

**Q. 3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end.**

**(20)**

In its response to 9/11, America has shown itself to be not only a hyperpower but increasingly assertive and ready to use its dominance as a hyperpower. After declaring a War on Terrorism, America has led two conventional wars, in Afghanistan and Iraq, demonstrating its overwhelmingly awesome military might. But these campaigns reveal something more: America's willingness to have recourse to arms as appropriate and legitimate means to secure its interests and bolster its security. It has set forth a new doctrine: the right of pre-emptive strike when it considers its security, and therefore its national interests, to be at risk. The essence of this doctrine is the real meaning of hyperpower.

Prime Minister Tony Blair has consistently argued that the only option in the face of hyperpower is to offer wise counsel. But increasingly this is a course that governments and people across the world have refused. The mobilisation for war against Iraq split the United Nations and provoked the largest anti-war demonstrations the world has ever seen. And through it all, America maintained its determination to wage war alone if necessary and not to be counselled by the concerns of supposedly allied governments when they faithfully represented the wishes of their electorates. Rather than engaging in debate, the American government expressed its exasperation. The influential new breed of neoconservative radio and television hosts went much further. They acted as ringmasters for outpourings of public scorn that saw French fries renamed 'freedom fries' and moves to boycott French and German produce across America. If one sound-bite can capture a mood, then perhaps it would be Fox News' Bill O'Reilly. At the height of the tension over a second Security Council resolution to legitimate war in Iraq, Mr O'Reilly told his viewers that the bottom line was security, the security of his family, and in that matter 'There's no moral equivalence between the US and Belgium'. It is, in effect, the ethos of hyperpower articulated and made manifest in the public domain of 24-hour talk. And America's willingness to prosecute war has raised innumerable questions about how it engages with other countries. Afghanistan has seen the removal of the Taliban. But there are no official statistics on the number of innocent civilians dead and injured to achieve that security objective. The people of Afghanistan have witnessed a descent into the chaos that preceded the arrival of the Taliban, a country administered not by a new era of democracy under the tutelage of the hyperpower, but merely by the return of the warlords. Beyond Kabul, much of the country remains too insecure for any meaningful efforts at reconstruction and there is enormous difficulty in bringing relief aid to the rural population.

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### **ENGLISH (PRECIS & COMPOSITION)**

**Questions:**

**(4 marks each)**

1. Why does the doctrine of power set by neo-imperial America deny space to counselling?
2. What is the essence of 'moral equivalence' whereas War has no moral justification?
3. Why do countries occupied and under the tutelage of hyperpower have no peace?
4. Arguably Europe and hyperpower US are at cross purposes over the concept of war. Are they? Why?
5. What Tony Blair's meant by 'wise counsel', and did it prevail?

## CSS Comprehension 2021

Q1) Why does the doctrine of power  
--- counselling?

Ans) The doctrine of power set by neo-imperial America denies space to counselling, because America relies on use of force and military in order to secure its vital interests. It even uses force as a pre-emptive measure when a threat is perceived.

Q2) What is essence --- justification?

Ans) Neo-conservative media personnel justified the war and reshaped the <sup>Public</sup> ~~media~~ perception regarding its necessity. They exaggerated the need of ~~war~~ war on the security grounds.

Q3) Why do countries --- no peace?

Ans) Such countries often regress back to their older state. For example, USA failed to install democracy in Afghanistan, and it returned to its ~~older~~ earlier ~~state~~ chaotic state. Further, the rehabilitation and development of such states remain a challenge.

Q4) Arguably why? Europe and hyperpowers ----- are they?

Ans) It appears that Europe was not entirely advised, in favour of invading Iraq. The Europe wanted to show restraint but the America was indifferent to their advise and was ready to wage war despite the concerns of its European allies.

What  
Q5) ~~Why~~ Tony Blair ----- did it prevail?

Ans) Tony Blair asserted that best course of action in response to hyper-power is always, "wise counsel", which means offering them sincere advice. Such advices were indeed given to the America by its allies, but the US was determined in waging war and ignored such advices. Hence, they did not prevail and USA was ready to attack Iraq even if its allies did not support it.