

General instructions to be followed to pass essay

Essay Writing

1- Spend time on rightly comprehension of the topic, you won't pass the essay unless and until you addressed the asked part

2- Try to make your main heading in the outline from the words in the question statement

1 Introduction

3- Try to add hook in the introduction. The length of introduction must be of 2 sides

Provide proper headings

1.3 Thesis Statement: The India-Pakistan

4- your topic sentence in your argument must be aligned with the ending sentence

water dispute revolves around the division and control of the Indus River system,

5- Avoid firstly, secondly, thirdly etc. in outline

Thesis statement is too lengthy

6- add references in your arguments with proper source. Go for diversification of references

the dangerous potential of escalating

7- Do not add new idea or point in Conclusion

Wrong interpretation of the topic

8- You won't pass the essay if make more than 4-5 grammatical mistakes

2.1 Partition 1947 → division of wars

9- outlines that are not self explanatory or does not aligned to with the essay statement are liable to mark 0 and the essay would become null and void

2.2 Initial disputes → World Bank mediated

Indus Water Treaty (1960)

2.3 Treaty allocated Eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) to India; Western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) to Pakistan

3 Significance of Indus Basin:

3.1 Lifeline of Pakistan: 90% of agriculture depends on Indus water

No need to provide

3.2 Supports 300 million people in both countries

3.3 World's largest contiguous irrigation system.

4 Points of Contention:

4.1 Indian dam and hydropower projects (Baglihar, Kishanganga, Ratle)

4.2 Pakistan's concerns: water storage and diversion threatening agriculture

4.3 Indian claims: projects within treaty framework

4.4 Lack of trust between two nuclear rivals.

5 Climate change and Water Scarcity:

5.1 Glacial melt in Himalayas reducing long-term water flow.

5.2 Pakistan among the top 10 water-stressed countries.

5.3 UNEP: Per capita water availability in Pakistan declined from 5260 cubic meters (1951) to less than 1000 today.

6 Economic and Agricultural Impact on Pakistan:-

6.1 24% of GDP from agriculture highly dependent on Indus Waters.

6.2 Punjab and Sindh crops threatened by water shortage

6.3 Energy crisis worsened due to reduced hydropower generation.

7 Security and Political Implications:

7.1 "Water terrorism" allegations by Pakistan.

7.2 Threat of water being used as leverage during conflicts (e.g., after Pulwama 2019).

7.3 Escalation risk between two nuclear-armed neighbors.

8 Efforts and Challenges in Resolution:

8.1 Indus Water Treaty (IWT) has survived 3 wars (1995, 1971, 1999)

8.2 Neutral Expert/International Court of Arbitration interventions.

You haven't understood the topic at all. You are supposed to provide arguments about how it is an alarming issue.

8.3 Political mistrust prevents joint management.

9 **Way Forward:** You are completely deviated from the topic.

9.1 Strengthening ~~Joint water management~~ climate - change considerations.

9.2 Joint water management and data sharing. Must work on your topic comprehension.

9.3 Regional cooperation via SAARC/ SCO framework. Must work on your words selection.

9.4 Investment in water conservation, dams, and modern irrigation in Pakistan. Must attend the tutorial session for further suggestions and mistakes.

10 **Conclusion:**

Essay:-

India - Pakistan Water Dispute - An Alarming Issue

Water, once considered a symbol of life and abundance, has now become a weapon of power and survival between India and Pakistan - two nuclear armed neighbors whose shared rivers are turning into a

source of hostility rather than harmony. Water is often described as the most precious resource on Earth, more valuable than oil or gold, because it is the very foundation of life. Yet in South Asia, water has transformed into a tool of rivalry, suspicion, and geopolitical struggle. The water dispute between India and Pakistan stands as one of the most alarming issues of the modern age, not only because it affects the survival of millions but also because it carries the dangerous potential to ignite conflict between two nuclear-armed nations. Since

