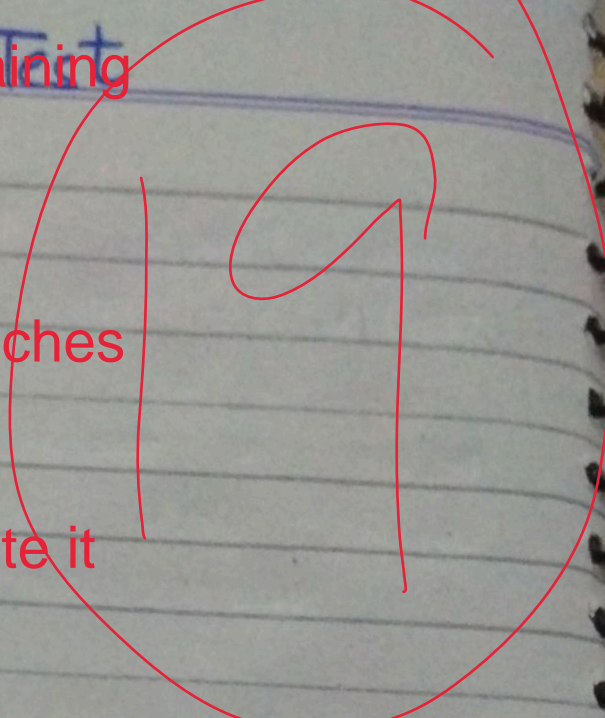


General Instructions for attaining good marks in International Relations

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Batch: 378
Subject: IR
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Date: 22nd Jan-25



Add IR theories and approaches as much as you can

use IR jargons to differentiate it from Current affairs paper

Part III

try reflecting IR concepts or words in your heading

Q4:-

What are the main triggers of Realist myth?

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

Ans 1

Introduction?

Justify your arguments with at least 8-9 headings

Add current developments as an examples to support arguments

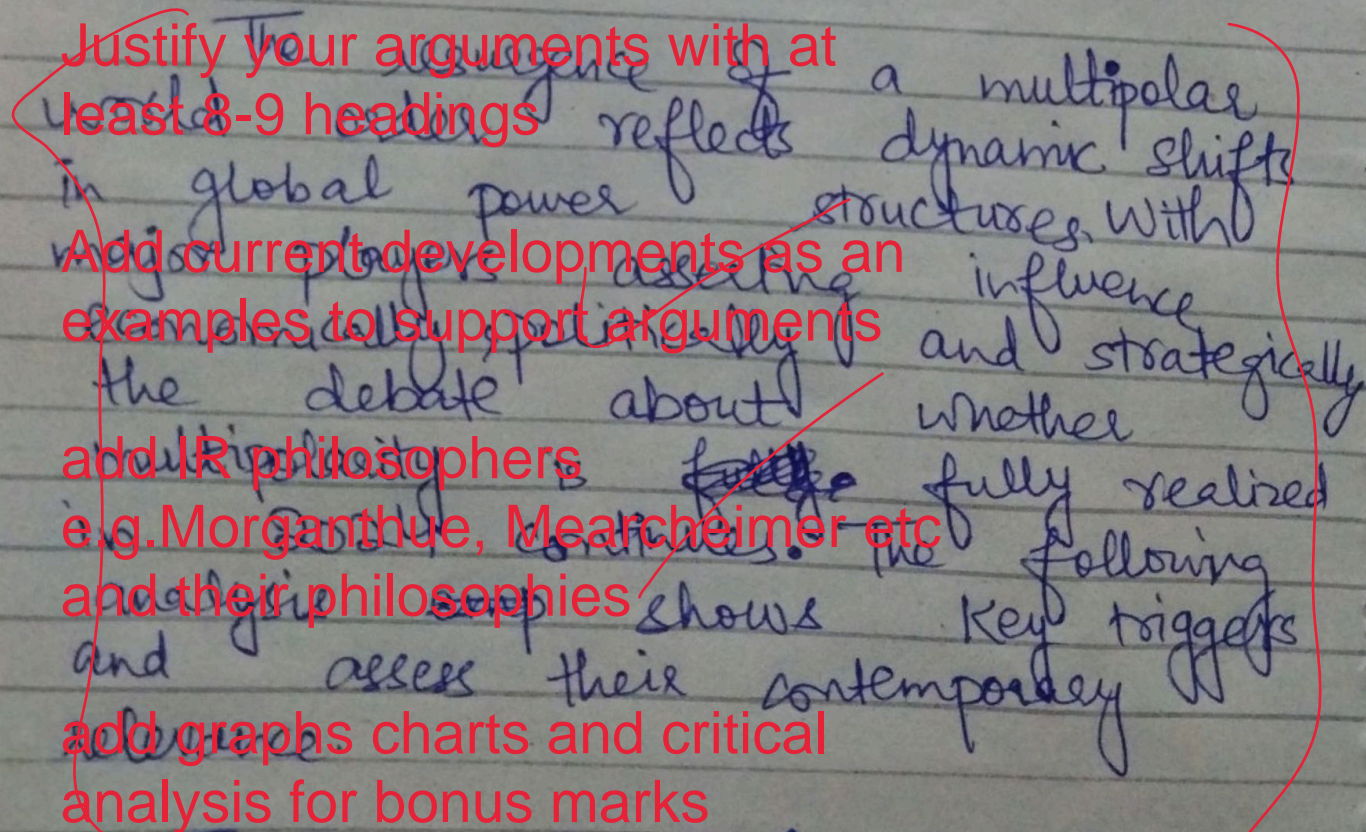
add IR philosophers e.g. Morgenthau, Mearcheimer etc and their philosophies

