

Reference Materials for HSE Global Scholarship Competition — 2022

Modern Politics

I. Recommendations for preparation

1. The Competition in Modern Politics includes tasks based on from school courses on social science, worlds history and law, which require both the basic and additional, more advanced knowledge to successfully complete them. The Competition tasks are divided into two groups — for 10th grade and for 11th grade.

2. The Competition includes five tasks:

2.1. The **first task** requires a detailed answer to a number of questions related to the discussed situation (dialogue, dispute, discussion on the political topic).

A hypothetical situation is provided (possibly based on some well-known fiction) based on a certain political topic. The actors use the stipulations and concepts of social sciences and political science, in particular. It is important that in addition to the described parameters, no additional knowledge of the situation is required. Three questions are asked about the situation — one to check the general understanding of the situation (5 points) and the other two require categorizing the listed aspects or formulating them in the political context (10 points).

A maximum of **25 points** can be awarded for this entire task.

2.2. The **second task** requires finding an irrelevant term in a sequence of terms, substantiating the choice.

Two sequences of terms are given. In both sequences, a participant should choose one irrelevant term and provide substantiation in a single sentence. Each choice with substantiation gives 5 points.

A maximum of **10 points** can be awarded for this entire task.

2.3. In the **third task**, the participants need to compare items from 4–5 categories.

There are 4–5 blocks of elements from different political categories (for example, a political slogan, a system of ideas, an event or era, date), which should be compared in the table specified in the task. There are no extra elements in blocks — each element can only be used in a single chain. Only fully correct comparison chains are counted. Each correct comparison chain is awarded the number of points equal to (maximum points per task)/(the number of elements in blocks).

A maximum of **20 points** can be awarded for this entire task.

2.4. The **fourth task** requires brief answers to questions about an image symbolizing a certain political event. A given image (caricature, symbol, etc.) contains political meanings. Three questions are asked — one to check the general understanding of the essence of the situation

(5 points) and the other two require categorizing the listed aspects or formulating them in the political context (10 points).

A maximum of **25 points** can be awarded for this entire task.

- 2.5. The **fifth task** requires reasoned answers regarding the proposed simulated situation, which should be delivered in a certain form.

An idea by a certain political thinker is given in a form of Twitter message (not exceeding 140 characters). It is proposed to take the point of view of any of the opponents of the specified concept (the list of thinkers is provided) and object it in four messages (i.e., within four posts of 140 characters). Each correct message is awarded 5 points (points are awarded for knowledge of concepts of the thinker, which point of view is used, for the ability to reasonably use these ideas against the key arguments of the addressed thinker, as well as for compliance with the text length restriction).

A maximum of **20 points** can be awarded for this entire task.

3. The maximum number of points for completing all tasks is **100**.
4. The Competition task should be completed in **120 minutes**.
5. Participants are not allowed to use any auxiliary materials and devices during the Competition.

II. Contents. Topic overview

Lists of recommended sources by topic

Topic 1. Political teachings before the XX century.

Ideas about the political structure by Confucius (Chun-Tzu), Gongsun Yuan (Shang Yuan) and Chanakya (Kautilya) in the Arthashastra treatise. Main concepts of Plato's and Aristotle's political philosophy. Political teaching by Ibn Haldun. Political "doctrines" of Niccolo Machiavelli. Social contract theories by Thomas Hobbes, John Locke and Jean-Jacques Rousseau. The political component of German classical philosophy — Immanuel Kant and Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel. "Aristocratic Liberalism" — Alexis de Tocqueville and John Stuart Mill. Marxism. Politics in philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche. The American school of political thought in "The Federalist Papers".

Primary sources:

Ryan, A. (2012). *On politics: A history of political thought: from Herodotus to the present*. WW Norton & Company.

Black, A. (2016). *A World History of Ancient Political Thought: Its Significance and Consequences*. Oxford University Press.

Additional sources:

Spellman, W. M. (2011). *A short history of western political thought*. Macmillan International Higher Education.

Brooks, E. B., & Brooks, A. T. (2001). *The original analects: Sayings of Confucius and his successors*.

Rangarajan, L. N. (Ed.). (1992). *The arthashastra*. Penguin Books India.

- Jowett, B. (Ed.). (1888). *The republic of Plato*. Clarendon press.
- Machiavelli, N. (1995). The Prince [1513]. *The Prince and other Political Writings*, ed. S. Milner.
- Hobbes, T., & Missner, M. (2016). *Thomas Hobbes: Leviathan (Longman Library of Primary Sources in Philosophy)*. Routledge.
- Locke, J. (1967). *Locke: Two treatises of government*. Cambridge University Press.
- Madison, J., & Jay, J. (1888). *The federalist*. GP Putnam's sons.
- Mill, J. S. (1961). The philosophy of John Stuart Mill: Ethical, political, and religious.
- Nietzsche, F. (2003). *A Nietzsche reader*. Penguin UK.
- Marx, K. (2000). *Karl Marx: selected writings*. Oxford University Press, USA.

Topic 2. Power

The meaning of power. Differentiation of power and political power. Political power as 1) political ruling, 2) power in the political area. Political power and political influence, violence, domination. Power resources — collective and individual. Relationship with the different areas of life. Aspects of power. The directive aspect of power — power as domination ensuring that the regulations are fulfilled. The functional aspect of power — power as the ability and capability to manage the society. The communicative aspect of power — fulfilling the competencies through communication.

Power and authority. Legitimacy. Domination types per M. Weber — traditional, charismatic, rational and legal. The concept of charisma.

