- D. is not able to secure its borders

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

18. The Glorious Revolution in 1688 in England _____.

- A. caused a long period of religious conflict
- B. eliminated the British monarchy
- C. was inspired by a similar development in France
- D. marked the start of the shift of the source of legitimacy from monarchy to democracy

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Modern States in Europe

Difficulty Level: Easy

19. Which of the following characteristics is the best indicator of a quasi-state?

- A. a state with high levels of economic inequality
- B. a state that has external sovereignty but little internal sovereignty
- C. a state that is not recognized by the international community
- D. a state whose actions are controlled by an outside state

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

20. A weak state is a state that _____.

- A. can provide adequate political goods to its population
- B. enjoys strong legitimacy
- C. has an efficient bureaucracy
- D. lacks resources

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

21. Internal sovereignty _____.

- A. requires citizen participation
- B. requires recognition by foreign countries
- C. requires the existence of opposition groups
- D. requires the sole authority to make and enforce laws and policies within a territory

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: External and Internal Sovereignty

Difficulty Level: Easy

22. The modern state spread all over the world through _____.

- A. word of mouth
- B. colonialism and independence
- C. economic development
- D. contagion

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Historical Origins of Modern States

Difficulty Level: Easy

23. What are the three different types of legitimate authority?

- A. spiritual, foundational, and legal-governing
- B. traditional, charismatic, and rational-legal
- C. organizational, tenured, and relational
- D. expert, ability, and result-based

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Medium

24. What is a failed state?

- A. a regime supported by another country
- B. a state that is so weak that it loses effective sovereignty over part or all of its territory
- C. a nation that fails to hold elections
- D. a country with a below-passing educational grade

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

25. Sovereignty is the state's ability to _____.

- A. govern over a given territory
- B. conduct fair elections
- C. appoint cabinet ministers
- D. conduct diplomacy

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: External and Internal Sovereignty

Difficulty Level: Medium

26. Which of the statements below best describes absolutism?

- A. "*l'état, c'est moi*"
- B. a government that controls some aspects of the state but not all
- C. a state that has many sovereigns
- D. the Catholic Church has great power

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Modern States in Europe

Difficulty Level: Medium

27. How does a state gain *legal* external sovereignty?

- A. when it is deemed legitimate by its own people
- B. when it succeeds in entering in an alliance with another state
- C. when it gains a monopoly on the use of legitimate force
- D. when it has the same vote in the United Nations as other states

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: External and Internal Sovereignty

Difficulty Level: Easy

28. Traditional legitimacy is based on _____.

- A. experience
- B. selection according to an accepted set of laws
- C. a society's long-standing practices
- D. physical force

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Easy

29. Somaliland is not considered a state because it lacks _____.

- A. territory
- B. internal sovereignty
- C. international legal sovereignty
- D. bureaucracy

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Somaliland: Internal Versus External Sovereignty

Difficulty Level: Medium

30. What is rational-legal legitimacy?

- A. the right to rule based on a society's long-standing patterns and practices
- B. the right to rule based on extraordinary characteristics
- C. the right to rule based on leaders' selection according to an accepted set of laws
- D. the right to rule due to conquest

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Easy

31. Political scientists call a set of ongoing institutions that administer laws and generate and implement policies in a specific territory a _____.

- A. government
- B. nation
- C. country
- D. state

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Chapter Introduction

Difficulty Level: Easy

32. How did Mexico achieve significant industrialization?

- A. through systemic corruption and elimination
- B. through elimination of the drug cartels
- C. through mass migration to the United States
- D. through oil wealth and trade with the United States

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

33. Which political theorist argued that states such as Italy and Greece, which did not develop as strong states early enough, faced the problem of a politically mobilized populace without adequate economic opportunity?

- A. Samuel Huntington
- B. Francis Fukuyama
- C. Robert Rotberg
- D. Thomas Risse

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

34. _____ occurs when a state relies on a key resource for almost all of its revenue, allowing it to ignore its citizens and resulting in a weak state.

- A. Improper forecasting
- B. Resource misattribution
- C. Resource curse
- D. Overabundance

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

35. Which type of legitimacy is described as the right of leaders to rule based on their selection according to an accepted set of laws, standards, or procedures?

