

General Instructions for attaining good marks in International Relations

Day: _____

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Add IR theories and approaches as much as you can

SUBJECTIVE
PART-II
ANSWER-4

use IR jargons to differentiate it from Current Affairs paper

REVIVAL OF MULTIPOLAR
WORLD ORDER

try reflecting IR concepts or words in your heading

Introduction

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

The unequal capabilities of states result in the formation of poles. Since the disintegration of USSR, the global order has been based on

Justify your arguments with at least 8-9 headings

unipolarity. The United States existed as a single superpower, the sole hegemon of the world.

Add current developments as an examples to support arguments

Recently certain powers - economic and strategic have declined the influence

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

of United States. Concurrently, China has grabbed the opportunity to takeover global markets. Expansionist

add graphs charts and critical analysis for bonus marks

Putin put-up his decade agenda and emerging multipolarity began.

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

(1) MAIN TRIGGERS OF MULTIPOLARITY:

The driver of emerging multipolarity are diverse. The rise of China is marked by "economic liberalism" while the resurgence of Russia has been associated to "defensive realism."

Apart from both these countries, India emerged as a regional superpower and so it European states.

(2) USA's Initiation of War on Terror:

The downfall of America is marked by its failed war in Afghanistan. A superpower seized power from Taliban, continued war for 11 years only to hand power back to the same Taliban.

~~Bush Doctrine functioned on the construct that there was no bigger harm to USA than Terrorism.~~

~~A whopping sum of \$1.5 Trillion has been spent on the aimless war.~~

~~(3) Economic Setbacks of WOT:~~

~~When USA was focused in pursuing its offensive realist agendas and creating weapons and bombs, China got the much needed breathing space to set up industry and seize markets vacated or unattended by USA.~~

~~China has used its population as a strength and driven on a economy-focused growth model.~~

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Eventually, the USA also became increasingly dependent on Chinese exports. Both share over \$350 Billion as pending or deficit payment by USA.

A superpower drowned in debt loses relevance.

(4) Construct of WMDs & loss of credibility:

In 2003, the CIA reported Iraq to host massive amounts of weapons of Mass Destruction.

It was a propaganda to remove Saddam Hussain.

Numerous instances, extra-territorial interventions have resulted in other members of International System to lose credibility in the hegemon.

It has superseeded its powers and created insecurity.

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(5) Failure of Financial Institutions ~ Great Depression:

Post ww-II, the International Financial Institutions were headed by United States. After the failure of League of Nations, this system guaranteed economic stability.

Unfortunately, 2007-2008 marked a recession in Europe that soon translated to "Great Depression".

The decline in industrial growth, destabilized global markets and Dollar Rate Fluctuations; all contributed to loss of states in USA.

(6) BRICS: Challenge to G-7:

Russia and China collaborated with India, Brazil

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and South-Africa to rise as the leading voice of global south.

This is a major blow to "Dependency Theory" of Periphery on Core Countries.

Also, BRICS countering and expanding gives the States of global south a fair chance to realize the intricacies of "Brandt Line".

(7) Russian Rise under Realist Putin:

The Russian President, Mr Putin is a true "offensive realist". He operates on the notion of 'Might is Right' and is focused on weaponisation of Russia. This reiterates the arms Race and leads to Security dilemma.

(8) Multipolarity: Myth or Reality?

It is pertinent that United States still remains the leading economy (~~\$26~~ Trillion) and security/military power.

Not to mention the sovereign recognition of a hegemon that it attracts. But involving in Russia and Gaza all at once, China's economic rise and Russian revisionist ideas; the global order is not stable.

A stable actor in politics is always calm. The US's new president Trumps rhetoric speed of finishing tasks and ending pacts certainly triggers various possibilities.

"For one Empire to Rise
Another one has to

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Fall.

”

So, for Emergent Multipolar order; the unipolar order has to finish. Today, we see China at all seven choke points, China backing Russia in Eastern Europe, China in Asia, China leading BRICS and SCO.

Eventually, the blurred unipolar order shall collapse. Multipolar world would rise and accommodate all.

