Chapter 2

**Knowledge based**

1. What is the purpose of theory in comparative politics?
2. What is a functionalist theory?
3. What is meant by triangulation in social research?
4. What forms of institutional theory are used in comparative politics, and what contributions do they make?
5. Do institutions make a difference?

**Critical thinking**

1. Both behavioural and rational choice approaches focus on the individual. Where do they differ?
2. Does political culture help to understand political behaviour in different countries?
3. Do people always act out of self-interest in politics?
4. Will globalization make comparative politics obsolete?
5. Are the policy choices made by political systems a better way of understanding them than factors such as formal institutions or voting behaviour?