

# GENERAL FEEDBACK FOR ESSAYS

Topic :- Foreign Aid : Road to Stability or Recipe for Disaster?

## 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.

### A. Introduction

The whole essay should be relevant. Even if 1-2 arguments are irrelevant the essay will not pass.

### B. Foreign Aid is a Recipe for Disaster

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.

#### 1. Over-reliance on foreign aid

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.

#### 2. Pakistan's recurrent IMF bailouts

#### 3. \$280.7 billion debt on Pakistan

#### 4. Debt exacerbating instability

## 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.

#### 5. 40% of Pakistan's fiscal budget goes in debt servicing

#### 6. Sovereignty compromised

#### 7. Following IMF conditionalities

#### 8. Affected foreign policy

#### 9. Foreign policy is dependent on Pakistan??

#### 10. the lending nation's conditionalities

#### 11. Short term solution

## STRUCTURE (20%)

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

#### 12. Generating "quick-money mentality"

#### 13. killing of innovation

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 reference. 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.

#### 14. Inflation in country

#### 15. global innovations

#### 16. and its consequences in Pakistan

#### 17. International inflow distribution

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.

#### 18. Parasport value of Pakistan vs.

## COHERENCE (15%)

Japan.

### C. Counter-Narrative: Foreign Aid is a Road to Stability

1. Foreign aid is helpful in boosting economic conditions.

Be more specific

Rebuttal :- Historically, most of the countries have failed to get economic stability by foreign aids.

2. By political will, the road to stability with the help of foreign aid, is achievable.

Rebuttal :- Existence of corruption is a great hinderance to stability.

A country being corrupt is not the fault of foreign aid.

### D. Conclusion.

#### The Essay

"You give a man a fish and feed him for a day, or you teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime" is an old proverb that highlights the importance of self-motivated struggle for self-sufficiency. Similarly, Foreign aid is like a fish that is served to a nation one time and for next day, it is again looking for another fish - a foreign aid.

Sentence structure

History of full of examples of nations who have been trapped into debt burden by a pleasing picture of foreign aid. Pakistan,

You are not asked about loan given to countries. The topic uses the word aid.

No examples in introduction.

~~Bangladesh and many African countries are today's examples. Foreign aid is the malady which weakens the nations from grass-roots levels very strategically. By making them dependent on foreign conditionalities, it not only overrides the sovereignty of a nation but also creates tough and miserable situation for the citizens. It is a new form of colonialism in guise of aid, from which benefit goes to the lending organisations or countries instead of benefitting the nation who gets the aid.~~

No counter opinion in the introduction. Introduction is overview

No such point in the outline

~~Therefore, one can say that foreign aid is a recipe for disaster whose consequences are long term and nations have to get rid of them by wise decisions timely.~~

No suggestions in a stance based essay.

One of the major aspects which reveal how a foreign aid is harmful for nations is the over-reliance on foreign aid. Foreign aid, which is often seen as easy solution to the economic problems of a country, is force that drives nations towards disasters. Instead of doing structural reforms in the country,

**Repetitive**

What you are saying is what government does not  
what foreign aid enables.

governments to seek ~~aid from~~ <sup>foreign</sup> powers which ~~create~~ <sup>create</sup> a vicious cycle of dependency. Some populist governments, to seek popularity among public also ~~And it~~ <sup>is an</sup> easy ~~option~~ <sup>option</sup> This recurring action tends to over-reliance ~~on~~ <sup>on</sup> foreign aid. Pakistan's recurrent IMF bailouts 2018, and 2023 ~~and even prior~~ <sup>and even prior</sup> to them is example of how foreign aids tend to make countries overly rely on them.

Moreover, repetitive aid and loans from other organisations or countries create a debt burden on nations. Currently, the debt burden on Pakistan is \$280.7 billion more than 70% of its GDP. This highlights that how repetitive foreign aids trap a country into a net of debt burden. Debt burden on a country is not only an economic issue but it propagates into a social and ethical problems through various means. Because debt burden on a country leads to harsh economic conditions in a country, exacerbating poverty, it further gives rise to social evils like theft, money laundering, and extortion. Therefore, instead of bringing stability, foreign aid is

You are not explaining how aid leads to this dependency. Also example is not of aid. It is of loan.

Source? No evidence or statistics in the second sentence.

catastrophic for nations.

Debt servicing, a consequence of foreign aid and loans is another factor which defines how a foreign aid is disastrous instead of being helpful. Because of high interest rates on loans given, the amount to be repaid is multiplied. This amount is nearly impossible for poor nations to pay in a short period of time. Hence, the more time passes, the more amount of money is to be paid which creates a vicious cycle of debt burden and debt servicing. A significant percentage of fiscal budget of a country goes to debt servicing, preventing the government to spend that money on developmental or educational programs. For example, 40% of fiscal budget of Pakistan goes in debt servicing, limiting the government from spending the money on development or infrastructure. Hence, foreign aid is undoubtedly a recipe for disaster.

Additionally, foreign aid not only increase debt burden and debt servicing but also leads to compromising sovereignty. When a country seeks aid from foreign powers, they

No breakdown of the foreign aid.

Argument should focus on aid not what country does.

Conditions that come with aid are not very strict. The ones you are discussing come with loans not aid.