- A. rational-legal legitimacy
- B. charismatic legitimacy
- C. traditional legitimacy
- D. institutional legitimacy

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Easy

36. A characteristic of a _____ state is that they provide some political goods widely but others only in certain areas of the country.

A. strategic

B. strong

C. limited

D. weak

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

37. Which political scientist argued that the U.S. state has weakened in the last several decades due mainly to what he calls “gift exchange” between legislators, lobbyists, and campaign donors that weakens the state’s ability to make independent decisions based on some sense of the public interest?

A. Samuel Huntington

B. Francis Fukuyama

C. Robert Rotberg

D. Thomas Risse

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

38. In which type of state will you find actors such as local strongmen, religious institutions, or NGOs substituting for the state in some regions, thereby providing political goods that the state cannot or will not?

A. divided

B. strong

C. limited

D. weak

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

39. If a state lacks the resources to provide basic infrastructure and security, its _____ most likely will decline.

- A. sovereignty
- B. legitimacy
- C. accountability
- D. responsibility

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

40. North, Wallis, and Weingast (2009) used what type of argument when they claimed that the earliest states were based on elite coalitions created to limit violence among themselves?

- A. rational choice
- B. functionalism
- C. bounded rationality
- D. constructivism

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

True/False

1. When a country is deemed legitimate by its own people, it has *legal* sovereignty.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. Traditional legitimacy is based on a selection according to an accepted set of laws.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State | Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Somaliland is not considered a state because it lacks internal sovereignty.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. "The right to rule based on leaders' selection according to an accepted set of laws" is the definition of bureaucratic legitimacy.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State | Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Easy

5. Security, rule of law and a functional legal system, and infrastructure are all considered "political goods."

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. Virtually no elements of state strength are connected.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

7. The statement “*L’etat, c’est moi*” (The state, that’s me) describes the concept *absolutism*.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Historical Origins of Modern States

Difficulty Level: Easy

8. A *nation* can best be described as “an ongoing administrative apparatus that develops and administers laws and generates and implements public policies in a specific territory.”

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Chapter Introduction

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. A *state* can best be described as “an ongoing administrative apparatus that develops and administers laws and generates and implements public policies in a specific territory.”

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State

Difficulty Level: Easy

10. No state can be perfectly strong in all conceivable categories of state strength.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

11. In order to exist, a modern state does not need to have established borders and territory.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Territory

Difficulty Level: Easy

12. Modern states must also have natural resources.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State

Difficulty Level: Easy

13. All political goods are universally recognized.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

14. State strength, however, exists on a continuum, with no state being perfectly strong in all conceivable categories.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

15. The leading party in Mexico, the Partido Acción Nacional (PAN), established an electoral authoritarian regime and maintained power through systemic corruption, bribery, and intimidation.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, Failed States

Difficulty Level: Easy

Short Answer

1. Provide a working definition of the “state.”

Ans: An ongoing administrative apparatus that develops and administers laws and generates and implements public policies in a specific territory.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. What are the three different types of legitimate authority?

Ans: Traditional, charismatic, and rational-legal.

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State | Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Hard

3. Define a “failed state.”

Ans: a state that is so weak that it loses effective sovereignty over part or all of its territory.

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Hard

4. Discuss three contributions of bureaucracy in terms of benefits to the modern state.

Ans: Bureaucracies can strengthen territorial boundaries, enhance legitimacy, and enhance sovereignty.

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Bureaucracy

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. The recognized right to rule is known as _____.

Ans: legitimacy

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State | Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. Provide a definition of sovereignty.

Ans: The state's ability to govern over a given territory.

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State

Difficulty Level: Hard

7. Rule by a single monarch who claims complete, exclusive sovereignty over a territory and its people is known as _____.

Ans: absolutism

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Historical Origins of Modern States

Difficulty Level: Hard

8. List the four main components of the modern state.

Ans: Territory, sovereignty, legitimacy, and bureaucracy.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Historical Origins of Modern States

Difficulty Level: Hard

9. How does charismatic legitimacy differ from traditional legitimacy?

Ans: Traditional legitimacy: the right to rule based on a society's long-standing patterns and practices. Charismatic legitimacy: the right to rule based on personal virtue, heroism, sanctity, or other extraordinary characteristics.