Not addressed properly

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ANSWER: 8
(A)
UKRAINE-RUSSIA
WAR

INTRODUCTION:

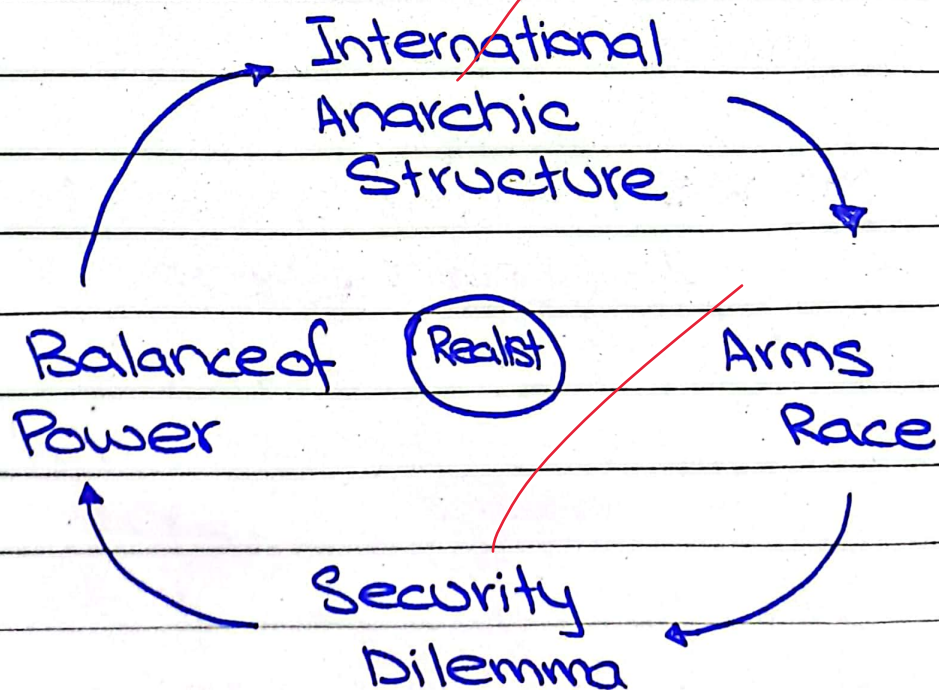
Russia invaded Ukraine on 8th February 2022. Multiple reasons are linked to such brutal use and display of force. Major ones include the Expansion of NATO, Putin's hegemonic aims and Ukraine's tilt towards the European Union.

(1) NATO Expansion - USA's Offensive Tactics:

When USSR dismantled in 1991, Washington had extended promise to not expand NATO eastwards. Ever since, US hegemonic agendas

have downsized the commitment and several attempts to geographically contain Russia and place NATO troops at its borders. This reflects the truest depictions of Arms Race and offensive Realist agendas between both.

NATO's presence would create insecurity for Russia and both US and Russia would indulge in a vicious power cycle.



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Rightly so, Projection of NATO created insecurity for statism and survival of Russia.

“The security of one instills a feeling of insecurity in the other.”

(2) Trump's Sweeping Statements:

During Invasion, Donald Trump made explicit remarks to Russian counterpart. Neo-realist Putin vs Liberal Biden was manageable but only without Trump's use of offensive facts.

Indeed, both leaders have operated on Morgenthau's "amoral" political ideals.

(3) Putin's Neo-Realist Agendas:

The Russian President as a reactionary attempt at use of force captured Kiev.

If it were not for his egoist ideas of survival, he could have opted for negotiation or conditioning.

Putin is definitely competitive when it comes to internal and external domains with respect to USA.

(4) Liberal Ukraine:

Ukraine, the largest wheat producer and exporter to Europe back then desired FTA's with EU and lower tariffs. EU Membership was also on agenda for Zelensky.

This liberalist and

free-market approach disturbed
the power politicians - USA &
Russian Presidents.

Conclusion:

Russian invasion
of Ukraine was a result of
several attempts on "maximization
of power" and pursuit of
power for National Interests.

