

Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
First Semester 2023-2024
Mid-Semester Test

Course No : GS F211
Course Title : Modern Political Concepts
Nature of Exam : Closed Book
Weightage : 30
Marks : 30
Duration : 90 Minutes
Date of Exam : 13/10/2023 (FN)

Note:

1. Please follow all the *instructions to candidates* given on the cover page of the answer sheet.
 2. All parts of a question should be answered consecutively.
 3. Assumptions made if any, should be stated clearly at the beginning of your answer.
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Section – A

I. Choose the correct answer. (5×1=5)

1. Identify the philosopher who endorsed rational egoism.

a. Aristotle b. Machiavelli c. Rousseau d. Hobbes

2. Machiavelli's philosophy proposed the application of in the management of the State.

a. Reason b. Immorality c. Prudence d. Amoralism

3. The Social Contract is
 - a. An agreement among people to share certain interests and make certain compromises for the good of them all.
 - b. Mainly an agreement of equally selfless and unselfish persons not to commit theft or murder.
 - c. A choice to serve the public interest at the expense of a small number of individuals.
 - d. A popular political theory.

4. Aristotle asks us to start our ethical enquiry by
 - a. defining prudence
 - b. specifying the aim of human life
 - c. identifying the mean
 - d. embracing pleasure

5. According to Locke, a man in the state of nature will relinquish his absolute freedom to the state because
 - a. he will also enjoy absolute freedom when subject to the state
 - b. in the state of nature the enjoyment of his freedom is very uncertain and vulnerable
 - c. he wants to have absolute power over others
 - d. he rejects the laws of the state of nature

Section - B

II. Define the following concepts (5×2=10)

6. Golden Mean
7. Fortuna
8. State of War
9. Perfectibility
10. Right to property

Section –C

III. Answer the following questions. Both carry equal marks (500 words each)
(15 Marks)

11. Critically engage with Rousseau's Social Contract Theory.

12. Define Locke's consent and examine its changing space and scope in modern day democracies.