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State | Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Hard

10. Collecting taxes, paving roads, and building schools all require _____.

Ans: a bureaucracy

Learning Objective: 2.1: Discuss the roles of sovereignty, territory, legitimacy, and bureaucracy in modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State | Bureaucracy

Difficulty Level: Hard

11. According to Max Weber, when does the state have sovereignty?

Ans: When it obtains a monopoly on the legitimate use of physical force.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Characteristics of the Modern State | Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Hard

12. Discuss some characteristics of a strong state.

Ans: Stronger states tend to be wealthier and consume a larger share of economic resources; they are simply economically bigger than weak states. They also are less corrupt, indicating the presence of stronger bureaucracies, and tend to be more legitimate.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Hard

13. Discuss some characteristics of a weak state.

Ans: Weak states, on the other hand, are often characterized by what Thomas Risse (2015) has termed “limited statehood”: They provide some political goods widely but others only in certain areas of the country. Other actors--local strongmen, religious institutions, or nongovernmental organizations (NGOs)--may substitute for a weak state in some regions, providing political goods the state cannot or will not.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Hard

Essay

1. Describe, compare, and contrast the three types of legitimacy explained by Max Weber. Make sure to illustrate your answer with examples.

Ans: The student should go through the ideas of traditional, charismatic, and rational-legal legitimacy. The answer should not only list and describe the three, but also draw a general comparison between these three very different types of legitimacy. Examples can vary widely, but the answer should contain at least one example for each type of legitimacy.

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Legitimacy

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. Describe the concept of sovereignty. Make sure to outline the differences between internal and external sovereignty.

Ans: The answer should contain a definition of sovereignty. Students should be able to indicate that internal sovereignty has to do with exclusive authority within the territory, while external sovereignty requires recognition from foreign states and the ability to defend territorial boundaries.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: External and Internal Sovereignty

Difficulty Level: Hard

3. How and when did the modern state spread all over the world, becoming truly universal? Where did it originate? Please discuss each one of the three “waves.”

Ans: Students should explain that the modern state originated in Europe and was exported through conquest, colonialism, and processes of independence. The answer should also discuss 16th-century America, the 19th- and 20th-century colonization of Asia and Africa, and Asian and African independence by the 1960s.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Historical Origins of Modern States

Difficulty Level: Hard

4. Compare and contrast the ideas of “strong state,” “weak state,” and “failed state.” Please include in your answer examples of states that fall within each one of these three categories.

Ans: Definitions: A strong state is generally capable of providing adequate political goods to its citizens, while a weak state can only do so partially. Strong states are less corrupt, indicating the presence of stronger bureaucracies, and tend to be more legitimate. Weak states, on the other hand, are often characterized by what Thomas Risse (2015) has termed “limited statehood”: They provide some political goods widely but others only in certain areas of the country. Failed states are so weak that they lose effective sovereignty over part or all of its territory. Students should show familiarity with the idea that states provide political goods to their citizens. While discussing failed states, they should explain that there is a clear loss of sovereignty over all or part of the state’s territory. Examples can vary widely, but they should represent well each one of the three categories.

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Hard

5. What are the main differences between a feudal state, an absolutist state, and a modern state?

Ans: Students should be able to clearly define all three types of state. The answer should focus on the idea of sovereignty and lord/vassal relationship while discussing feudal states, on the existence of a standing army and diplomatic service, centralized bureaucracy, systematic taxation, and policies to encourage economic development while discussing absolutist states, and on the four elements of the modern state (i.e., territory, sovereignty, legitimacy, and bureaucracy).

Learning Objective: 2.2: Detail the historical origins of modern states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Modern States in Europe

Difficulty Level: Hard

6. Outline the key arguments for why some states are stronger than others. Use two of our case studies to illustrate how some of these arguments explain their relative strength.

Ans: Should include North et al. argument about elite-negotiated agreements producing strong states versus effects of colonialism, different types of colonialism, the resource curse, and quasi-states.

Learning Objective: 2.3: Explain the different characteristics of strong, weak, and failed states.

Learning Outcome: Apply the foundational concepts of political science in analyzing political systems, issues, and policies.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Strong, Weak, and Failed States

Difficulty Level: Hard