add graphs charts and critical analysis for bonus marks

1. Economic Rise of New Powers:

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

Unfold 58-



Neoliberal institutionalism highlights the importance of interdependence and economic realignment in shaping global order. The economic dominance of China, India and ASEAN countries has diminished the unipolar hold of the US-led order. For e.g. by 2024, India's GDP growth outpaced many G20 nations while China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) expanded to Latin America. Economist Kishore Mahbubani describes this as the

“irreversible shift towards an Asian country”

2- Regional Aspirations: Reassertion of Sovereignty and Influence

According to realism, states pursue power to enhance their ~~power~~ position in an anarchic global system. This is one of the triggers that led to the multipolar world. Regional powers such as Russia, Turkey and Saudi Arabia are shaping their regions by challenging Western norms. In contemporary world, Russia continued influence in Ukraine and

Turkey's assertive foreign policy in NATO align with realist pursuits of regional dominance. The shift to BRICS+ in 2024 adding countries like Saudi Arabia reflects multipolar consolidation!

3 - Decline of US Hegemony: From Unilateralism to Reluctance

Constructivism highlights the role of ideas and identity in shaping global power dynamics. The US's internal divisions, global military overstretch and declining legitimacy have reduced its dominance. The US retreat from Afghanistan in 2021 and its limited influence in containing the Ukraine war emphasize its diminishing ability to unilaterally steer global affairs. As historian Niall Ferguson noted,

"The US no longer writes the rules; others do."

4- Institutional Weaknesses: A Liberal Critique of Global Governance-

Liberalism advocates for strong institutions to stabilize global order yet their failures expose vulnerabilities. The ineffectiveness of UN and WTO in addressing crises like the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukraine war eroded trust in global governance. A case in study is China and Russia's expanded influence through initiatives like Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) filling institutional gaps. Even vaccine diplomacy after COVID 19 further solidified multipolarity.

In conclusion, the world appears increasingly multipolar shaped by economic redistribution, regional dynamics and institutional evolution. As Fareed Zakaria observed,

⁶⁶ the rise of others is not a myth; it's history in the making."

Q3:-

Decolonization - - - - -
Comment.

Ans 3s-

Decolonization in Asia and Africa during the mid-20th century was not a benevolent choice by colonial powers but a necessity driven by multiple pressures. Rooted in liberal and realist perspectives of international relations, this analysis explores how economic strain, global ideologies, and rising nationalist movements compelled the retreat of colonial regimes.

1- Global Ideologies and the Rise of Self-Determination:

Liberalism suggests the importance of the role of norms, institutions and collective action in shaping international behaviors. The global acceptance of self-determination supported by international institutions pressured colonial

powers. Post-war liberal ideologies coupled with the UN charter's emphasis on sovereignty made decolonization morally and politically imperative. For e.g. Bandung Conference 1955 unified newly independent nations to demand decolonization leveraging the principles of liberal institutionalism.

2- Economic Decline and the Cost of Empire:

Post World War II economic crises left colonial powers unable to sustain their empires. Devasted economies in Europe led to resource allocation towards reconstruction rather than maintaining colonies. Realism emphasizes material resources and cost-benefit calculations framing economic pressures as a determinant of decolonization. For e.g. Britain's withdrawal from India in 1947 was influenced by economic exhaustion as Lord Mountbatten admitted that "holding India was no longer

financially viable.

Must work on your presentation

3- Geopolitical Pressures and Superpower Rivalries:-

Realism suggests that geopolitical competition as a driver of strategic decision making. The Cold War made decolonization a strategic move for Western powers to counter Soviet Influence. Supporting decolonization allowed the West to align with emerging states against communism. For e.g. US support for decolonization in Asia, like the Philippines in 1946 was driven by strategic Cold War considerations.

