Constitutional Political Economy

and the Rise of Western Democracy

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Short Review for Quiz

- I. Short Definitions: Identify and Define
 - A. PDE game
 - C. King and Council Model
 - E. Formeteur
 - G. Amendment Process
 - I. Decisive Council
 - K. Liberal Ideology
 - M. Veto Power
 - O. Divided Government
 - Q. Age of Liberty
 - S. Emperor Meiji
 - W. Bismarck
 - Y. Madison

- B. Nash Equilibrium
- D. Constitutional Exchange
- F. Institutional Conservatism
- H. Median Voter
- J. Economies of Scale
- L. Suffrage Reform
- N. Agenda Control
- P. Magna Charta
- R. Thorbecke
- T. De Geer
- X. William III
- Z. Perfecting Parliament

Questions

- II. Summarize the theory of organizational government developed in Perfecting Parliament Your answer should explain briefly how organizations are founded, why they need governments, and the form that governments are likely to take. Name three advantages of that form of government..
- III. The Continuum between Democracy and Dictatorship

In the king and council form of government, there are a number of ways in which policy making power can be divided up. (i) Explain why parliament might be "granted" veto power over taxation. (ii) Explain why this power can be granted without cost in "static" circumstances, but may have a substantial cost in "dynamic" circumstances. (iii) Explain how changing circumstances or changes in the kings interests may allow a parliament to gain substantial power in the long run without civil war or theats of revolution.

IV. Choosing Members of Parliament

Parliaments are nearly always representative in the sense that the persons in parliament represent political and economic interests that are separate from the King's. (i) Discuss electoral and non-electoral methods that have been used in the past to select members of parliament. (ii) Explain why election laws may be very stable in the long run, even though they have no constitutional protections. (iii) Explain briefly two or three mechanisms through which suffrage law might be reformed peacefully. Illustrate (i) and (ii) with examples from history.

V. Industrialization and Democracy: A Coincidence?

For most of recorded history, the most common form of government has been dominated by single men or women, e. g. dictatorships. During the eighteenth and nineteenth century a dozen countries became democracies. (i) Summarize the theory of peaceful transformation developed in class. (ii) Briefly discuss two case histories that seem to fit the theory. (iii) Briefly discuss one case history that does not.