

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 hook 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%)

DATE: ___/___/___

Foreign Aid: Road to Stability or Recipe for Disaster?

Outline:

1) Introduction

Thesis Statement: Foreign aid, rather than being a path of stability,

frequently creates dependency, fosters corruption, weakens institutions, enables external manipulation, making it more a recipe for disaster than a fool for structural development.

2) Understanding the Concept of Foreign Aid.

3) Counter Perspective: Foreign Aid as a Road to Stability.

3a) Foreign Aid Promotes Economic Stabilization

3b) Foreign Aid ensures Human Capital Development

3c) Foreign Aid aids in being helped during disasters

4) Supporting Perspective: Foreign Aid as a Recipe for Disaster

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- 3a) Aid dependency - The cage of Reliance ✓
- 3b) Aid with Conditionality - Loss of Economic Sovereignty ✓
- 3c) Aid Reliance weakens domestic Resource Mobilization ✓
- 3d) Aid as a Strategic tool for Political Manipulation ✓
- 3e) Aid without sustainable impacts on Recipient countries ✓
- 3f) Aid as a tool for ~~corruption~~ **corruption**
- 3g) Foreign Aid and Debt - Restricting true Development. **Aid isn't debt.**

e) Conclusion

In 2022, Sri Lanka - once known as a development success story - defaulted on its external debt for the ~~first time~~ in history, despite decades of foreign aid and concessional loans. The crisis reignited a global debate: can foreign aid stabilize economies or acts as ~~recipe of disaster~~. Foreign aid, rather than being a

Aid and debt are different.

Sustainable

path of stability, frequently creates dependency, fosters corruption, weakens institutions and enables external manipulation, making it more a recipe for disaster than a tool for sustainable development. Some argues that foreign aid acts as economic stabilisation force for some ^{developing} countries. It not only ensures Human Capital Development but also provides relief at the time of crisis. ~~But~~ However, the long-term impact of foreign aid often proves to be more of a disaster than a stabilisation force. Conditionalities attach with aid, attack the economic sovereignty of developing countries. Furthermore, foreign aid can also be a tool of political manipulation and corruption. Along with this, foreign aid and debt servicing hinder the true sustainable developing of recipient countries.

Foreign aid refers to the financial, humanitarian or technical support provided by external factors - such as states ~~of~~ (US, Europe, China)

Academically sourced definition with a proper reference.

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or International financial institutions (eg IMF, WB). The objective of foreign aid is to support development and stabilize economies. It also intended to alleviate poverty and provide financial and humanitarian assistance during crisis. Aid can be loans, grants or technical assistance.

No aid cannot be loans. According to WB concessional loans are aid but general loans do not classify as aid.

Your handwriting is very Poor.

Before analyzing the Foreign aid as a weapon for disaster, it is pertinent to mention the views of the opposing school of thought. Some believe that Foreign Aid is a road to stability for many developing countries as it provides economic stabilization to their weak economies. They claim that foreign aid bridges fiscal gaps and supports balance-of-payments crisis. It helps avert defaults and stabilize external accounts. One of its prominent examples is Marshall Plan after WWII. It was a financial aid given by us to rebuild

Make one claim and argue that. Not that many claims.

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Western Europe and prevent European countries from economic collapse.

They further claim that emergency financing helped many countries during covid-19 to manage balance-of-payments shocks.

Another argument by the supporters of foreign aid is that foreign aid ensures Human Capital Development. Funds are given to improve productivity and quality of life in education and health sectors. Different NGOs and international organisations help in eradicating illiteracy and poverty through financial assistance. For instance, UNICEF

Programs in Africa and South Asia helped in improving literacy and child health. UNICEF and WHO also helped

during pandemic by providing assistance in health sector.

In addition, they also argue that foreign aid acts as a relief during disasters. They claim that foreign aid

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provides immediate humanitarian and financial support. It also ~~to~~ accelerates post-crisis reconstruction. They argues that financial aid in the form of money, food, shelter, medical, helped the damage country recover rapidly. Some examples are Kashmir Earthquake (2005), Floods in Pakistan (2010, 2022, 2025) etc. Foreign Aid provided by US, EU, China & United Nations help Pakistan to bear the damage of crisis.

