

Instructions to Secure Good Marks in the Current Affairs Paper

Day: Sunday

Date: 04.11.2026

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.

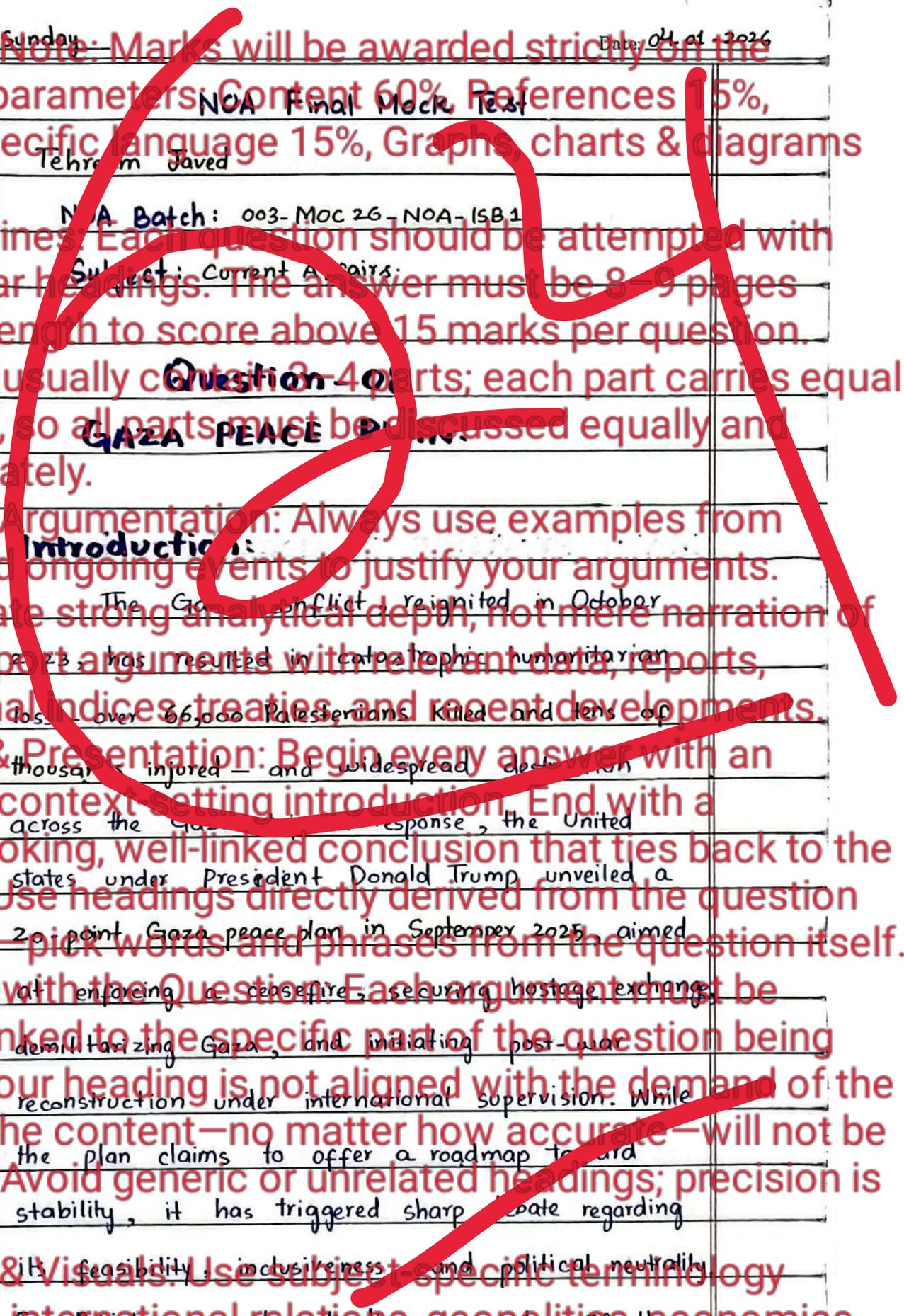
Questions usually consist of 3-4 parts; each part carries equal weightage, so all parts must be discussed equally and proportionately.

