

General Instructions for attaining good marks in International Relations

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Out

Add IR theories and approaches as much as you can

QUESTION # 02

use IR jargons to differentiate it from Current affairs paper

NEO-NEO DEBATE

try reflecting IR concepts or words in your heading

INTRODUCTION

Neo neo debate is also known as the Third Great Debate of IR. This debate is between neorealism and neoliberalism. This debate adopts a positivist

Justify your arguments with at least 8-9 headings

structuralism approach and it has consensus over state being a the significant actor and 'international

Add current developments as an examples to support arguments

system' being anarchic. The neo-neo debate between neorealism and neoliberalism revolves around the question of 'how

add IR philosophers e.g. Morgenthau, Mearcheimer etc and their philosophies

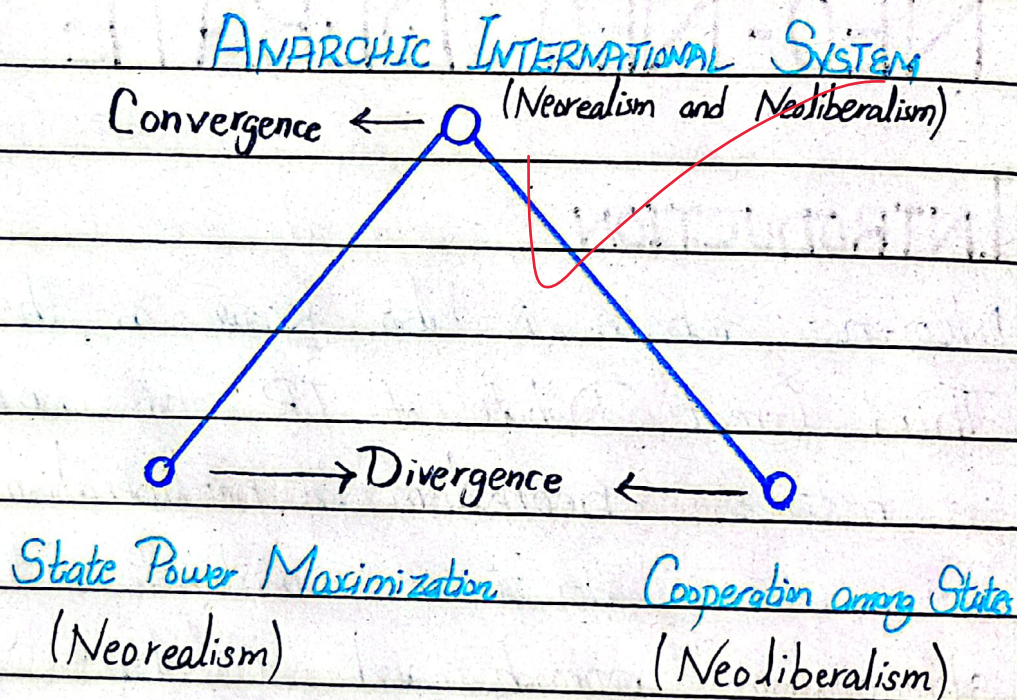
to address this anarchy' Neorealism advocates maximization of state power in anarchic international system while

add graphs charts and critical analysis for bonus marks

neoliberalism calls for cooperation between states to overcome anarchy

each question has 2 or 3 parts, give equal weightage to all parts

NEO-NEO DEBATE



→ The Great Debate: Power Maximization or Cooperation

The neo-neo debate is the difference between neorealism and neoliberalism on the way to deal with international anarchy. Both schools agree that state is the primary and unitary actor and international system is anarchic (lack of absolute authority above states).

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•> Neorealist Solution: Maximize the State Power

Neorealists propose the maximization of state power as the only way for states to survive in the anarchic international system. If a state relinquishes pursuit of power, it will not be able to survive in front of powerful states in anarchic international system.

•> Neoliberal Solution: Cooperation among States

Neoliberals propose cooperation among states as the plausible way to deal with the issue of anarchy in international system. The pursuit of power leads to persistent security dilemma and a never ending race of power acquisition.

COMPARATIVE STANCES ON DIFFERENT DIMENSION OF IR

→ Dimension # 01: International System

Neorealism and neoliberalism agree that international system is anarchic, meaning there exist power asymmetries between states and there is no absolute authority above states.

→ Dimension # 02: Significant Actor in International System

Neorealism and neoliberalism agree that state is the significant, primary and unitary actor of international system.

→ Dimension # 03: Impact of Cooperation

NEO-REALISM: Cooperation is not possible in the anarchic international system and it leads to loss of power

NEO-LIBERALISM: Cooperation is possible and desirable in anarchic international system and it leads to peace that may benefit all states

→ Dimension # 04: Focus of Study

NEO-REALISM: The focus of study of neorealism is areas of high politics such as military and security

NEO-LIBERALISM: The focus of study of neoliberalism is areas of low politics such as economy, human rights and diplomacy

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➤ Dimension # 05: Foreign Policy Approach

NEO-REALISM: The foreign policy approach of neorealism is dominated with the debates of national security and national interest.

NEO-LIBERALISM: The foreign policy approach of neoliberalism is focused on the globalization, interdependence, and common interest.

➤ Dimension # 06: Role of Institutions

NEO-REALISM: Neorealism only favours institutions if they serve purpose of relative gains and do not risk the national security of state.

NEO-LIBERALISM: It staunchly advocates necessity of institutionalism and calls for the creation of more and more institution (institutionalism) to get absolute gains.

Dimension # 07 : Question of War

NEO-REALISM : It views war as a mean to achieve power.

NEO-LIBERALISM : It views war as failure of cooperation designs and irrational.

