

Q.2

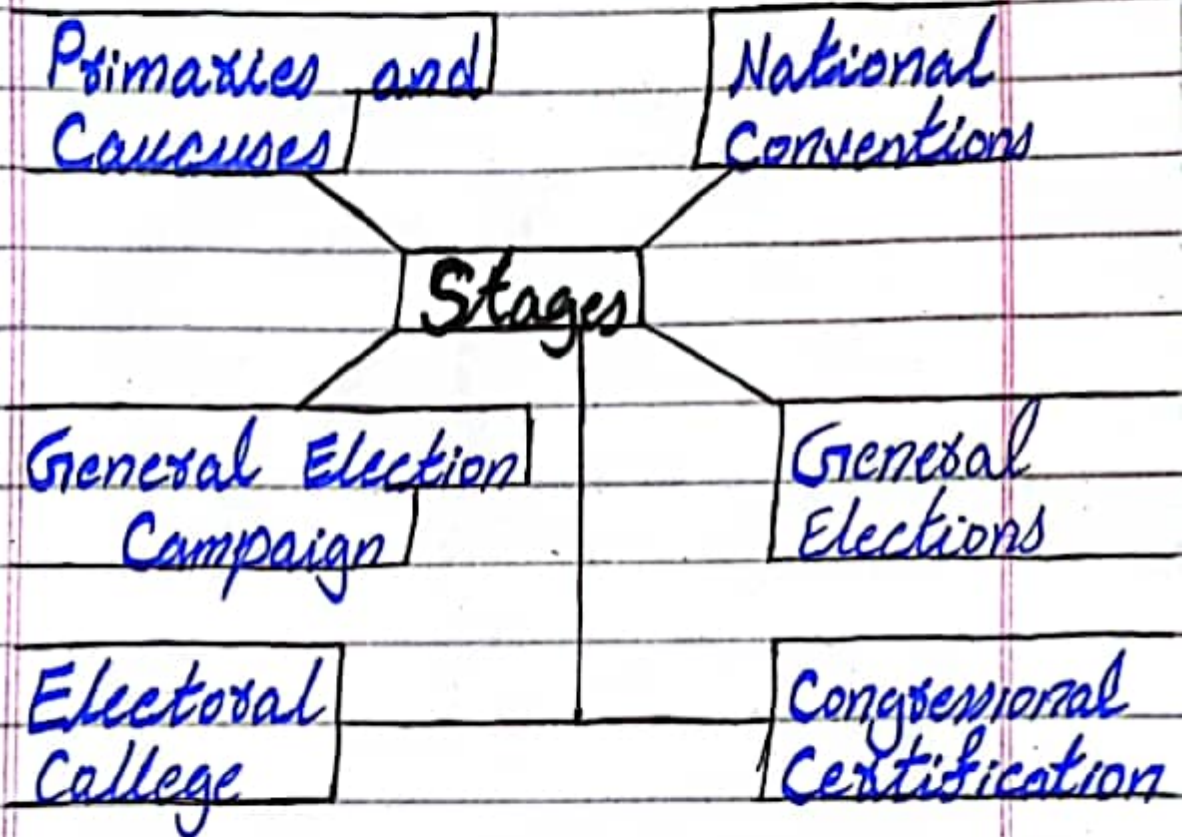
1. Introduction

The United States election system is a cornerstone of American democracy, designed to balance the interests of both the populous and less populous states. This system, while complex, ensures that the President is elected through a combination of popular vote and the electoral college.

Understanding how this system works, along with its advantages and disadvantages, is crucial for evaluating its impact on the democratic process.

How it Works

The presidential election system involves several stages.



i) Primaries and Caucuses:

Candidates from each political party compete in state-level election to win delegates. These delegates represent the candidates at the party's national convention.

ii) National Conventions:

Each party holds a national convention where delegates officially nominate their candidate for president.

iii) General Election Campaign:

The nominated candidates campaign across the country to win the support of voters.

iv) General Election:

On election day, citizens cast their votes for president. However, they are technically for a state of electors chosen by their party.

v) Electoral College:

The electors meet in their states to cast their votes for president and vice president. The candidate who receives a majority of electoral votes (at least 270 out of 538) wins the election.

vi) Congressional Certification:

The electoral votes are counted and certified by congress in a joint session, officially declaring the winner.