~~tough conditions. In this way, the sovereignty and integrity of a country is often compromised, because internal policies are designed by few foreign powers. Policies by external ~~every~~ powers may not align with internal issues, thus instead of lessening the problems, they tend to enhance the issues. This further leads to instability in a country.~~

side of aid

~~Pakistan has to comply with the IMF conditionalities, despite being unfavourable to the nation's environment is a living example, that how foreign policy is compromised by foreign aid. Economic security is the muscle behind a diplomat's hand shake but weak economy tends to turn that hand shake into dependency, limiting stability and perpetuating disaster.~~

Furthermore, foreign aid is a short term solution for harsh economic conditions. Instead of focusing on long term solutions and structural reforms from grass-roots level, foreign aid is seen as an easy access by governments, so they tend to opt for it. It creates "easy money mentality" which might be beneficial for short term but in a long run, such policies are

disastrous. For example, the Pakistani governments take loans to give subsidies for farmers. This is beneficial for agricultural sector in short term but structural upgradation, technological integration and farmer's education is more effective which is often ignored by government. This shows that how a foreign aid focuses on short term solutions, perhaps to gain popularity, instead for seeking solutions for a long run.

Another important aspect of disastrous nature of foreign aid is how it kills innovation among nations. Because foreign aid is easy-to-access solution and passive resolution, it kills innovation. As governments instead of actively involving youth in various sectors of technology and innovation, directly give access to ready-made solutions. This action of governments and other stakeholders is like a slow poison which kills the innovation of its people. This can be understood by the rich demography of Pakistan who has 60% of its youth below the age of 30 yet still contributes

How is aid involved here. Why is your subject the government not the aid.

Source???

less than 1% to global innovations. Therefore, to foster innovation among youth government must do strategic policing on long term goals like investing in education and R & D to overcome the catastrophic burden of foreign aids.

Furthermore, foreign aid leads to inflation in a country worsening the economic conditions of its people. Foreign aid often come with some foreign conditionalities which operate on one-size-fits all approach ignoring the domestic issues. But the country has to comply with those unfriendly conditionalities in order to get access to aid. This affects the public

How does that relate to inflation? You haven't specified what the conditions are about not how to they impact prices or supply demand.

When demand of products is reduced, industries are affected and reduce their manufacturing. Hence, it further perpetuates the ~~the point~~ economic conditions. The 2021 - 2023 economic crisis of Pakistan was to be overcome by foreign aid but its consequences were inflexible, that led to stunted economic growth and stagnation. Therefore, foreign aids

weaken the public's economic conditions through measures like austerity, and thus are perishable for a state's stability.

At the end, ~~repetitive seeking~~ of foreign aids distorts the international image of a country. Because autonomy is reduced and sovereignty is compromised, nations dependent on foreign aid are not given a significant priority in global policing forums like WTO and WEF. As it is said, "Beggars cannot be choosers", ~~nations who are unable to handle their domestic problems are considered incompetent to lead on global forums.~~ The strength and respect of Pakistani passport holders and that of Japanese passport holders is like ~~an~~ example of how dependence or independence on foreign aid makes or breaks the image of a country. Hence, dependence on foreign aid is undoubtedly a recipe for disaster.

No proper explanation

Relation to aid?

However, critiques argue that if leveraged strategically and by wise planning, foreign aid is a roadmap towards stability.

Proponents of foreign aid as a path to stability argue that foreign aid can bring stability in

How is that  
aid

a country. Through wise planning, structural reforms and easy economic conditions, it is possible to get stability. But the point is, history is full of examples where nations have been trapped in debt burden and debt servicing instead of getting stability. Countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh and India are grappled with debt burden but still facing significant poverty. Therefore, historical and contemporary examples are enough to take lessons that foreign aids are not helpful rather are disastrous for nations.

Moreover, ~~critiques~~ <sup>criticisms</sup> of the idea that foreign aids are a recipe for disaster argue that blaming foreign aid is unjustified for instability. By leveraging the foreign aid through political will, national stability is not a distant dream. Opponents of the above idea argue that historically, countries with weak ~~an~~ economy are suffering from maladies like corruption, nepotism and unaccountability. Therefore, expecting political will from a country that is already grappling with harsh economic

conditions is like expecting the Sun to rise from West. The idea is true to great extent as countries with weak economy like Nigeria, and Pakistan are under pressure of immense corruption. Therefore, foreign aid can never be advantageous for gaining stability, rather it is the calamity whose consequences a nation has to face for long term.

In conclusion, foreign aid is like the prepared meal served to a person, instead of teaching a person how to cook.

Conclusion starts with the crux of the topic not an anecdote.

Ready made meal served might be beneficial for a duration of time but its consequences are to be bore in a long run.

Similarly, foreign aid focuses on short-termism giving abrupt benefits, but it disables a nation's creativity and innovation weakening it from within.

Repeated loans from foreign powers creates a vicious self-replicating cycle of seeking foreign aid again and again. Such actions tend to

grapple nations under public debt and debt servicing.

Not only this, but sovereignty of a country is also compromised which is an important element of nationhood. Because of the harsh conditions set by the foreign powers, it leads to inflation in the markets of the country perpetuating other social evils.

Increase in social evils further distorts the country's international image which further affects the foreign policy wing of a country negatively. Critiques

Critics and critique are two different words

argue that by strategic planning and political will, national stability is achievable. However, historical lessons teach the other way - foreign aids have never been helpful. Hence, for countries to gain stability, they should focus on structural reforms, development and education instead of looking for foreign aids. By adopting above measures, gaining national stability is not a distant dream.

No new information in conclusion.