No need to provide information in your introduction

they partition in 1947, both countries have been entangled in territorial disputes, wars, and political hostility, but among all these challenges, the battle over water remains the most existential. The Indus River system, stretching across the Himalayas and feeding the fertile plains of Punjab and

You are just providing me the information which isn't the asked part

Sindh, is the backbone of Pakistan's agriculture and economy. Nearly 90% of Pakistan's agriculture food production depends on these waters, while India too relies heavily on rivers for agriculture and energy. The Indus water Treaty of 1960, brokered by the World Bank, was once celebrated as a rare success of diplomacy between two hostile neighbors, dividing rivers between them and establishing mechanisms for dispute resolution. Yet six decades later,

the treaty is under strain, tested by India's construction of dams, Pakistan's fears of water scarcity, and the looming threat of climate change. The per capita water availability in Pakistan has already fallen from over 5000 cubic meters in 1951 to less than 1000 cubic

meters today, placing it among the most

Language is fine. water-stressed nations on earth. In this

content, the water dispute is not just a bilateral conflict but a matter of survival for Pakistan and a potential flashpoint for the entire region. The alarming

nature of this issue lies in its capacity to destabilize economies, destroy livelihoods, and fuel political hostility, making water a possible trigger for future war if not resolved through cooperation, sustainability, and mutual trust.

The roots of India-Pakistan water dispute date back to the partition of the subcontinent in 1947. Along with dividing land, populations, and armies, the two new states also inherited a shared river system. The Indus Basin, comprising six major rivers - Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej - was critical for both countries, particularly for Pakistan, where most of the irrigation canals constructed under British rule were dependent on headworks that fell on the Indian side of the border. In April 1948, India cut off water supplies from the Ferozepur headworks to Pakistan's canals, creating panic and highlighting Pakistan's vulnerability. Through a temporary agreement,

restored water, the incident exposed how water could be weaponized in bilateral disputes. After years of negotiations mediated by the World Bank, the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) was signed in 1960 by Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Pakistani

President Ayub Khan. The treaty allocated the three Eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) to India and three western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) to Pakistan, with provisions for India to use western rivers for non-consumptive purposes such as hydropower, provided it did not alter flows significantly. The treaty also created mechanisms for information exchange, inspections, and dispute resolution through a Permanent Indus Commission. At

the time, the IWT was hailed as a rare example of cooperation between two bitter rivals, praised for its durability even during wars in

1965, 1971 and 1999. Yet the passing decades, combined with political mistrust and environmental pressures, have turned the treaty into a contested arrangement rather than a symbol of peace.

The significance of the Indus Basin cannot be overstated, especially for Pakistan. Often described as the lifeline of the country, the Indus River System irrigates about 80% of Pakistan's cultivated land and supports nearly 90% of its food production.

Agriculture remains the backbone of Pakistan's economy, contributing 24% to GDP and employing over 40% of its labor force. Without the Indus, Pakistan's breadbasket regions of Punjab and Sindh would turn into barrenlands.

India too relies on the rivers of the Indus Basin, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab, for irrigation and hydro-power. The basin, therefore, sustains the

livelihoods of over 300 million people across both countries. As population growth, industrial expansion, and urbanization increase water demand, the significance of each drop of Indus water has multiplied. For Pakistan, which lies downstream and depends heavily on Western rivers, any reduction in flow poses existential risks, making the dispute not just about policy but about national survival.

Over the past two decades, points of contention have multiplied due to India's construction of dams and hydroelectric projects on the western rivers allocated to Pakistan. Projects such as the Baglihar Dam on the Chenab, the Kishanganga Hydropower Project on the Neelum-Jhelum tributary of the Jhelum, and the Ratle Dam have triggered disputes. Pakistan has repeatedly raised concerns that these projects allow India to manipulate water flow, particularly during sowing seasons, threatening its agriculture.

Although India insists that these projects comply with the treaty since they are for run-of-the-river hydropower and not storage, Pakistan remains unconvinced, fearing deliberate diversion of storage.

In 2007, Pakistan took the Baglihar case to a Neutral Expert appointed by the World Bank, who allowed India to make certain modifications but acknowledged Pakistan's concerns about design flaws.