Role of the Electoral College

The electoral college feature is a unique feature of the US presidential election system.

It consists of 538 electors, with each state allocated a number of electors equal to its total number of senators and representatives in congress. The district of Columbia also has three electors.

Advantages

Federalism

Advantages

Stability

Minority Interest

i) Federalism:

The electoral college reinforces the federal structure of the US by ensuring that states have a role in selecting

the president.

ii) Stability:

It can provide a clear and decisive outcome, even in close elections, by amplifying the margin of victory in the electoral college compared to the popular vote.

iii) Minority Interests:

It encourages candidates to campaign in diverse regions and consider the interests of smaller states and minority groups.

Disproportionate
Influence

Popular Vote
Vs Electoral Vote

Disadvantages

Swing States

i) ~~Disappropriate~~ Influence:

ii) Disproportionate Influence:

Smaller states have a disproportionately higher influence per vote compared to larger states.

iii) Popular Vote vs Electoral Vote:

A candidate can win the presidency without winning the popular vote, as seen in the elections of 2000 and 2016.

iii) Swing States:

The focus of swing states can lead to neglect of states perceived as safely Democratic or Republican, skewing campaign efforts and resources.

Impact on the Democratic Process

Representation

Campaign
~~Strategy~~ Strategy

Impact

Voter Engagement

i) Representation:

While it ensures representation for smaller states, it can also lead to a situation where the president does not reflect the popular will of the majority.

ii) Campaign Strategy:

Candidates tailor their campaigns to win electoral votes rather than the popular votes focusing on swing states and key demographics.

iii) Voter Engagement:

The perception that some votes matter more than others can affect voter turnout and engagement, particularly in states that are not competitive.

II. Conclusion

In conclusion, the US presidential election system, with its reliance on the electoral college, has both strengths and weaknesses. While it supports federalism and can provide stability, it also raises questions about fairness and representation in a modern democracy. Continuous debate and potential reforms are necessary to address these challenges and ensure that the system evolves to meet the needs of the electorate.

Q.3

1. Introduction

The change of the US president can significantly impact the country's foreign policy. Each president brings their own vision, priorities, and strategies, which can lead to shifts in how the US interacts with the rest of the world. This analysis examines the potential impact of Donald Trump replacing Joe Biden as America's president, focusing on the implications for the global stability and US foreign commitments.

ii) Leadership Style:

The leadership style of a president can influence foreign policy decisions. Trump's assertive and sometimes unpredictable style contrasted with Biden's more diplomatic and consensus driven approach.

iii) Present Scenario: Reversal of Policies:

If Trump were to replace Biden, we could expect reversal of several policies. For instance, Trump might withdraw the US from international agreements like Paris climate accord, which Biden rejoined.

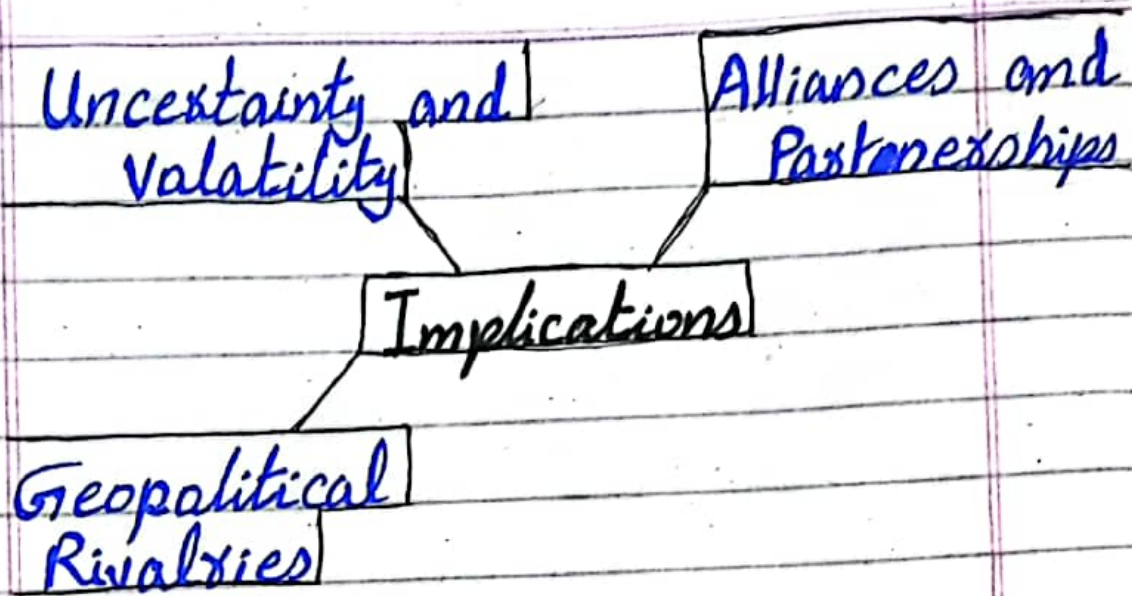
iv) Trade and Economic Policies:

