

GENERAL FEEDBACK FOR ESSAYS

English Essay

20/19

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.

Outline:

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, 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 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.

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%)

No clear stance taken

~~4.3 The Dutch Disease: Impact on exchange rates and export competitiveness~~

~~4.4 The Debt trap: The transition from grants to high-interest loans leading to circular debt.~~

~~5. Comparative Case Studies~~

~~5.1 Success: The Marshall Plan and South Korea's transition from recipient to donor~~

~~5.2 Failure: The perpetual "poverty trap" in Sub-Saharan Africa and the stagnation in South Asia.~~

~~6 The Path Forward: Reimagining the Aid Paradigm.~~

~~6.1 Shifting from "Aid to Trade"~~

~~6.2 Ensuring transparency and local ownership of projects~~

~~6.3 Strengthening domestic institutions before accepting large scale inflows~~

~~7 Conclusion:~~

Stance based essay. Give weight and add more points to the stance you have picked. No need to write suggestions. Case studies are used within paragraphs to substantiate it.

Essay

Foreign aid, once envisioned as the "Marshall Plan" for the developing world, has become one of the most debated phenomena in international political economy. Since the end of the second World War, trillions of dollars have flowed from the Global North to the Global South. The intended purpose was noble: to eradicate poverty, stabilize fragile states, and integrate emerging markets into the global economy. However, decades later, the results are deeply polarized. For a handful of nations, aid was the fuel for an economic takeoff; for many others, it has become a "debt trap" and a "crutch" that prevents them from walking on their own feet. Whether aid is a road to stability or a recipe for disaster depends less on the volume of the funds and more on the structural integrity of the recipient nation.

The discussion is right now. According to the outline you are currently discussing the doctrine behind the topic. Proponents argue that developing nations are caught in a poverty trap where low income leads to low savings, resulting in low investment. Foreign aid acts as an external catalyst to break this cycle. Historically, this has proven true in specific contexts. The most cited success is the Marshall Plan, which reconstructed Western Europe. Similarly,

No structure to Introduction. It's short. It does not overview the coming arguments, and it had no thesis statement. Your stance should be clear in your outline and your introduction.

That's not what the discussion is right now. According to the outline you are currently discussing the doctrine behind the topic.

Which one are you???

This has no context.

in the 1960s, South Korea was a major aid recipient, using those funds to build a manufacturing base that eventually turned it into a global economic powerhouse. In these instances, aid provided the necessary "initial velocity" for a self-sustaining orbit of growth.

Overview paragraph should be a single paragraph.

Furthermore, the humanitarian impact of aid cannot be dismissed. Global health initiatives, funded largely by international aid, have nearly eradicated polio and drastically reduced the mortality rate of HIV/AIDS and Malaria in Africa and Asia. When a nation is struck by a calamity - be it the 2005 earthquake or 2022 floods in Pakistan - foreign aid provides the immediate liquidity needed to prevent total societal collapse. In such moments, aid is undoubtedly a road to stability, providing a safety net for the world's most vulnerable populations.

No paragraph structure.

What is the purpose of this paragraph?? You are neither making any argument nor are you explaining the doctrinal underpinning of the question posed.

However, the "recipe for disaster" begins with when aid shifts from a temporary fix to a permanent lifestyle. This is known as the "dependency syndrome" when the government realizes that it can fund its budget through external grants and soft loans. The incentive to implement difficult domestic tax reforms vanishes. Why should a state face the political backlash of taxing its elite when it can

Your argument should not be conditional. The question is whether foreign aid is a road to stability or a recipe for disaster. Not under which conditions each statement is true. You are to pick a side and prove that your point of view is true in any condition whatsoever.

simply request another tranche from the IMF or the World Bank? This leads to a broken social contract; because the government does not rely on its citizens' taxes, it feels no accountability toward them. In this way aid inadvertently sustains autocracies and fuels corruption as "easy money" is rarely spent with the same discipline as "earned money".

Economically, aid can trigger the "Dutch Disease". Large inflows of foreign currency can cause the local currency to appreciate, making the country's exports more expensive and less competitive on the global market. This de-industrializes the recipient nation, making it even more dependent on imports and further aid. Moreover, the modern aid architecture is often predatory. What is labelled as "aid" is frequently a loan with "strings attached". These "strings" or conditionalities often require the recipient to open its markets to donor-country corporations or align its foreign policy with the donor's interests, effectively compromising national sovereignty.

The contrast between success and failure lies in institutional capacity. In South Korea, aid was used to build schools and factories under a disciplined national vision. In contrast, in many parts of the Global South, aid was siphoned off

Don't pose questions in your paragraph.

No explanation of how and why. No evidence

You are discussing aids not loans.

No evidence no academic backing.

into offshore accounts or spent on "white elephant" projects that provide no economic return but leave behind a mountain of debt. This debt servicing eventually consumes the lion's share of the national budget, leaving nothing for education or healthcare, thereby completing the "recipe for disaster".

In Conclusion, foreign aid is neither a panacea nor a poison in itself; it is a tool. If used to build infrastructure and human capital within a framework of transparency, it can indeed be a road to stability. However, if used as a substitute for domestic reform and a tool for geopolitical leverage, it becomes a recipe for disaster. For countries like Pakistan, the lesson is clear: the only way to end the need for aid is to use the current aid to build a self-reliant, tax-paying, and export-oriented economy. As the old adage goes, aid should be a hand-up not a hand-out.

Short. There should be no new information in conclusion.