

DEMO VERSION OF COMPETITION ASSIGNMENTS

MODERN POLITICS

11<sup>th</sup> Grade

To be completed within 120 minutes

Maximum score is 100 points

**Assignments 1.** (*maximum score – 25 points*)

During a major international festival "International Friendship", Fyodor Prutikov, a volunteer from Russia, met his peers from other countries – Ellen from France and Steven from the US. In the evening, deeply impressed by the gala concert, Fyodor dropped a regretful remark wishing that their daily life could be as beautiful and peaceful as this event.

*"Nationalism is at the bottom of all this," said Fyodor, "if only people didn't put their origin first, we would have much fewer problems. I know some people from school who immediately get irritated with people who use unfamiliar language in the street and put shame on them very loudly. And sometimes they pick at someone's appearance – skin colour or eye shape. This, in its turn, encourages our mates from other countries to stay apart and to crowd within their narrow circle. And I am not only talking about people from other countries, the same is true even for kids from the Russian regions! When we play football during a PE class, they have their own team, and we have our own. This is so wrong..."*

Fyodor's new friends sympathized with his story. Ellen and Steven also added that when Fyodor started talking about nationalism, it was a bit confusing since, according to Ellen and Steven, they had been taught other interpretations of nationalism and the overall concept goes far beyond Fyodor's interpretation. Fyodor promised to take some time to study this issue in more detail.

- 1. What is Fyodor's interpretation of nationalism? Do you know more accurate terms which can be used to describe the situations mentioned by Fyodor? Which concept of nationalism is on the opposite side of the interpretation voiced by Fyodor? What are the key points of this concept?** (*10 points*)

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**Do you know any other interpretations of nationalism that lie beyond this dichotomy? Provide at least one example of this explanation of nationalism.** (*5 points*)

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**2. What is the correlation between nationalism and modern democratic regimes? (10 points)**

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**Assignments 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

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**2.2. R. Luxemburg, G. Plekhanov, M. Bakunin, V. Lenin, L. Trotsky, A. Gramsci.**

The term/name that is not relevant in this context: \_\_\_\_\_, because

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**Assignments 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) Don't tread on me
- 2) Communism – the bright future of all mankind
- 3) Let's fill our country with rice by increasing grain production!
- 4) Three years of hard work, ten thousand years of happiness
- 5) The economy must be economical

**Person/organization who coined this  
slogan or is associated with it:**

- A) DPRK communist party
- B) PRC communist party
- C) The Second Continental Congress
- D) Leonid Brezhnev
- E) CPSU

**Date:**

- I. 2015
- II. 1957
- III. 1981
- IV. 1958
- V. 1775

**Ideology:**

- Q) Socialism
- W) Libertarianism
- X) Juche
- Y) Planned economy
- Z) Maoism

**Fill in this table:**

Political slogan/ popular expression	Person/organization who coined this slogan or is associated with it	Date	Ideology
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

**Assignments 4.** (maximum score – 25 points)



© Winnipeg Free Press. 1957

This caricature is more than 100 years old. It has seen many spikes in popularity across different periods and was widely replicated. Please answer some questions about this image.

**4.1. Which country is mentioned here? What indications to support this can you name? What was the main idea behind this caricature? Explain your answer. (5 points)**

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**4.2. Which countries find themselves in a similar situation? Name at least two in addition to the country shown in the picture. (5 points)**

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**4.3. What political and economic tools can be used to solve this problem? Name at least two tools and explain how they work. (15 points)**

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**Assignments 5. (maximum score – 20 points)**

Imagine that a time machine has been invented. There is a big chance that the greatest minds of all times would have gathered together not at the Academy of Sciences, but in Twitter, where they could have engaged in debates with each other. For example, they may have focused their attention on a book by Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson where the authors suggest the reasons underlying the prosperity of some states and the decline of other countries. Looking to promote their ideas among a wider audience, the two authors once again formulated their standpoint in two concise tweets in their joint account @inclusive\_ones:

*"The roots of genuine prosperity lie not so much in the abundance of raw materials, but much more in the opportunities for various groups to take part in their extraction, development, and commercialization."*

*"Bad laws can be just as harmful for the economy as droughts and floods."*

**Imagine yourself in the shoes of one of the following thinkers: Adam Smith, Charles Louis Montesquieu, Karl Marx, Max Weber, or Friedrich von Hayek. Each of them could have posted a comment under the tweets by Acemoglu and Robinson. 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]