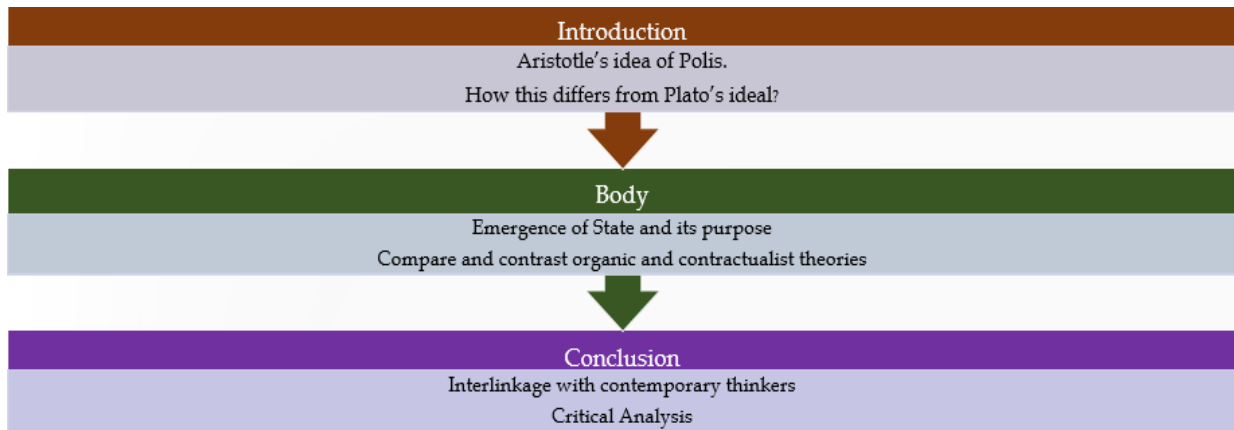


Comment: "The polis exists by nature and that it is prior to the individualism". (10)



- The best-known claim of Aristotle's political philosophy is 'polis exists by nature and Politics cannot be separated from the life of man.'

Theory of State

- Aristotle's theory of State can be seen as a revision of Plato's views.
 - As per Aristotle, Man, by nature is a political animal...one who claims that he can live without the State is either a God or Beast..."- The starting point for Aristotle's natural/organic theory of State rests in the social and political nature of man.
 - For Aristotle, man is predisposed towards cooperation and partnership. He belongs to the Socratic tradition wherein State is natural and desirable unlike the Sophists who consider individual prior to the State.
- **Habermas** in his analysis of 'public sphere' underlines how in Aristotelian theory, "to seek a good life, the citizen is dependent on the polis." Aristotle traces a hierarchy of needs that are fulfilled by the corresponding social institution:



- The State, thus, represents the culmination of institutional development but it is prior to the individual and all other organisation because outside the State, the individual is a meaningless fragment.