Lesson One

The Concept of Political Science

Political Science is the systematic study of politics, government, and the behavior of individuals and institutions in political systems. It aims to understand how power is distributed, how decisions are made, and how political processes influence society. Political science combines theory and practice to explain political phenomena and to propose solutions to public problems.

The origins of political science can be traced back to classical philosophers such as Plato and Aristotle, who studied the nature of the state, justice, and governance. In modern times, political science has developed into a multidisciplinary field that draws from history, law, sociology, economics, and psychology.

Political science is often divided into several branches:
1. Political Theory – studies political ideas, values, and ideologies.
2. Comparative Politics – analyzes political systems in different countries.
3. International Relations – focuses on the interactions among states and global organizations.
4. Public Administration – examines how government institutions operate and implement policies.
5. Public Policy – studies how decisions are made to address public issues.

The importance of political science lies in its ability to promote good governance, citizen participation, and democracy. Political scientists play a key role in advising governments, analyzing elections, and understanding conflicts and power relations.

In conclusion, political science is not only an academic discipline but also a practical tool for improving society. It helps people become informed citizens who can think critically about political issues and contribute to building just and stable political systems.

Comprehension Questions
1. What is political science?
2. Who were some of the earliest thinkers in political science?
3. Name three branches of political science.
4. What is the purpose of studying political science?
5. How does political science contribute to democracy?

Vocabulary Section
Match each word with its meaning:

Word	Meaning
Citizen	The way decisions are made and implemented
Conflict	A set of political beliefs or ideas
Governance	A member of a political community or state
Policy	A plan of action adopted by a government
Ideology	A serious disagreement or struggle

Grammar Section

A. Conditionals (If-clauses)

1. If people _____ (participate) in elections, democracy becomes stronger.
2. If the government _____ (ignore) the citizens, political unrest may increase.
3. If you study political science, you _____ (understand) how power works.
4. Citizens will trust the state if leaders _____ (act) with honesty.

B. Plurals

1. Policy → _____
2. Citizen → _____
3. Theory → _____
4. Country → _____
5. Analysis → _____

Translation: Translate the following term into Arabic

1	Political system	30	Hegemony
2	International Relations	31	Superpower
3	Sovereignty	32	Multipolarity
4	Nation-State	33	Bipolarity
5	Diplomacy	34	Unipolarity
6	Foreign Policy	35	International System
7	National Interest	36	Anarchy (in IR)
8	Realism	37	Conflict Resolution
9	Liberalism	38	Peacekeeping
10	Constructivism	39	Collective Security
11	Marxism	40	Arms Race
12	Balance of Power	41	Disarmament
13	International Law	42	Humanitarian Intervention
14	International Organization	43	Sanctions
15	United Nations (UN)	44	Treaty
16	Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)	45	Sovereign Equality
17	Intergovernmental Organization (IGO)	46	Recognition
18	Globalization	47	Non-State Actors
19	Regionalism	48	Cybersecurity
20	Bilateral Relations	49	International Trade
21	Multilateral Relations	50	Economic Sanctions
22	Security Dilemma	51	Refugee Crisis
23	Hard Power	52	Political system
24	Soft Power	53	Public policy
25	Smart Power	54	Propaganda
26	Power Projection	55	Diplomacy
27	Geopolitics	56	Human rights
28	Strategic Alliance	57	Civil rights
29	International Regime	58	Foreign policy