Indeed Realist
School based on Power
Maximization and expansionist
agenda.

"Power Maximization lie
at core of agenda of
Great Powers for
influence."

- John F. Kennedy
- Tragedy of Great
Power Politics

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(B) Israel-Hamas War

Introduction:

Israel-Hamas War was initiated on October 7, 2023 when Hamas launched an all out war on Israel via land, water and airstrikes.

It was an unprepared for attack based on years of grief and irredentist claims of Israel. The conflict is based on unequal capabilities of both states but Realist ideology.

Hamas longed for survival through self-help principles to maintain resistance.

" Statism of Gaza (Hamas) relied upon survival against

IDF and its relied
on self-help for it "

(1) Alliance System Navigating War:

Hamas is a non-state militant organisation. It is heavily dependent on Iran for financial and strategic assistance.

Israel, on contrary, has strong alliance with United States of America.

Biden administration has aided over \$30 Billion to Israel. Genocide Biden is the name given to him by adversaries.

(2) Building of Military Muscles:

Hamas operated from a land that was devoid

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of basic components like cement for over a decade. How could they possibly possess the bombs, those missiles and what not.

The answer lies in the tunnels, made of concrete that provided them safe heavens for supplies.

They have built up military muscles.

(3) Ideological Reasons:

The Hamas-Israel conflict has its roots in war between Zionist and Muslim ideologies.

The construct of opposing beliefs drive this war. The subjectivity of ideologies takes the conflict no where.

(4) Western Propaganda- a post-modernist view:

When rockets over 1000, were fired by Hamas, the western Media propagated it as grave disrespect of sovereignty of Israel and its territorial borders.

The narrative gained fame only until images of ruins in the Gaza Strip generated an anti-genocide sentiment in the west.

The warfare of today is marked by **Social Media and discourses.**

(5) Critical Theorists View:

One of the cause is "irrendentist claims of Jews on their promised lands."

Critical theorists navigate this claim as a

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over-simplified context. The Jews want their land back and Muslims desire
Emancipation of Mosque Al-Aqsa
~~Theorists~~ Theorists are skeptical of truth.

CONCLUSION:

The Israel-Hamas conflict is based on Realist Scenario. There is ample ground for role of Post-Modern ideas and also, social constructs.

It is a comprehensive yet complex paradox.

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ANSWER: 7 UN AND Genocide in Gaza

(1) Insight to UN's Purpose:

United Nations came into being on 25th October 1945. It was a global institution aimed at promoting and ensuring peace all over the world, discussing key agendas and resorting to non-violent punishments using the Security Council Resolution Mechanism.

" UN is a supra-national International Governmental Organisation with over 143 Member Countries "

(2) UN's Failure: Genocide in Gaza:

The scenario of the world's Middle-East in particular post 7 October 2023 has been nothing short of war. There have been grave violations of "UN Charter" and Principles laid under it.

2.1: Sovereignty of Territory:

UN failed to protect the sanctity and territorial sovereignty of the Gaza Strip, Lebanon and even West Bank.

2.2: Human Rights Breaches:

What occurred in Gaza was genocide. Nobody was exempted. Children attacked, civilians bombed. Tunnels that were shelter areas were burned.

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No food supply or water availability prevailed. All hospitals and universities have been exploded. Pregnant women were raped. The worst Human Rights crushing was witnessed but United Nations chose silence.

2.3: UN SC Resolution Vetoed by USA:

The organisational structure of UN is such a flawed one that when South Africa filed a case against Israel and it got majority vote to be passed as a resolution, USA; the global leader of Human Rights vetoed it and it went to drain! There is no bigger failure than "Veto" in UN Structure.

2.4: Non-Binding Ruling of ICJ:

Similar to the exemption of Putin, the Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu remains free even after being declared a culprit of Human Rights violation by ICJ, the supposedly Highest Organ to uphold Justice in the world.

(3) Inefficient International Law:

The base of UN Charter is the International Law. It has terribly failed in Gaza-Hamas Conflict.

The following elements of Law failed:

- 1- International Law of War (IHL)
- 2- International Human Rights Law.
- 3- Geneva Conventions.