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.



NOA Final Mock Test

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NOA Batch: 003-MOC 26-NOA-15B1

Subject: Current Affairs

Question-01

GAZA PEACE PLAN

Introduction:

The Gaza conflict, reignited in October 2023, has resulted in catastrophic humanitarian loss—over 66,000 Palestinians killed and tens of

thousand injured—and widespread destruction

across the Gaza Strip. In response, the United

States under President Donald Trump unveiled a

20-point Gaza peace plan in September 2025, aimed

at enforcing a ceasefire, securing hostage exchange,

demilitarizing Gaza, and initiating post-war

reconstruction under international supervision. While

the plan claims to offer a roadmap toward

stability, it has triggered sharp debate regarding

its feasibility, inclusiveness, and political neutrality

For Pakistan, a longstanding supporter of the

Palestinian cause, the plan poses significant diplomatic and strategic challenges. Islamabad's response must balance its principled stance on Palestinian self-determination with evolving regional dynamics, while managing potential domestic, diplomatic, and security repercussions.

Major Provision of Gaza Peace Plan:

The US-brokered framework includes several key pillars:

Provision	Objective
Immediate ceasefire	Halt military operation by Israel and Hamas.
Hostage releases	Return all hostages within 72 hours of ceasefire.
Prisoner exchange.	Release of Palestinian prisoners in stages.
Demilitarization of Gaza.	Disarmament of Hamas and militant groups.
ISF.	Deployment of multinational troops to Gaza.
Reconstruction and governance.	Establish transitional authority to rebuild infrastructure.

Critical Evaluation of Plan:

Strengths of Plan:-

Formal ceasefire and humanitarian access:

The plan institutionalizes a ceasefire mechanism and envisages increased humanitarian aid, potentially alleviating urgent needs for Gaza's ~2.3 million inhabitants facing shortages of shelter, food, water, and medical care.

Broad international support:

Many governments, including the UN, EU states and Gulf states, welcomed the initiative as a diplomatic breakthrough, reflecting global desire for de-escalation.

Weaknesses of Plan:-

Lack of Palestinian buy-in:

Many Palestinian actors — including Hamas — were not consulted meaningfully in drafting the plan; this undermines legitimacy and ownership.

Demilitarisation mandate contentious:

Demilitarizing Hamas without strong guarantees for Palestinian security and political inclusion

risks fuelling further resentment, and resistance.

Analysts note such requirements often fail without parallel and political concessions.

Chances of Success:

Optimistic Factors:-

- Global diplomatic backing could create pressure for sustained compliance.
- UN Security Council endorsement gives it international legitimacy.

Pessimistic Factors:

Violation by Key Actors: Continued military operations by Israel and sporadic rocket exchanges undermine confidence.

Weak Enforcement: Absence of rapid deployment of stabilisation forces; limited willingness of countries to commit troops.

Regional spoilers:

Proxy tensions (e.g., Israel - Iran dynamic) may expand instability beyond Gaza.

Islamabad's Policy Towards the Gaza Plan:

Pakistan's stance is nuanced and shaped by historical solidarity with Palestine, Islamic world leadership and geopolitical positioning.

Response to Trump's Peace Plan:

Caution over endorsement:

- Pakistan's foreign minister stated that Trump's published plan was "not ours" and differed from the draft agreed with Muslim-majority states.

Parliamentary Backlash:

Domestic opposition criticised the government's initial positive remarks as insensitive to Palestinian aspirations, demanding stronger pro-Palestinian policy.

Stabilisation force deliberations:

Islamabad says it has not received formal requests to join stabilisation forces, and will consider participation only under politically neutral and humanitarian-focused mandates.

Possible Fallouts for Pakistan:

Domestic Impacts:

Surveys show ~91% of Pakistanis sympathize with Palestinians, and many view foreign influence in the conflict critically. Reacting against any perceived alignment with US-Israel policies can fuel political unrest or criticism of government policy choices.