4- Nationalist Movements and the Crisis of Legitimacy

Indigenous nationalist movements rendered colonial governance untenable. Constructivism highlights how changing identities and anti-colonial ideologies delegitimized colonial power. Mass protests, uprisings and guerrilla warfare destabilized colonial rule and tarnished its

legitimacy. For e.g. The Mau Mau rebellion in Kenya (1952-1960) forced Britain to reconsider the cost of holding its colonies.

Decolonization was a multifaceted compulsion shaped by economic, ideological and geopolitical pressures. A Frantz Fanon stated,

“Colonialism is not a machine capable of thinking; it is violence in its natural state.”

In short, the retreat of colonial powers marked a turning ~~power~~ point in global history with the impact of realist, liberal and constructivist principles evident in colonization.

Q 8:-

Explain cause

Q 8a):-

Ukraine-Russia War

Ans 8 a):-

Ukraine-Russia War:-

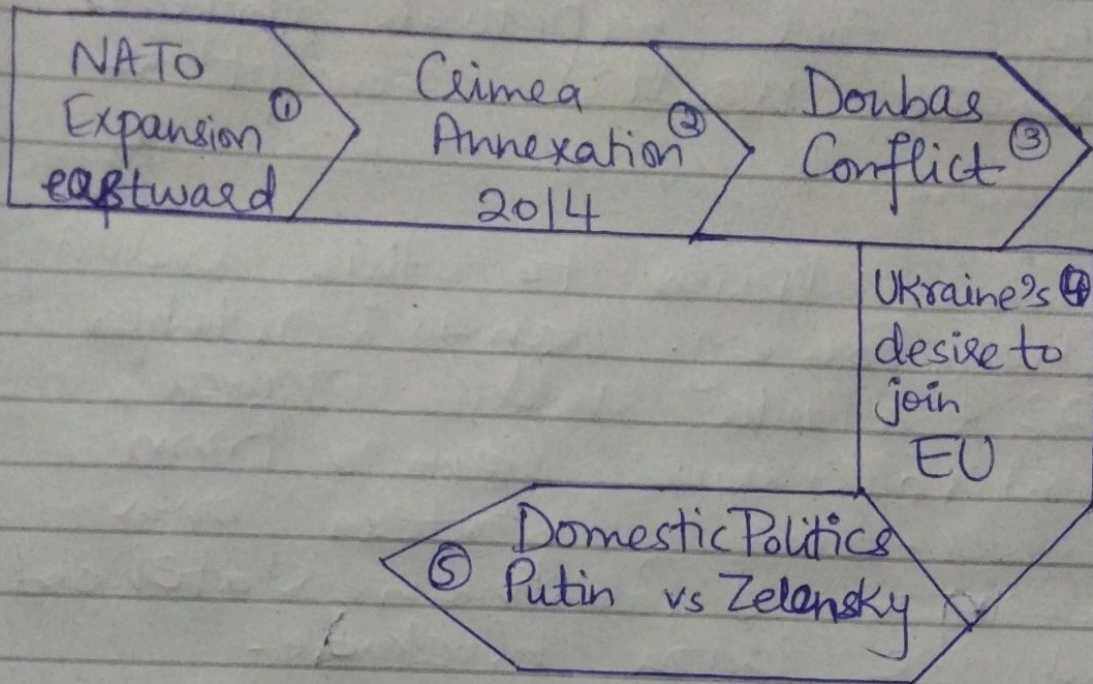
The Ukraine-Russia conflict reflects a realist struggle for power and territorial dominance in an anarchic system. Realism as articulated by John Mearsheimer emphasizes security dilemmas and power balancing. Russia's actions are rooted in survival instincts fearing Western encroachment. For e.g. Russia-Ukraine conflict reflects a realist struggle for power and territorial dominance in an anarchic system.

EXAMPLE:-

Russia's annexation of Crimea (2014) and the 2022 invasion of Ukraine aimed to prevent NATO's eastward expansion which threatened Moscow's strategic buffer. According to a report published by RAND in 2022,

“Russia perceives NATO's actions as existential threats, justifying its

offensive maneuvers. ³



Cause of Russia-Ukraine War

~~Q 8 b)~~ Q 8 b):-

Ans Q 8 b):-

Israel - Hamas War:-

~~Q 8 b)~~

1- From the perspective of Constructivism:-

The Israel - Hamas war is driven by entrenched identity politics, historical grievances and contested

sovereignty, & Constructivism highlights how shared ideas, history and identity fuel perpetual conflicts. Alexander Wendt's concept of "anarchy is what states make of it" applies to this enduring hostility. For e.g. Hamas's October 2023 attack and Israel's counteroffensive stem from decades-long disputes over ~~Palestine~~ Palestinian statehood and the Gaza blockade.

