

Total marks: 5Q x 6m = 30
Time: 90 minutes (closed book)

Please answer all five questions. The fifth question number provides an internal choice. Each question carries six marks and the break-up for each specific query is in parentheses. Please structure your answers for which you might want to use a page for ordering your thoughts while keeping an eye on the time.

1. What –according to Aristotle- is the subject-matter of Politics and what is its nature? (2) Why does he claim that Politics is a master art/science? (2) Explain Aristotle’s remark in the *Nicomachean Ethics* that the “young are not fit to be students of political science”. (2)
2. Characterize or define the concept of the State and explain how the State maintains its authority over its citizens.(3) Distinguish the concept of the State from Nation and Civil Society.(3)
3. It is believed that Niccolo Machiavelli revolutionized the study of politics. Explain the “Machiavellian revolution” according to Quentin Skinner (4). As a student of contemporary politics, do you think that Machiavelli is relevant? Please rationalize your views (2).
4. The events prior to and after Operation Bluestar of 1984, the exodus of the minority religious community from Kashmir in ‘89, the destruction of the Babri Masjid in ‘92, the recurrent violence against Dalits in various parts of India, the assassination of Nido Tania from Arunachal Pradesh in 2014, and the very recent murder by a lynch mob of a resident of Bisara village in Dadri reveal the fragility of Indian secularism. As an Indian citizen, how would you address challenges of conviviality in a multicultural country like India? (2) Explain the constitutional vision of Indian secularism.(4)
5. What is feminism? (2) What does it mean to say that “the personal is the political”? (2) If equality is a core belief of Modern Politics, why does Germaine Greer –in the interview “Women still have a cause to be angry” - say that this belief is conservative? (2)

OR

In his study titled “Constitutionalism” in the *Oxford Companion to Politics in India*, Uday Mehta (Professor of Political Theory at Amherst College) reflects upon the nature of the Indian state as Hobbesian because the Indian union was conceived “as a single people living under a single imperium (power) derived from a single source”. What was the conception of the State according to Thomas Hobbes and what was its rationale? (3) Describe the image given below towards explaining how it reflects the Hobbesian conception of the State.(3)