Regional and Diplomatic Effect:-

Pakistan's principled position can strengthen its standing among Muslim states; co-statement with other OIC members reflect this.

Engagement in peace diplomacy – even cautiously – could be used to balance ties with the initiatives that appear to may backlash domestically.

Conclusion:

The Gaza peace plan offers a diplomatic pathway out of prolonged conflict, but

faces deep challenges due to legitimacy gap, implementation shortfalls, and ongoing violations. Pakistan's approach balances its historic support for Palestinian self-determination with cautious engagement in international efforts. Islamabad must navigate domestic public sentiment, regional leadership responsibilities, and strategic alliances, while ensuring that its policy does not alienate its core values or escalate geopolitical risks.

Question - 06

PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT.

Introduction:

— "I am immediately withdrawing from the unfair, one-sided Paris Agreement. The United States will not sabotage its own industries while China pollutes with impunity." —

(Donald Trump)

President Trump's attitude towards climate science is, as it has always been, contradictory and skeptical. His interest in evaluating the USA's economy defines his anti-climate policy stance. While climate change remains a global concern with scientific consensus linking it to human driven causes, Trump called it a hoax and believed that climate regulation diminish the significance of manufacturing and fossil fuel industries. He seeks to approve new drilling. Trump's climate policy began during his first presidency (2017-2021), and today, dismiss the climate alarm. Most importantly, his withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement in 2017, and the second time withdrawal of the world's second largest polluter, raises serious concerns about the climate set backs. The pace of emission reduction effort needs the US and its national interest to fight the consistent warming within and outside the US borders. However, the lack of US engagement in climate action also keeps the

the attention of other leaders at stake, whereas climate change continues to undermine sustainable development globally.

Trump's View on Climate Change:-

US President Donald Trump's perspective on climate change is straight forward. His environmental policies and the strong emphasis on fossil fuels are encapsulated in the slogan 'Drill, Baby, Drill' which was frequently used during his previous campaigns and presidency and in his inaugural address as the 47th President of the United States, to show his commitment towards domestic oil and gas production. Not only did the Trump administration deny the existence of climate change but also declared a National Energy Emergency. Alongside that for oil and gas drilling, he opened protected areas, such as Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

According to Rachel Cleetus, the policy director of the union of concerned Scientists Climate

and Energy program, "This is a very different and more dangerous Administration than the first time around". This could be because the world is continuously warming. Still, the Trump Administration prioritizes economic development over environmental sustainability.

Trump's withdrawal From Paris

Agreement: Assessing the impacts:

① Undermining Global Cooperation on Addressing Climate change:

President Trump decision weakens the multilateral system and sets a bad precedent for others to follow the suit. The Paris Agreement is the most comprehensive treaty of climate change which agreed by all countries of the world. With the US, world's largest economy and 2nd largest CO₂ emitter out of its orbit, it will unravel the progress made towards limiting global temperature at 2 degree celcius.

(2) Reducing Financial Assistance for Developing countries:

US has become a great source of financial assistance to climate change vulnerable countries. For example, the Obama Administration had pledged \$3 billion in Green Climate Fund. Out of this amount, \$2 billion are yet to be delivered. However, the first Trump administration did not honor to this commitment. Likewise in COP 29, pledges of \$300 billion per year were made to developing countries but as Trump threatens to leave Paris Agreement, this may no longer be possible.

Can China Lead the World?

China is poised to spearhead global efforts in combating climate change, thanks to its substantial investments in renewable energy and growing commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. As the world's largest CO₂ emitter, China's actions

will significantly influence global climate change mitigation efforts.

Notably, China has made significant strides in transitioning to a low-carbon economy. By 2022, non fossil fuels accounted for 17.5% of its primary energy consumption. China aims to increase this share to approximately 25% by 2030, focusing on expanding its solar and wind power capacity.