Political teachings about power and authority.

Primary sources:

Heywood. A. Key Concepts in Politics (2000, Palgrave MacMillan).

Additional sources:

Morriss, P. (2006). Steven Lukes on the concept of power. *Political Studies Review*, 4(2), 124-135.

Topic 3. Political System Institutions — State

State. Approaches to the concept of state and the theory of the origin of the state. Aspects and properties of the state (sovereignty, publicity, legitimacy, domination, territoriality). Functions of the state — internal and external. State and sovereignty. Political teachings about the state.

The essence of the legal state. State and civil society. Interaction of civil society with the state. Public control. Bureaucracy and public service.

Dimensions of the state. State system types — unitary state, federation, confederation. Government forms. Perfect government forms (Aristotle's classification). Modern government forms — monarchy and republic. Monarchy — absolute and constitutional (dualistic and parliamentary). Republic — parliamentary, presidential, mixed.

Primary sources:

Heywood. A. Key Concepts in Politics (2000, Palgrave MacMillan).

Additional sources:

North, D. C., Wallis, J. J., & Weingast, B. R. (2009). *Violence and social orders: A conceptual framework for interpreting recorded human history*. Cambridge University Press.

March, J. G., & Olsen, J. P. (1996). Institutional perspectives on political institutions. *Governance*, 9(3), 247-264.

Goodin, Robert E., ed. The Oxford handbook of political science. Vol. 11. Oxford University Press, 2009.

Topic 4. Political Institutions — Parties and Elections

Groups in politics. Non-state political institutions — pressure groups. Political parties. The formation of the concept of a party and its interpretation. Classification of political parties. Electoral institute — election conditions, political participation, representation and electoral behavior. Electoral systems — majoritarian and proportional. "Sociological laws" of M. Duverge. Typology of party systems by J. Sartory.

Primary sources:

Heywood. A. Key Concepts in Politics (2000, Palgrave MacMillan).

Additional sources:

Goodin, R. E. (2007). *The Oxford handbook of comparative politics* (Vol. 4). Oxford Handbooks of Political.

Haerpfer, C., Bernhagen, P., Inglehart, R. F., & Welzel, C. (2009). *Democratization*. Oxford University Press.

Topic 5. Political Regimes

The concept of political regime. Political teachings about political regimes. Typologies of political regimes (J. Linz, J. Blondel). Non-democratic political regimes. The origins of totalitarianism. Distinctive aspects of totalitarian regimes. Specifics of real-world totalitarian regimes — theory and practice. Authoritarian regimes. Modern varieties of authoritarian regimes. Democracy as a political regime. Principles and values of democracy. Historical forms of democracy. Modern models of democracy. Problems of democracy and its alternative forms.

Primary sources:

Heywood. A. Key Concepts in Politics (2000, Palgrave MacMillan).

Additional sources:

Goodin, R. E. (2007). *The Oxford handbook of comparative politics* (Vol. 4). Oxford Handbooks of Political.

Haerpfer, C., Bernhagen, P., Inglehart, R. F., & Welzel, C. (2009). *Democratization*. Oxford University Press.

Acemoglu, D., & Robinson, J. A. (2006). Economic origins of dictatorship and democracy. Cambridge University Press.

Topic 6. Political Ideologies

The main concepts of ideology. Functions of political ideology. Structure and levels of

political ideology. The spectrum of ideologies. Political ideologies — liberalism, conservatism, socialism, anarchism. Modern versions of classic ideologies. Ideology in political teachings.

Primary sources:

Heywood. A. Key Concepts in Politics (2000, Palgrave MacMillan).

Additional sources:

Kymlicka, Will. Contemporary political philosophy: An introduction. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Huntington, S. P. (1957). Conservatism as an Ideology. *American political science review*, 51(2), 454-473.

Bakunin, M. A., Bakunin, M., & Michael, B. (1990). *Bakunin: Statism and Anarchy*. Cambridge University Press.

Kropotkin, P. A. (1976). *The Essential Kropotkin*. Springer.

Topic 7. Global Politics

Political structure of the world. The international and global dimensions of modern politics. Geopolitics as a magnifying glass for studying global politics and international relations. Classic geopolitics concepts. Globalization — political, social, economic and other manifestations. Problems and contradictions of globalization. State and non-state actors of world politics. Integration processes of the modern world. Global challenges of modern world.

Primary sources:

Heywood. A. Key Concepts in Politics (2000, Palgrave MacMillan).

Additional sources:

Reus-Smit, C., & Snidal, D. (Eds.). (2008). *The Oxford handbook of international relations*. Oxford University Press.

Beitz, C. R. (1999). *Political theory and international relations*. Princeton University Press.

Teschke, B. (2003). *The myth of 1648: class, geopolitics, and the making of modern international relations*. Verso.

Held, D., McGrew, A., Goldblatt, D., & Perraton, J. (2000). Global transformations: Politics, economics and culture. In *Politics at the Edge* (pp. 14-28). Palgrave Macmillan, London.

Mackinder, H. J. (2004). The geographical pivot of history (1904). *The geographical journal*, 170(4), 298-321.

III. Online sources

Topics dedicated to modern Russian and world politics are covered in detail in analytical materials of the following online sources:

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. URL: <https://carnegieendowment.org/>

Russian in Global Affairs. URL: <https://eng.globalaffairs.ru/>

Russian International Affairs Council. URL: <https://russiancouncil.ru/en/>

Project Syndicate. URL: www.project-syndicate.org

Monkey Cage // Washingtonpost. URL: www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage