

DEMO VERSION OF COMPETITION ASSIGNMENTS

MODERN POLITICS

10th Grade

To be completed within 120 minutes

Maximum score is 100 points

Assignment 1. (maximum score – 25 points)

Alexander Belov, a talented 10th-grade student, wrote a popular science article on the political regimes theory and its possible applications to the analysis of modern polities and published it in his school newspaper "The Young Kantian".

His article included the following fragment: *"We could place all political regimes on a graphic scale between two poles. On one edge, we would have the regimes that can be classified as non-democratic; on the opposite edge, we would have democracies. Democratic regimes are known for their commitment to liberal ideology and the rule of law.*

After having been invented by European civilization, democracy has been spreading across the globe. Switzerland, France, and Portugal are vivid examples of the "old" European democracy. Among the Asian democracies, we can name India, Japan, and Mongolia. In Africa, the Republic of South Africa, Ghana, and Botswana have democratic regimes. In Latin America, Uruguay, Argentina, and Chile are democracies. In turn, non-democratic regimes can be subdivided into totalitarian and authoritarian regimes. Even though totalitarian regimes are mostly deemed to belong to the past, today, we can still find them in North Korea, Venezuela, Libya, and Iran."

Alexander's older sister, Maria, an HSE University student, read his article and pointed out a material inaccuracy in the above passage, supporting it by references to various researchers working in the field of political science. After mulling over his sister's reasoning, Alexander agreed with her conclusions and published a correction and an explanatory comment to his article in the next issue of the journal.

- 1. What is the biggest conceptual inaccuracy in the above excerpt from Alexander's article? Describe it and provide at least two examples to illustrate it. (12 points)**

- 2. What are the two factual inaccuracies in Alexander's paper? Explain your answer. (8 points – 4 points for each)**

3. What are the key features that define modern democracy? Name at least five features (5 points – 1 point for each).

Assignment 2. (maximum score – 10 points)

Write down the term (concept, name, etc.) that is irrelevant in each of the two rows. Explain your answer in one sentence. Points will be awarded for correct justification.

2.1. Sovereign democracy, delegative democracy, democradura, managed democracy, imitation democracy, pluralistic democracy, dictablanda, electoral democracy.

The term that is not relevant in this context:

_____, because

2.2. Socialism, liberalism, feminism, peripatetism, conservatism, fascism.

The term that is not relevant in this context:

_____, because

Assignment 3. (maximum score – 20 points)

Align all related elements presented in the four sections below. Write your answers in the Table.

**Political slogan /
popular expression:**

- 1) ¡No pasarán!
- 2) Freedom or death!
- 3) My life, my rules!
- 4) Deus, Patria, e Familia
- 5) Liberté, égalité, fraternité

**The country where this slogan was
coined /
first used:**

- A) Spain
- B) Portugal
- C) France
- D) USA
- E) Greece

Date:

- I. 1938
- II. 1790

**Ideology / series of
events:**

- Q) liberalism

III. 1970

W) fascism

IV. 1814

X) liberation movement

V. 1936

Y) movement for equality

Z) anti-fascism

Fill in this table:

Political slogan / popular expression	The country where this slogan was coined /first used	Date	Ideology / series of events
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Assignment 4. (maximum score – 25 points)

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This drawing shows the competition between two political forces. Answer the following questions:

4.1. Which political forces are involved in the confrontation shown in the picture? In which country? Which criteria did you use to determine the political forces and country? What are the key values/provisions advocated by each party? Why do the people in this picture have this reaction? (5 points)

4.2. Name the special feature of this political system that has enabled stable competition between these two forces? What are the advantages and disadvantages of this model? Is transformation possible? Explain your standpoint. (10 points)

4.3. What other countries have a similar model? Name at least three. Can this model be used in Russia? Explain your standpoint. (10 points)

Assignment 5. (maximum score – 20 points)

Imagine that the Internet and Twitter were invented in the 18th century. In this case, Joseph-Marie de Maistre, a Savoyard Jesuit, and Edmund Burke, a member of the British parliament and a whig, may have come across each other at one of the forums. These two philosophers could have grown closer and may have decided to put forward their shared political principles. Perhaps they could have created an account @no_revolution and posted something along these lines:

"Any regime can be overthrown. But will it eventually lead to freedom? Imagine the price of this freedom – hunger and destruction". #saynotorevolution

Put yourself in the shoes of one of the following thinkers (ignore the time difference): John Locke, Charles-Louis Montesquieu, James Madison, Alexis de Tocqueville, or Immanuel Kant. Each of them could have left a comment under the Maistre and Burke's tweet. Please state the name of the philosopher on whose behalf you will be leaving your message, and add a comment to the above statement. Your comment must be well-grounded (in view of given restrictions) and correct (in terms of the history of political thought). You may use no more than 4 tweets.

Selected philosopher: _____

Please write your answer below (use one character for each cell, the total number of cells and characters may not exceed 560; spaces and hashtags are regarded as characters):

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]