Conclusion:-

Although President Trump's unilateral decision has far reaching effects, it must be kept in mind that without US, which emits 10% of global emissions, 90% of global emissions are still represented by the Paris Agreement. There is hope that efforts to save the planet from Global Warming will be continued but this hope could be materialized only when the major carbon emitters adhere to their commitments of cuts in their emissions one hand global

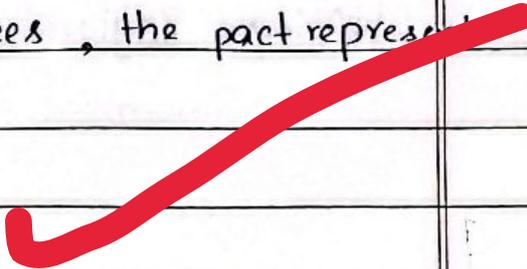
coordinated effort led by the global leader on the other.

Question: 05

Pakistan - KSA Defence Pact.

Introduction:

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia share a historically deep, multidimensional relationship rooted in faith, strategic trust and long-standing military cooperation. This partnership has traditionally been informal yet resilient, built on mutual interests rather than treaty obligations. The signing of a formal Pak-KSA Defence pact marks a decisive shift from informal cooperation to institutionalised strategic alignment. In an era characterised by regional instability, shifting alliances in the Middle East, and declining reliance on unilateral security guarantees, the pact represents



a calculated geopolitical move by both states. For Pakistan, beyond security dividends, the agreement carries significant economic potential, making it a strategic asset with far-reaching implications.

Geopolitical Significance of Defence Pact:

01. Strategic Security and Deterrence:

The defence pact institutionalizes mutual defence cooperation, transforming Pakistan into a key security partner of Saudi Arabia. Pakistan possesses one of the largest standing armies in the Muslim world approximately 650,000 active personnel, and a nuclear deterrent, which adds strategic depth to Saudi Arabia's security architecture. This enhances deterrence against external threats in an increasingly volatile Gulf region.

02. Shifting Regional Power Dynamic:

The agreement comes at a time when

Saudi-Arabia is recalibrating its foreign policy. By engaging Pakistan, Riyadh strengthens its autonomy in regional security affairs.

Simultaneously, Pakistan's strategic relevance in west Asia increases, reinforcing its diplomatic leverage at international forums such as OIC.

Implication for South Asia:-

While Saudi Arabia maintains cordial relations with India, a formal defence partnership with Pakistan introduces a new strategic variable in South Asia. It subtly reinforces Pakistan's regional standing and balances India's growing strategic engagement with Gulf states, without overtly destabilising regional relations.

Economic Opportunities for Pakistan.

(1) Expansion of Labour Exports and Remittances.

Saudi Arabia is a home to nearly 2 million Pakistani workers, making it Pakistan's largest

source of remittances. In FY2024, remittance from Saudi Arabia exceeded USD 8.5 billion, accounting for a major share of Pakistan's foreign exchange earnings. The defence pact is expected to facilitate structured manpower export agreements, potentially doubling skilled labour.

Defence and industrial collaboration:

The pact opens avenues for joint defence production, training and technology sharing. Pakistan's indigenous defence industry—covering aircrafts (JF-17), UAVs, and armored systems—can benefit from Saudi capital, while KSA gains access to cost-effective military manufacturing and expertise.

Energy Security and Financial Support:

KSA has historically supported Pakistan through deferred oil payment facilities worth over USD 1.2 billion and broader financial packages exceeding USD 6 billion. A stronger

defence partnership reinforces Pakistan's access to energy support, reducing vulnerability to global oil price shocks.

Conclusion:

The Pakistan-KSA Defence Pact represents a strategic milestone that elevates bilateral relations from traditional cooperation to a formal, rules-based security partnership. In an evolving multipolar world, such alliances enable both states to navigate uncertainty with greater autonomy and influence. If managed effectively, the defence pact can evolve into a long-term strategic and economic partnership, delivering dividends well beyond the security domain.