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Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

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Q5(b)

Discuss the importance of 'power elite' in democracy.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2016 · Sociology GS 1 · 10 marks · Politics and Society

Politics and Society: Sociological theories of power; Power elite, bureaucracy, pressure groups, and political parties; Nation, state, citizenship, democracy, civil society, ideology; Protest, agitation, social movements, collective action, revolution.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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Mills

The Power Elite: coincidence of command at the institutional summit.

Michels

Iron law of oligarchy: organisation tends to minority rule, including in democratic parties.

Weber party

Organised power can impose a world-view and staff the state beside the electorate.

Agenda setting

Power to keep issues off the ballot as a democratic problem.

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