

GENERAL FEEDBACK FOR ESSAYS

Content (40%)

Your interpretation should be in depth, comprehensive and academic. Always address the asked part. It should be evident in your outline, which should be self-explanatory in nature. Essays/Outlines that give related information without addressing the asked part do not qualify.

The whole essay should be relevant. Even if 1-2 arguments are irrelevant the essay will not pass. Distribution of topic should be according to the demand of the topic statement i.e. if there is one scoring point it should be given more weight, if there are 2 or more scoring points all should be given equal weight.

All claims made in the essay must be substantiated. Out of 15-17 arguments at least 9-10 should be academically backed with proper references. The rest should be backed by either case studies or generally known information.

Evidence must be authentic and come from proper and authentic academic sources. Newspapers do not qualify as an academic source. Illustrations and vague mentions of events do not qualify as academic evidence.

Essays that are lacking in evidence do not qualify.

LANGUAGE (25%)

Focus on enhancing your grammar as any essay with 4-5 grammatical mistakes does not pass. Your essay must be in the tone and tense of the topic statements. Essays that fail to comply do not pass.

Your sentence structure should be simple, yet clear and diversified.

Vocabulary used should be simple, clear and concise. Expression should always be formal and academic.

You are never to write in 1st and 2nd person pronouns.

You must always use the given keywords and your topic for your thesis statements and main headings in your outline.

STRUCTURE (20%)

Your essay must follow the selected pattern and that structure should be maintained throughout.

INTRODUCTION: The introduction is the longest paragraph of the essay, at least 200 words. It should start with a hook, must give the glimpse of what's to come and must have a thesis statement. Besides hook, your introduction should not have any sort of information and avoid definitions in introduction.

BODY PARAGRAPHS: Approximately 150 words at most and all the body paragraphs must be consistent in length. Should follow the proper structure of an academic paragraph i.e. it must have a topic sentence, supporting point, evidence and concluding sentence. The topic sentence and concluding sentence must align with each other. There should be no new information in the concluding sentence. One paragraph represents one subheading in the outline and consists of one idea.

CONCLUSION: Must start with the concluding phrase. There should be no new information in the conclusion. It should recap the arguments. Conclusion does not have any examples and information. If you are ending it on a hopeful note, remember that solutions and hope are not the same.

COHERENCE (15%)

- Provide Security assistance and Counter-terrorism Cooperation.

5) Foreign Aid as a Recipe for Disaster

- It create aid dependency
- weakening of local initiative and self reliance
- Distortion of local market and economies

6) Foreign Aid Corruption

- Misuse and misallocation of Aids
- Strengthening corrupt elites and authoritarian regimes
- Lack of transparency and accountability
- Reduced trust in state institutions

This is a stance based topic. You are to make headers based on your stance

7) Impact on Social and institutional Development

- Weakening of local institutions
- undermining tax systems and governance
- Reduced citizen-state accountability

8) Why Foreign Aid Succeeds in Some Cases

- Strong institutions and good governance
- Clear development goals and monitoring
- Local ownerships and ~~to~~ social community partnership Participation
- Coordination between donors and recipients

9) Policy recommendations

- Shift from aid to trade and development
- Provide transparency, accountability and anti-corruption measures
- Conditional aid tied to performance, not Politics

No suggestions in a stance based topic.

o Focus on capacity - building and institutional reform .

10) Conclusion

- o Aid is neither inherently ~~good~~ nor bad.
- o stability depend on design , governance and implementation.
- o Need for reform , responsibility and local ownership .
- o Foreign aid is tool and it depend on how everyone

uses it.
In a stance based topic especially ones where you are given two options you are to choose one of the given options. You cannot go for a middle approach or something that isn't mentioned.

You cannot choose a premise that is not in the topic.

Essay

Wrong word, aid is not investment

Since the end of the second world war, billions of dollar is invested worldwide in the form of foreign aid with the objective of promoting development, alleviating poverty and ensuring global stability. From rebuilding war torn Europe to humanitarian crisis in Africa and Asia, foreign aid has remained a central instrument of international diplomacy and cooperation.

Not the point of discussion. Stay relevant to the given context

Sentence structure

Despite this aid cooperation, many recipient countries still faces the issue of poverty, weak institution and instability. Foreign aid is often presented as a stabilizing force capable of strengthening weak states. Preventing conflict and fostering long term growth. Donor countries frequently justify aid on humanitarian ground, emphasizing its role in saving lives during famine, natural disasters and armed conflicts. At the same time, foreign aid is increasingly intertwined with strategic interests, including counterterrorism, regional stability and political alignment.

Present your stance as your idea

Critics argue that prolonged foreign aid has produced unintended and often destructive consequences for recipient states. Rather than empowering societies, aid has become weakened institutions, distorted local economies and entrenched corrupt political elites. The steady inflow of external resources can reduce incentives for governments to mobilize domestic revenue, weakening accountability and its citizens. Moreover, aid windows imposed by donors may undermine national sovereignty and provoke political instability.

Conditional, you are adding a condition not given in the topic

led many scholars and policy makers to describe aid not as a solution, but as a contributing factor to persistent underdevelopment and governance failure.

