

Instructions to Secure Good Marks in the Current Affairs Paper

Important Note: Marks will be awarded strictly on the following parameters: Content 60%, References 15%, Subject-specific language 15%, Graphs, charts & diagrams 10%.

Key Guidelines: Each question should be attempted with 12–13 clear headings. The answer must be 8–9 pages (sides) in length to score above 15 marks per question. Questions usually contain 3–4 parts; each part carries equal weightage, so all parts must be discussed equally and proportionately.

Content & Argumentation: Always use examples from current and ongoing events to justify your arguments. Demonstrate strong analytical depth, not mere narration of facts. Support arguments with relevant data, reports, international indices, treaties, and recent developments.

Structure & Presentation: Begin every answer with an attractive, context-setting introduction. End with a forward-looking, well-linked conclusion that ties back to the question. Use headings directly derived from the question statement—pick words and phrases from the question itself.

Alignment with the Question: Each argument must be explicitly linked to the specific part of the question being asked. If your heading is not aligned with the demand of the question, the content—no matter how accurate—will not be rewarded. Avoid generic or unrelated headings; precision is key.

Language & Visuals: Use subject-specific terminology relevant to international relations, geopolitics, economics, and security studies. Incorporate simple graphs, flowcharts, tables, or maps wherever relevant to enhance clarity and scoring potential.

Historical Foundation of the Pact

The Strategic Mutual Defense Agreement is not an abrupt departure from past practice. It represents the formalization of a relationship that has evolved over decades through religious affinity, diplomatic coordination, military cooperation and deep economic and human linkages.

Regional and Global Implications:

The Pak-Saudi defense agreement has implications that extend well through and beyond bilateral relations, reshaping strategic calculations across multiple regions.

Implication for India:

The agreement complicates India's regional strategy. Any major escalation against Pakistan now carries the risks of affecting India's extensive economic

and human ties with Saudi Arabia. In 2024, bilateral trade between India and Saudi Arabia stood at approximately USD 42 billion, supported by a large Indian expatriate community whose remittances remain economically significant.

Implication for Israel:

The alliance introduces a new strategic constraint on Israel's freedom of action. The combination of Saudi financial capacity and Palestinian military alters the regional balance by increasing the political and material costs of unilateral military operations.

Broader Global Effects:

Supporters of the agreement argue that it creates a deterrent framework aimed at discouraging destabilizing regional behavior. From this perspective, the pact seeks to promote regional stability, which in

in turn supports global economic integration and international security.

Economic opportunities for Pakistan:

Beyond security considerations; the agreement opens avenues for deeper economic cooperation enhanced political trust provides Pakistan with opportunities to integrate into Saudi Arabia's vision 2030 initiatives, expand skilled labour exports, secure long term energy arrangements and develop joint industrial ventures. Improved regional standing may also help Pakistan address security challenges on its western border and facilitate access to Central Asian market.

Conclusion:

Overall, the Strategic Mutual Defense Agreement strengthens the security position of both states while creating

meaningful opportunities for Pakistan.
At the same time the benefits
of this agreement are not automatic.
Its success will depend on
ensuring that enhanced defense
cooperation does not constrain Pakistan's
broader foreign policy
balance or draw it into strategic
commitments beyond its core national
interest.

(Q. 8).

Gaza Peace Plan and Its chances
of Success:

Introduction:

The recurring conflict in Gaza highlights the chronic failure of peace initiatives that focus on crisis management rather than conflict resolution. The recent proposed Gaza peace plan aims to achieve an immediate ceasefire and.

address humanitarian concerns, yet its possible political viability remains contested. Pakistan's response to the plan reflects its traditional support for Palestine rights combined with diplomatic caution, carrying both opportunities and potential challenges for Islamabad.

Overview of the Gaza Peace Plan:

The Gaza peace plan primarily emphasizes an immediate cessation of hostilities, humanitarian access and reconstruction assistance. It seeks to stabilize the situation through ceasefire arrangements and international mediation while postponing contentious political issues such as Palestinian statehood, borders and the status of Jerusalem. As a result, the plan prioritizes short term calm over a comprehensive political settlement.

Critical Evaluation:

From a critical perspective, the plan contains both limited strengths and serious structural flaws.

On the positive side, the plan aims to halt violence and alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. In a region marked by prolonged suffering, any reduction in civilian casualties and access to aid is a meaningful short term gain. International involvement also provides diplomatic momentum and temporary restraint on further escalation.

However, the weakness of the plan outweigh its strengths. The most significant flaw is the power asymmetry between Israel and Palestine, which allows terms to be shaped largely by the stronger party.

Islamabad's Policy Regarding the Gaza Peace Plan:

Pakistan's Policy towards the Gaza Peace Plan is rooted in its long standing support for Palestinian cause and commitment to international law. Islamabad has consistently emphasized the need for a just and comprehensive Settlement based on Palestinian self-determination while supporting humanitarian relief efforts. At the same time, Pakistan has adopted a cautious diplomatic approach, avoiding direct entanglement and aligning its stance with broader OIC and international positions.

Possible fallout for Pakistan:

Pakistan's position carries both positive and contrasting implications. On the positive side, Islamabad's principled stance strengthens its moral credibility

within the Muslim world and reinforces its diplomatic consistency. It also enhances Pakistan's standing in multilateral forums advocating for human rights and international law.

However, there are potential challenges. Strong rhetorical positioning may limit Pakistan's diplomatic flexibility with key international actors.

Conclusion:

In sum, the Gaza Peace Plan represents an attempt to contain violence rather than resolve the underlying conflict. While it may offer short-term humanitarian relief, its structural weakness significantly limits its chances of achieving lasting peace.

(Q 6) -

Introduction:

The Paris Climate Agreement (COP21) marked a global consensus to limit climate change through collective responsibility and nationally determined commitments. The decision of the United States under President Donald Trump to withdraw from the agreement raised serious concern about the future of global climate governance.

Significance of COP 21

The Paris Agreement represented a shift from binding emission targets to a flexible framework based on voluntary national commitments. Its core objective includes limiting global temperature rise to well below 2°C, promoting climate finance.