

# Political Theory Questions

## 1. **Comparative Analysis Question**

Compare and contrast political theory with political philosophy, illustrating your answer with examples from thinkers like Robert Dahl and John Rawls. How do their methodological approaches differ in studying politics?

## 2. **Empirical Approach Evaluation**

Critically assess the strengths and limitations of the empirical approach in political science. Using examples (e.g., voting behavior studies or welfare state comparisons), explain why some scholars argue it neglects normative concerns.

## 3. **Ideological Tradition Analysis**

Trace the historical evolution of the liberal tradition from classical to modern liberalism. How do thinkers like Locke, Mill, and Rawls differ in their conceptions of liberty and the role of the state?

## 4. **Feasibility Debate (Anarchism)**

Evaluate the feasibility of anarchism as a political system. Discuss both supporting evidence (e.g., Revolutionary Catalonia) and major challenges (e.g., security dilemmas). Can stateless societies sustainably address complex governance issues?

## 5. **Feminist & Postmodern Critiques**

Analyze how feminist political theory (e.g., patriarchy, intersectionality) and postmodern critiques (e.g., anti-foundationalism, discourse analysis) challenge traditional political theories. Provide concrete examples of their policy impacts or epistemological disruptions.