Trump's administration was known for its trade wars and tariffs, particularly with China. A return to such policies could strain international trade relations.

v) Military Engagements:

Trump's approach to military engagements was characterized by a desire to reduce US involvement in foreign conflicts, as seen in his efforts to withdraw troops from Afghanistan. This could lead to a shift in US military strategy and commitments.

Implications for Global Stability



i) Uncertainty and Volatility:

Frequent changes in US foreign policy can create uncertainty and volatility in international relations. Alliances and adversaries alike may find it challenging to predict US actions, leading to instability.

ii) Alliances and Partnerships:

Trump's previous tenure saw strained relations with traditional allies, such as NATO members.

A return to such dynamics could weaken international alliances and reduce collective security efforts.

iii) Geopolitical Rivalries:

Trump's hardline stance on China and Russia could escalate geopolitical tensions. His policies might lead to increased competition and conflict in regions like South China Sea and Eastern Europe.

Impact on US Foreign Commitments



i) International Agreements:

The US might withdraw from or renegotiate international agreements affecting global cooperation on issues like climate change, trade, and security.

ii) Aid and Development:

Changes in foreign aid policies could impact global development efforts. Trump's administration reduced funding for international organizations and foreign aid programs, which could be reinstated.

iii) Diplomatic Relations:

Diplomatic relations with key countries could shift. For example, Trump's approach to North Korea

involved direct engagement with Kim Jong-un, which differed from Biden's more cautious stance.

11. Conclusion

In conclusion, the transition from Biden to Trump as US president would likely result in significant changes to US foreign policy. These changes could have far-reaching implications for global stability and US foreign commitments.

While some may argue that Trump's assertive approach could strengthen US interests, others believe it could lead to increased volatility and weakened alliances. In the context of US foreign policy, the choice of leadership can profoundly shape the and effectiveness of America's role on the global stage.

Q.4

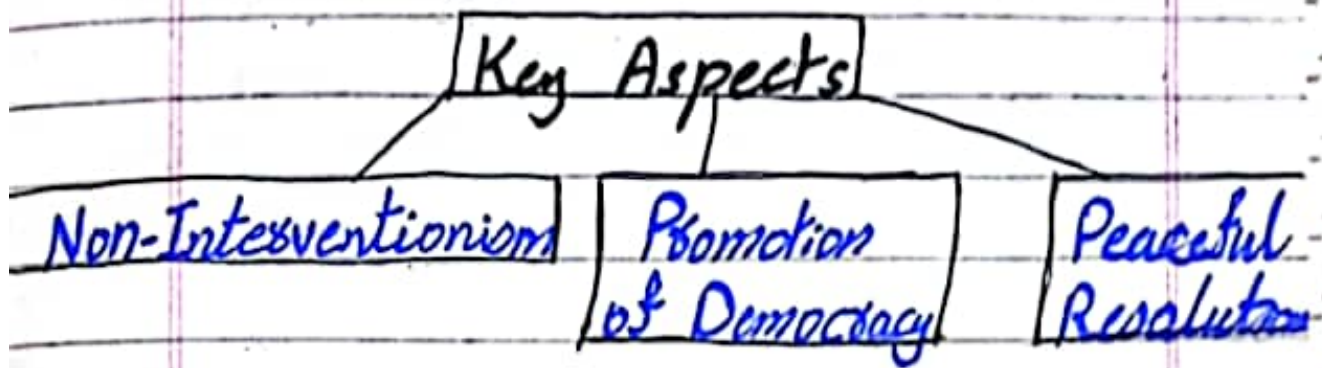
1. Introduction

Woodrow Wilson's foreign policy was characterized by his idealistic vision of promoting democracy and moral principles in international relations. However, maintaining American neutrality at the outset of World War I presented significant challenges.