Similarly in 2013, the International Court of Arbitration ruled against India's attempt to divert Kishanganga waters, ordering minimum flows to Pakistan.

These legal battles, while keeping disputes within the treaty framework, have also deepened mistrust, as Pakistan views India's dam-building spree as a strategic attempt to establish control over its lifeline.

The crisis is further worsened by climate change, which is reshaping the hydrology of the Indus Basin. The Himalayas, which feed the Indus River through

glacial melt initially increases flows, it will eventually lead to reduced river volumes in the long term. Meanwhile, unpredictable monsoon patterns have made floods and droughts more frequent. The 2022 Pakistan floods, which submerged one-third of the country and displaced 33 million people, are a stark reminder of the vulnerability of river systems to climate extremes. On the other hand, prolonged droughts in Sindh and Balochistan highlight the looming threat of water scarcity. According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Pakistan's per capita water availability has declined from 5,260 cubic meters in 1951 to less than 1000 cubic meters today, placing it below the water-scarcity threshold. India too faces growing water stress, but its upstream position give it leverage, intensifying Pakistan's fears of "water terrorism". Climate change,

therefore, has added a new dimension to the dispute, one the IWT did not originally account for.

The economic and agricultural impacts of water scarcity on Pakistan are severe. With its economy highly dependent on agriculture, any reduction in Indus flows directly threatens food security. Crops such as wheat, rice, sugarcane and cotton which are staples of Pakistan's economy, require consistent irrigation. A delay in canal water or reduction in flow can result in massive crop losses, translating into food shortages, unemployment and rural poverty. Water scarcity also undermines Pakistan's hydropower generation, contributing to its chronic energy crisis. Already facing rising inflation and declining productivity, Pakistan cannot afford further disruption. The Pakistan council of research in Water Resources has

warned that the country could run out of water by 2025 if urgent measures are not taken. The stakes are, therefore, existential, making the dispute an alarming national security issue rather than a mere environmental concern.

The political and security implications are equally dangerous. Pakistan has often accused India of using water as a weapon, particularly during periods of heightened tensions. After the Pulwama incident in 2019, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared that "blood and water cannot flow together," signalling India's willingness to leverage water as a strategic tool. While India has not abrogated the treaty, such statements amplify Pakistan's insecurity, raising fears of deliberate manipulation. For two nuclear armed states with a history of wars, turning water into a tool of pressure risks catastrophic consequences.

Analysts warn that future wars in South Asia may not be fought over territory like Kashmir but over control of rivers. The dispute therefore, is not just about hydrology but about peace and stability in a volatile region.

Despite these tensions, the Indus Water Treaty remains a rare symbol of resilience. It has survived wars, crises, and decades of hostility, thanks to its structured mechanism for dispute resolution. The Permanent Indus Commission and arbitration through World Bank has prevented disputes from escalating into wars. But the deep mistrust between India and Pakistan prevents genuine cooperation, as each side views water not as a shared resource but as a zero-sum game.

The way forward requires

both countries to recognize water as a matter of survival rather than politics. Strengthening the (IWR) to include climate change considerations, ground water management and updated mechanisms is essential. Joint water management, real-time data sharing, and cooperative projects such as flood forecasting and drought mitigation could transform water into a bridge of cooperation rather than a weapon of conflict. Regional organizations like SAARC and SCO could provide platforms for dialogue. At the national level, Pakistan must invest in water conservation, modern irrigation techniques and reservoir construction to reduce dependency. Public awareness campaigns on water wastage, along with technological innovation in agriculture, are crucial for long-term sustainability.

In conclusion, the India-Pakistan water dispute is not just a bilateral disagreement but an alarming issue with global implications. For Pakistan, water is a matter of survival, and any threat to its rivers is a threat to its existence. For India, upstream control offers leverage, but using it irresponsibly risks destabilizing the entire region. The future of peace, food security, and human survival in South Asia depend on how India-Pakistan manage their rivers.