Your stance is not specified. You talk about both sides as presented externally. For example, you say foreign aid is often presented as a stabilising force, not that it is a stabilising force. Similarly, critics argue that it leads to instability, not simply that it leads to instability. So which one is your stance??? You have to present one stance directly as your own.

Unclear

Foreign aid refers to the transfer of financial resources, technical assistance or material support from donor countries or international organizations to recipient states. It takes multiple types, including economic and development aid aimed at long term growth, humanitarian and emergency aid designed to address crises and military or security assistance provided to enhance defense capabilities. Major donors include developed states and multilateral institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, World Bank and United Nations. The diversity of aid forms reflect its broad objective, yet this complexity also increase the risk of misalignment between donor intentions and recipient.

Provide academic definition

Your discussion is not about implementation of foreign aid.

Topic sentence should not be a conditional sentence

When foreign aid implemented effectively, it can act as a catalyst for stability by addressing structural deficiencies in developing economies. Aid funded initiatives have contribute to poverty reduction, improved access to education and healthcare and enhanced economic productivity in several regions. Investment in infrastructure such as roads, energy and water systems has facilitated trade and improved living of standard. Moreover, during natural disasters and armed conflict, humanitarian aid has played a critical role in saving lives and preventing further social collapse. In countries where aid has been coupled with sound policies and institutional reform, it has strengthened state capacity and laid foundation for sustainable development. Humanitarian assistance during flood in Pakistan (2025) has prevented further social breakdown demonstrating the stabilizing potential of timely foreign aid.

5 separate arguments, should be discussed separately

separate

Too many ideas in a single paragraph

Inconsistent paragraph length. All paragraphs should be 120-150 words

Foreign aid has also been employed to promote political stability and institutional reform. Assistance aimed at strengthening electoral systems and political institutions has supported democratic transitions in countries such as Ghana and Indonesia. In post-conflict societies, foreign aid has financed peace building and reconstruction efforts, as seen in Bosnia and Liberia, helping societies move away from violence. Foreign aid provides security assistance and counterterrorism cooperation with other states to further contribute to regional stability.

No argumentation No analysis, no explanation of how foreign aid results in political stability. Also does not specify what aspect of foreign aid and what aspect of political stability. The tone also doesn't match.

This is not presented as a counter argument

Despite all this benefit, foreign aid can produce adverse outcomes when it is poorly structured or excessively relied upon. One of the risks is the creation of aid dependency, where recipient countries become reliant on external assistance rather than developing domestic revenue sources. Haiti is frequently cited as an example where decades of aid failed to generate sustainable growth. Such dependency weakens local initiative and discourages innovation. Large aid inflows can distort local markets, as observed in some African economies where free food aid undermined local agriculture.

How?

No argumentation

Corruption is one of the most damaging consequences associated with foreign aid. In countries with weak governance structures, aid often misused, diverted or captured by political elites. Afghanistan provides a notable example, where significant portions of international aid were lost due to corruption, poor oversight and inefficiency.

Such as misuse not only limits development outcomes but also fuels public resentment and instability. Aid can strengthen authoritarian regimes by providing financial resources without adequate accountability. In several aid-dependent states, foreign assistance has propped up corrupt governments while marginalizing civil society.

Excessive reliance on foreign aid can undermine social and institutional development by weakening the relationship between the state and its citizens. When governments depend heavily on external funding, they have less incentives to develop effective tax systems. Several aid-dependent African states illustrates how low taxation correlates with weak accountability and governance. Furthermore, donor funded project may contribute to brain drain. Skilled professionals often gravitate toward international organizations offering higher salaries, leaving public institution understaffed and weak.

Different examples of foreign aid demonstrates that success of foreign aid depend on domestic conditions. Countries such as South Korea and Taiwan strategically used foreign aid to invest in education, technology and industrialization, while maintaining strong state control over development planning. Foreign aid complemented domestic efforts rather than replacing them. Strong institutions, local ownerships and coordinating between donors and recipients were crucial in ensuring positive outcomes.

To enhance the effectiveness of foreign aid, a shift from prolonged aid dependence towards investment and domestic resource mobilization is essential. Aid-for-trade initiatives promoted by the European Union offer a useful model for integrating developing economies into global markets. Donors should prioritize capacity-building, institutional reform and human capital development rather than short-term financial transfers. Transparency, accountability and corruption mechanisms must be integral to aid programs. ~~at the same time~~ Aid conditions should focus on performance and outcomes rather than political alignment, ensuring that aid supports genuine development objectives.

In conclusion, foreign aid inherently a road to stability nor a inevitable recipe for disaster. Its impact depends on how it is designed, implemented and governed. While foreign aid has contributed to development and stability in countries such as South Korea, its mismanagement in states like Haiti and Afghanistan highlights its potential risks. A balanced, reform oriented approach that emphasizes good governance, accountability and local ownership is therefore essential. Ultimately, foreign aid is tool and its consequences are determined by the responsibility, vision and institutional capacity with which it is employed.

Short and unstructured conclusion.

Short and unstructured