This is not the first time UN failed. It failed in protecting Iraqis and Afghans back in the years 2001 and 2003; it failed during genocide in Burma and it continues its legacy of failure.

(4) Recommended Reforms for UN.

Considering the life of inhabitants of 193 countries, UN must bring necessary reforms (both structural and agenda based) to ensure the lack of future failures.

4.1: Security Council Reforms:

Observation predicts that most urgent reforms should be brought

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in the security council in general, and Veto Power in Particular.

Scenario 1: Completely Abolish Veto and Shift on Majority SC Vote

Option 2: Devise a Rotation Mechanism for P-5 Members

Option 3: Propose a majority rule in same veto. Add 1 state for evenness.

Option 4: Include equal Permanent Representation of Global North and Global South

4.2 Shifting to a Binding Legal Mechanism:

United Nations must reform existant ICJ or create a new "judicial organ" that is binding on all members.

Incase a member state does not accept such supra-judicial body, it must be expelled from the UN.

4.3 Inclusiveness in UN:

Overall, Global South Nations must be equally incorporated into the decision-making parts of United Nations

4.4: No Tolerance Policy for Genocide:

UN must formulate a zero-tolerance policy for genocide.

The UN must be allowed to call an urgent General Assembly session, decide a conflict resolution mechanism with majority vote and intervene in the attacking state.

Conclusion:

UN must live upto expectations of being a global organisation. With strict legislation and administrative / structural reforms, UN can be made to serve peace eternally.

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ANSWER: 2 POST WW-I ISSUES

Introduction:

The First World war ended in 1919 when the allied powers turned victorious against the central powers. It was followed by the creation of "League of Nations", the first ever flagbearer of liberal global institutionalism. Certain injustices like Versailles Treaty and the "over-Westernization of the world." British policy of splendid isolationism also left hegemonic vacuum in Europe.

The interwar period (1919-1938) were marked by various territorial changes that resulted in WW-II.

(1) Treaty of Versailles: Realist View:

The most harsh treaty of Versailles was imposed on Germany. The treaty had such clauses as to cripple the existence of Germany.

Limit Troops
to 150,000
only

Heavy Reparation
\$500 Million
Dollars

Harshness
of Versailles

Possession of
no submarine,
war-ship

Give-up of
weapons. Own
only limited

In the realist perspective Versailles ended German participation in arms race hence, disrupting the entire European Balance of Power.

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(2) Territorial Shifts:

It also marked the return of Alsace Lorraine to France. The Balkan states were independent and so was Poland.

Power over territory that Germans possessed was crushed and they were diplomatically isolated from the rest of Europe.

(3) League of Nations Failed:

United States and major states refused to take part in the league of nations. Under "Hegemonic Stability Theory", there was no over-arching power to carry course of League so it failed and chaos reemerged.

(4) Economic Isolation:

Another significant cause of ww-II was that European intra-state trade was not smooth or well-administered.

Under lens of "economic liberalism", it was this economic isolation and lack of interdependence that caused chaos and turned ww-II.

(5) Great Depression:

What worsened the scenario further was global great depression of 1930s.

Neo-Marxist Economic Order prevailed. The core states survived but the periphery collapsed due to Paul Prebisch's Dependency Theory. The economic vulnerability caused inclination

towards violence.

(6) Rise of Fascist Ideology ~ Classical Realist View:

In Italy, emerged Fascism. Mussolini's Garibaldi were realists at the core.

They were immoral and ego-driven. The sole idea was centred on maximization of power.

(7) Critical Lens ~ resurgence of German Nationalism:

Germany was devastated to say the least. Their leaders particularly the hardcore realist Hitler and his Nazi Ideology (Anschluss) combined with his hatred for Jews (competitive nature) instilled a vision into the

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Germans. It united them under the umbrella of Pan-German Nationalism or Nazism.

Conclusion:

It was indeed realists core tenet that brought about ww-ii.

The desire to maximize power and resources and engage in war.

"Mankind must put an end to war or war will put an end to mankind."

-John F. Kennedy