Politics I — Scored Version
Eric Lemmon

Form:

0:00 – 0:30 – Only Stop Words, sparse (See **Appendix A**)

0:30 – 1:00 – Only long one-word texts, increase frequency.

1:00 – 1:30 – Chains of 4-7 Nouns, sparse (No Sentiment)

1:30 – 2:00 – Chains of 4-7 Nouns and Verbs, sparse (No sentiment)

2:00 – 3:00 – Fully formed Sentences 3-20 words, sparse.

3:00 – 4:00 – Fully formed Sentences 3-20 words (Positive Sentiment), increase frequency.

4:00 – 5:00 – Fully formed Sentences 3-20 words (Negative Sentiment), increase frequency.

5:00 – 6:00 – Fully improvised texts (vary sentiment, length, emojis, etc.), Very frequent, but remember to get long texts in there too.

6:00 – 6:30 – 7 Players only one-word texts, very sparse. 1 Player, very long texts. As frequent as possible.

6:30 – 7:00 – Fully improvised texts (vary sentiment, length, emojis, etc.), Very frequent, but remember to get long texts in there too.

7:00 – 7:30 – 7 Players Chains of 4-7 Nouns and Verbs, decrease frequency. 1 Player, very long texts.

7:30 – 8:00 – 7 Players long nouns, sparse. 1 Player medium length texts.

8:00 – End – 7 Players stop words, sparser and sparser until end.

Notes:

In this work, performers are asked to select a range of sentence to paragraph long texts from classic works of political theory. They are then to use these excerpts for their textual improvisations during the course of the work. I have given some options in the list below; however, it is by no means exhaustive in the range of political thought across human societies and time. It is encouraged for performers to bring texts that they think of as being significant or personally significant to the selections available as well.

I have intentionally not provided passages myself, as I believe that it is important for the individual performers to find texts that *resonate* with them.

Texts to draw from:

Plato's, *The Republic*
Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*
James Baldwin, *Notes of a Native Son*
Arundhati Roy, *My Seditious Heart*
Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince*
Mary Wollstonecraft, *The Vindication of the Rights of Women*
Book of Documents/Classic of History (Shūjīng), Chinese Classic
(I welcome classic texts of political theory at your suggestion!)

Terms:

The term **sentiment** in the score above is related to the positivity, negativity and neutrality of the text. An example of a text with a positive sentiment would be "I love my cat". An example of a text with a negative sentiment would be "I hate cats". An example of a text with neutral sentiment is "The cat walked to the carpet".

When using English **stop words**, refer to Appendix A below. **Stop words** are extremely common words that are often removed during pre-processing in computational linguistic analysis. They still have an effect in this work however!

Appendix A: English Stop Words

a	hadn't	of	through
about	has	off	to
above	hasn't	on	too
after	have	once	under
again	haven't	only	until
against	having	or	up
all	he	other	very
am	he'd	ought	was
an	he'll	our	wasn't
and	he's	ours	we
any	her	ourselves	we'd
are	here	out	we'll
aren't	here's	over	we're
as	hers	own	we've
at	herself	same	were
be	him	shan't	weren't
because	himself	she	what
been	his	she'd	what's
before	how	she'll	when
being	how's	she's	when's
below	i	should	where
between	i'd	shouldn't	where's
both	i'll	so	which
but	i'm	some	while
by	i've	such	who
can't	if	than	who's
cannot	in	that	whom
could	into	that's	why
couldn't	is	the	why's
did	isn't	their	with
didn't	it	theirs	won't
do	it's	them	would
does	its	themselves	wouldn't
doesn't	itself	then	you
doing	let's	there	you'd
don't	me	there's	you'll
down	more	these	you're
during	most	they	you've
each	mustn't	they'd	your
few	my	they'll	yours
for	myself	they're	yourselves
from	no	they've	yourself
further	nor	this	
had	not	those	