

# General Instructions for attaining good marks in International Relations

Add IR theories and approaches as much as you can

use IR jargons to differentiate it from Current affairs paper

try reflecting IR concepts or words in your heading

no need to apply all theories in one question but one or two that may justify your arguments

Justify your arguments with at least 3-4 headings

Add current developments as an examples to support arguments

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

add graphs charts and critical analysis for bonus marks

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

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QNO. 2 :

→ INTRODUCTION:

World War I ended leaving various reasons for the global community to engage in cooperation and disarmament following liberal models rather than realist model of arms race and balance of power. However, some deep holes in the edifice of world was along with egoistic nationalism on part of various global leaders created such hostilities that it turned the global war

0) KEY ISSUES POST WW-I RESULTING IN WW-II

→ Shift of International Political Community towards Nationalism:

Although Woodrow Wilson had greatly emphasized on globalization of the international political community during the Treaty of Versailles (1919), however the provocative reparations, one sided penalties and egoistic leadership lead to a more nationalistic world order. For instance Hitler in Germany was on the mission of "Restoring the glory of fatherland", while Japan was busy in expansion in the Asian

continent. All these efforts were triggered by Nationalistic approach. Nationalism is basically unilateralism with confined and rigid ideologies focusing on promotion of national interest, least global interaction and penetration, hard power, strengthening military capabilities and ethno-centric beliefs. All these components were strong across the globe post world war - I.

→ Realist Leaders Guiding the Nations :

Aggressive leaders with realist tendencies took over the emerging global powers in the post WW-I scenario. Realist leaders are characterized by maximization of military power for national interest along with totalitarian norms enforced through fascism and brutality in domestic as well as international affairs.

- Mussolini in Italy
- Hitler in Germany
- Stalin in USSR

These communists and fascist leaders were proponents of war rather than peace thus the resulting WW-II was an expected outcome.

"Death of one man is a tragedy, death of million men is a statistic"  
- Stalin

## → Faults in League of Nations leading to World War II:

The concept of sovereignty is bounded by territoriality, as per some theorists. Thus the loss of territory is also considered a hit to national sovereignty as the state can not exercise authority in these areas. As per the clauses of League of Nations, Germany has to give away with 13% of Europe its land along with non-militarization condition in Rhineland.

Moreover Italy was not given the due share of land promised by Allied powers in World War I. These resentments and grievances lead to revengeful emotions and thus World War II's start with attack on Poland by Germany.

## → Failure of League of Nations and Paris Peace Conference:

The key organizations and pacts carried out after world war I lacked the essential components of institutionalism given by Immanuel Kant. For instance League of Nations lacked democracy post-war since Germany felt solely accused for World War I, leading to feelings of revenge.

Additionally, these organizations lacked proper scrutiny and supervision with

no fixed penalties in case of offense of any regulation. This was exploited by Germany and Japan in their attacks on Rhineland and Manchuria respectively, along with Italy's invasion on Ethiopia.

### → The Wall Street Crash and Rise of Far Right Generating War Revenue:

The great depression, that persisted for a decade, started in 1929 with the crash of wall street stock markets. At that time of crisis, the far right leaders emerged with the constructivist approach. They reinforced nationalistic ideals and promised to uphold national economic interest, even by force, if necessary. These leaders, as mentioned before, Mussolini, Hitler and Stalin, led world to war and thus by 1939 when war started to boom, the economic depression also started to subside with weapon factories and troop recruitment at peak.

### → CONCLUSION :

These were some of the key issues that were left unchecked post World War I and this led to World War II. The current international community hopes

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that the world leaders would learn from the history and will not repeat the same mistakes in the coming times, with promotion of peace, stability and cooperation rather than boasting muscle strength and rigidity.

Q NO. 4 :

⇒ INTRODUCTION :

After cold war, the world became primarily <sup>unipolar</sup> unilateral with hegemony of US and the west-led world order. However, globalization strengthened multiple world economies, who are now trying to shift the global great game from unipolarity to multipolarity. These are various triggers leading to multipolarity i.e. nationalism, global north vs global south, economic power shift, regional power assertion and climate related issues. Thus multipolarity is a vivid reality rather than a myth.

o) MULTIPOLARITY : A MYTH OR REALITY?

Multipolarity is a reality which is shaped by multiple factors which are explained below :

## o) Balance of Power:

"Those who scoff at 'balance-of-power-diplomacy', should know that with absence of balance of power, there is an imbalance of power — and history has showed as that there is nothing so drastically escalates as an imbalance of power."

— US President Nixon

When the emerging global economies i.e. Russia and China became sceptical of US as the sole global power, they started strengthening their political, military, technological and diplomatic domains thus triggering multipolarity.

## o) Historical Reference:

Initially, the global civilizations lived in the form of city-states. With the advancements in military domain, some nations became power-ful against others i.e. the ottoman empire. As a result, multipolarity was evoked when revolts and uprisings started against the ottoman empire e.g. the Balkan wars along with

Britain and Italian Nationalism.

## 0) TRIGGERS OF REVIVAL OF MULTIPOLARITY :

### 0) STRONG REGIONAL INSTITUTIONALIZATIONS :

Some regional institutes are rising by following principles of Immanuel Kant, ~~these~~ e.g. ASEAN, SCO and BRICS+ - These strong regional organizations are challenged the US-led world order i.e. European Union and QUAD e.t.c.

### 0) Global South vs Global North:

Global South led by ~~Global~~ China is becoming stronger with time to counter the hegemony of Global North i.e. US and UK e.t.c. Their independent economic and diplomatic basis are effective to counter western hegemony.

### 0) Climate related issues require Multipolarity:

Global issues such as climate change and global warming

require cooperation and input from all nations across the globe. These issues can't be catered by singularity rather the whole world needs to join hands for effectiveness. This concept is core of liberalism, thus opposing unipolarity.

### o) Nationalism of states:

States have started practicing Nationalism instead of globalization. i.e. America first, Chinese shift to indigenous-marketing and Russian expansion etc. These values are shifting the world from ~~un~~ unipolarity to multipolarity with multiple nations working solely for their own national interest.

### o) CONCLUSION:

The above discussion proves that ~~multipolarity~~ is not a myth but reality and major powers want a shift of global order from unipolarity to multipolarity, which is beneficial for most nations rather than a specific few.