According to a report of Brookings Institution, "The absence of a two state solution perpetuates cycles of violence".

2- Israel - Hamas War ; From the lens of Critical Theory:-

This theory focuses on the power dynamics and inequalities that shape international relations. From a critical theory perspective, the conflict is a product of historical injustice and power imbalance. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is rooted in the displacement

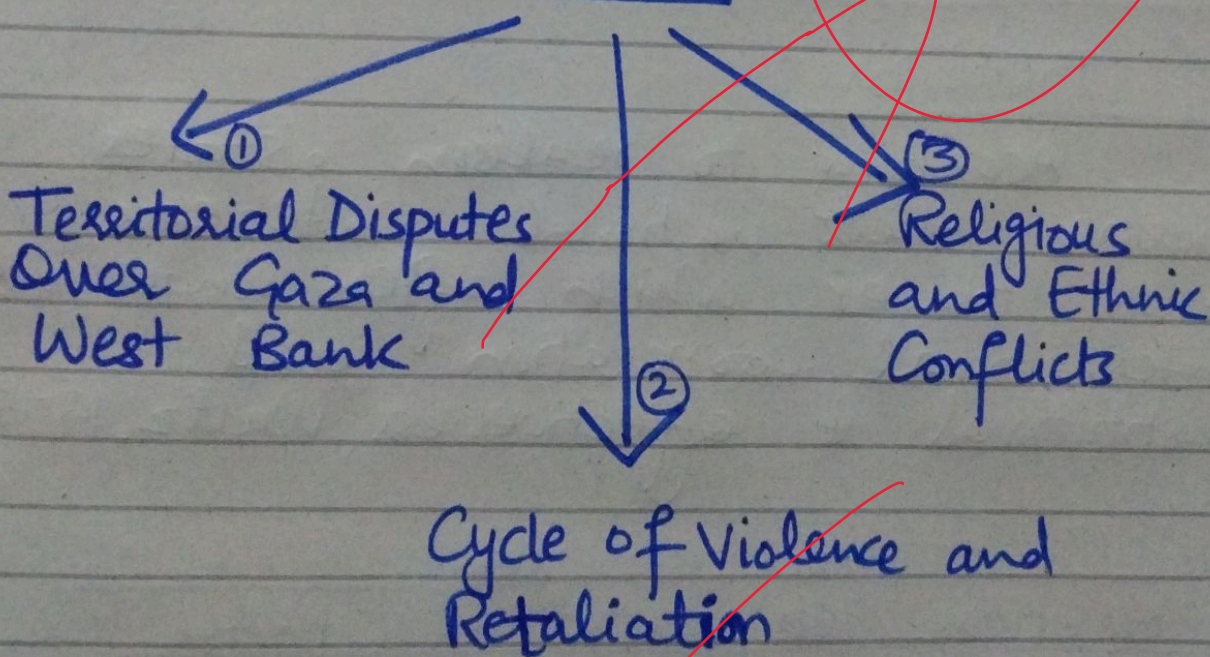
and dispossession of Palestinians during the creation of Israel.

3. Realism:-

From a realist perspective, the conflict can be seen as a struggle for power and security between two actors in a region with limited resources and competing claims.

Israel-Hamas War:

Causes



Q7:-

The latest inclusion in the list
..... reforms.

Ans 78-

The UN's Failure and Need for Reforms:-

The UN's inability to prevent genocide in Gaza is rooted in structural flaws particularly the veto system of the Security Council which prevents timely humanitarian interventions.

• UN's Failure from the Perspective of Realism :-

According to realism, states prioritize their national interests and power which often undermines international cooperation and institutional effectiveness (Waltz, 1979).

• UN's Failure from the lens of Kantian ~~to~~ Perpetual Peace Triangle :-

This model calls for a reformed global governance system where international cooperation is based on shared norms focusing on

peace and collective action, and rule of law.

• Contemporary Example: Gaza Genocide:-

The Gaza conflict illustrates the failure of the UN to act decisively due to veto power exercised by major powers prioritizing their interests over global moral imperatives.

• Recommendations:-

Kantian Model suggests the following reforms:-

- Reform the Security Council by introducing more democratic voting processes

- Reducing veto power.

In short, the Perpetual Peace triangle provides a solid foundation for reshaping the UN's role in addressing global crises.