CONCLUSION

The neo-neo debate between neo-realism and neoliberalism is also known as the third great debate of IR. It revolves around the difference on the solution to anarchy of international system. This difference of stance then transcends to different dimension of IR leading to the diversification of this debate.

QUESTION # 06

THEORIES OF IPE

INTRODUCTION No need to write.

Mercantilism, economic liberalism, and neo-marxism are theories of international political economy and hold different views on the state-market relation.

Protectionism is mercantilist ideal which advocates strict state control over market and protection of domestic industries. Economic liberalism advocates free market with minimal state interference. Whereas, neo-marxism offers critical and functionalist explanation contending that global elite class is the real shaper of global economic order and protectionism and economic liberalism are mere buzz words.

BRIEF DISCUSSION OF CONCEPTS

→ Protectionism

Protectionism is mercantilist tool of international political economy, wherein the state protects infant domestic industry against foreign competitors by imposing tariff on foreign goods and subsidizing the home local products.

⊛ The initiation of trade war by Donald Trump was protectionism.

→ Economic Liberalism

Economic liberalism advocates private sector-centralized economic system, wherein the market will be free from state interference and free movement of goods and capital without any tariff or non-tariff barriers.

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⊛ Scholars like Adam Smith and David Ricardo proposed and expand this theory of economy

➔ Neo-Marxism

Neo-Marxism is a critical and functionalist explanation of state-market relation, wherein it contends that global elite classes are the main actors which determine the global international economic order. It is neither the state nor the market which shapes the global economic order. The elite classes and their interests prevail over the role of state or market in the international economy. Neomarxist claim that global capitalist elite align with one another to usurp power.

ANALYSIS OF STATEMENT

→ Protectionism as Buzz Word

In the light of statement, protectionism is a buzz word. The global economic order is not about the interest of states but the interest of capitalist elite.

↳ CASE IN POINT :

Donald Trump, within few hours, after assuming presidency restored TikTok in the US. This decision was reportedly influenced by Elon Musk, which reveals that ban or ^{restoration} of TikTok was not actually about state interest but the wider economic interests of the capitalist elite.

• Economic Liberalism as a Buzz Word

In the light of the statement, economic liberalism is a buzz word.

It is not about the autonomy of the markets but the economic interests of the capitalist elite.

The elite wants free movement of goods and capital to maintain their economic hegemony worldwide.

↳ OXFAM REPORT :

An Oxfam report of 2017, estimated that eight men own the same wealth as the poorest half of world.

This reveals that the economic liberalism is a tool of capitalist elite to manifold their wealth through 'free market' narrative.

→ Neo-Marxism as Real Shaper of Economic Order

Neo-Marxism is the real shaper of global international economic order, wherein the capitalist class interest camouflaged as 'national interest' in mercantilism and 'common interests' in economic liberalism prevail. Through the propagandist information strategy, the global capitalist elite align with one another to usurp power.

CONCLUSION

Protectionism and economic liberalism are ^{mere} buzz words since neither state interests nor market interests but the global capitalist elite's interests shape the global economic order as contended by neo-Marxism.

QUESTION # 02

ENGLISH SCHOOL & FUKUYAMA'S THESIS

INTRODUCTION

The English School's thesis of evolution of international society and Francis Fukuyama's thesis of end of history are often criticized as agenda-driven discourses. The English School contends that the international society has evolved over time that led to the creation of a value-driven system of cooperation. Whereas, Fukuyama presented thesis at the end of cold war that the western system of liberalism and capitalism emerged victorious and now it will prevail forever (end of history). These theses are rooted in

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the western political thought and reflect an inherent bias.

ENGLISH SCHOOL'S THESIS

The English School proposed that the society has evolved over time and resulted in the formation of a value driven - system of cooperation by consensus of multiple states to achieve their common interests.

MAIN SCHOLARS:

- Hedley Bull
- Mark Anley
- George Brown

BENEFITS :

The English School contended that the economic system of capitalism, political system of democracy and legal system of positivist law yield

following benefits:-

↳ AVERSTON OF WARS

The value-driven system led to a significant reduction in the frequency of wars.

↳ PACTA SUNT SURVENDA

The value-driven system in the shape of pacta-sunt-servenda resulted in broader honour of commitments.

⊛ This model will lead to full globalization of world.

FUKUYAMA'S THESIS

His theory name

Francis Fukuyama proposed the thesis of End of History, which contended that the western political and economic system emerged triumphant in the

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cold war. Hence, the history (on the issue of best order) has ended and now there will be no formidable challenge to the western global order (i.e., liberal international order).

COMMENT ON STATEMENT

It is right that the English School's thesis of evolution of international society and Fukuyama's thesis of end of history seem to be agenda-driven reflecting an inherent bias, over-generalization and universalization of western ideas.

↳ THE INHERENT BIAS

The two theses reflect an inherent bias and tilt towards the western system and values. These

theses regard the western system and values as superior. This inherent bias questions the credibility of the assumptions of the two theses and it seems that they are agenda-driven discourses, not the academic constructs.

↳ GENERALIZATION AND UNIVERSALIZATION

The two theses over-generalize and universalize the western system of values by terming them as global system of values. The western ideas of politics like democracy and liberalism are termed as global political values whereas the ideas of capital economy of west like capitalism are termed as global economic system.

↳ LACK OF RELATIVISM OF IDEAS

The two theses disregard the cultural and political relevance of these ideas in different setting. The two theses consider these ideas as the only panacea to the problem of whole world regardless of spatial and temporal variables.

CONCLUSION

The English School's thesis and Fukuyama's ideas seem to be agenda-driven discourses rather than academic constructs and reflect a bias towards the western ideals and systems.