Wilson's Foreign Policy

Wilson's foreign policy often referred to as "moral diplomacy" aimed to support democratic governments and promote peace. He believed that the United States had a moral obligation to spread democracy and uphold justice.

worldwide. Key aspects of his foreign policy included:



i) **Non-Interventionism:**

Wilson initially sought to reduce American involvement in foreign conflicts and avoid imperialistic practices.

ii) **Promotion of Democracy:**

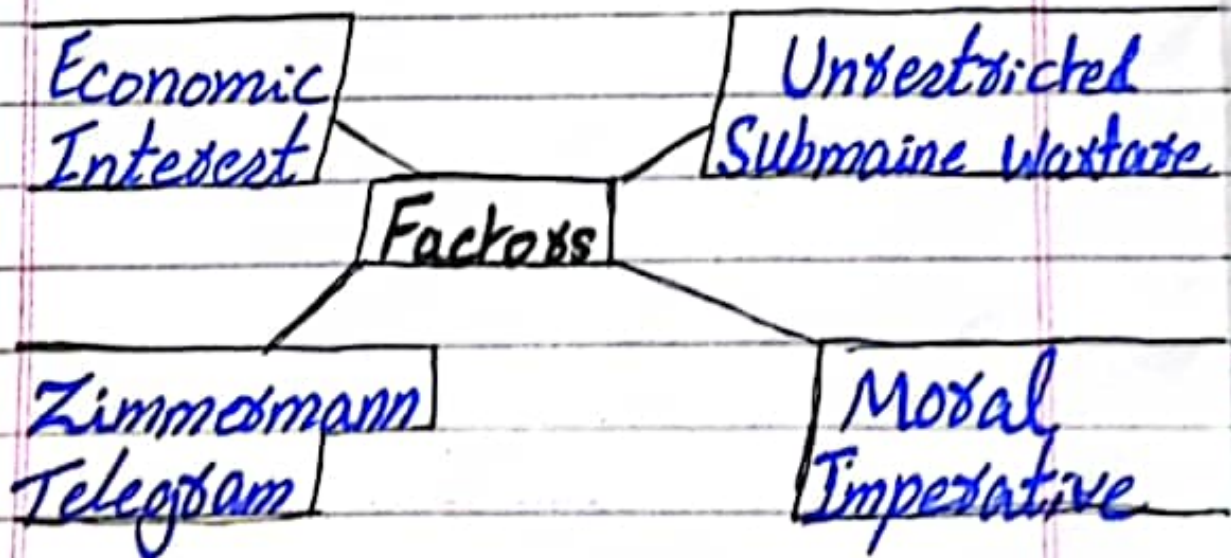
He emphasized the importance of democratic governance and self-determination for all nations.

iii) Peaceful Resolutions:

Wilson advocated for resolving international disputes through diplomacy and arbitration rather than war.

Difficulties of Maintaining Neutrality

Despite Wilson's commitment to neutrality, several factors made it increasingly difficult for the United States to stay out of World War I.



1) Economic Interests:

The US had strong economic ties with the Allied powers.

American businesses and banks had significant investments in these countries, making neutrality challenging.

ii) Unrestricted Submarine Warfare:

Germany's use of unrestricted warfare, including the sinking of civilian and neutral ships, threatened American lives and commerce. The sinking of the RMS Lusitania in 1915, which resulted in the deaths of 128 Americans, intensified public and political pressure to respond.

iii) Zimmermann Telegram:

In 1917, British intelligence intercepted a secret communication from Germany and Mexico, proposing a military alliance against the United States. The Zimmermann Telegram further fueled anti-German sentiment and pushed the US close to war.

iv) Moral Imperative:

Wilson's belief in the moral responsibility to make the world "safe for democracy" ultimately led him to advocate for American involvement in the war. He argued that the US needed to join the fight to ensure a just and lasting peace.

11. Conclusion

Woodrow Wilson's foreign policy was rooted in idealism and the promotion of democratic values. However, the complexities of international politics and economic interests made it difficult for the United States to maintain neutrality at the outset of World War I. The combination of economic pressure, German aggression, and moral considerations ultimately led to American involvement in the conflict. As Wilson himself stated that:

"The world must be made safe for democracy"