There is, however, enough evidence to refute the views of the proponents of opposing a school of thought and prove that Foreign Aid is indeed a recipe for disaster. To start with, Aid dependency creates the cage of reliance. Excessive reliance on foreign aid ~~reduces domestic initiatives, weakens local economies and discourages~~ How?

governments from mobilizing internal resources. Aid created a cage of reliance where countries cannot achieve true economic independence. An apt example is, African countries, such as Zambia and Ethiopia, receive billions in aid annually but still dependent on external assistance to meet basic budgetary needs. Hence, foreign aid puts countries into a dilemma of reliance and restricts them from true financial or economic empowerment.

Same issue as the counter argument, you have to provide logical explanation for your claim. Not simply make a claim.

In addition, some foreign aids come with strong conditionalities that impacts the economic sovereignty of recipient country. IMF and World Bank programs often require fiscal tightening, subsidy removal and tax increments. Such conditions limit a country to make independent economic policy. A prominent example is Pakistan's 2019 IMF program required privatization, cuts in public spending, increment

Not aid.

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in tax. Strict conditions and
distortions ~~reduce~~ policy
flexibility ~~and~~ long-term
financial ~~planning~~ make
foreign aid be recipe
for disasters.

Moreover, Aid reliance
weakens domestic resource
mobilization. When countries
depend heavily on aid and
external support, they do not
increase their tax base and
make ^{weak domestic} stronger economic policies.
As a result, due to strong
weak or low tax base,
they depend heavily on aid
to meet their basic needs.

Circular argument.

This in turn hit them hard
in longer run, making them
consistently dependent on

Overlaps with the first counter argument.

external factors to run their
country. According OECD,
2020 Report, Aid dependent
countries collect 5-10% less
tax revenue as compared to
their counterparts. Same goes
for Pakistan, as Pakistan's
Tax-to-GDP ratio is 9-10%,
one of the lowest globally.

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So, aid reliance restricts domestic resource mobilization.

Furthermore, foreign aid, is sometimes used as a strategic tool for political manipulation. It often aligns with donor geopolitical interests. Some countries use aid to maintain their influence and hegemony in the region. By giving aid, they fulfill their interests, through the recipient country. For example, US and USSR during cold-war era. US provided aid to South African countries, mostly authoritarian regimes. The purpose of aid was not public development but to strengthen the regimes who were supporting the US. Hence, foreign aid can impact sovereignty to recipient and prioritize donor need agenda over citizens' needs.

You are discussing how countries use aid not how aid enables this. Your argument should be focused on aid not on states.

Along with this, foreign aid often fails to create sustainable impact

on recipient countries. Despite receiving billion of dollars as aid, many recipient countries fail to improve education and health sector, eradicate poverty, and enhance industrialization. Many foreign aid programs meet short-term goals rather than to stabilize a country's ~~and~~ economy in longer-run. For instance, Pakistan has received 23 IMF bailout packages - most recent one in 2025 - since its creation, but still struggling with bad economic conditions. Hence, it is evident that foreign aid can stabilize an economy for a time being, but it is a recipe of disaster in long-term.

In addition, aid also proves to be a tool of corruption. Large inflows of foreign aid, when mismanaged, often lead to ~~misappropriation~~ and rent-seeking. This under-

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mines public interest trust in institutions and reduce the effectiveness of foreign aid. Such activities not only weaken institutions but also make country continuously dependent on foreign aid to meet its basic needs. For example, Afghanistan has received billion of dollars in terms of aid from 2002 to 2021. The purpose of aid was reconstruction and development but mismanagement of aid diminished its true objective and impact. So, in most of the cases foreign aid acts as a tool of corruption which ultimately results as repe of disaster for institutions.

Moreover, debt servicing when aid comes in the form of loans, debt servicing becomes a trap for a country's economy. Debt servicing diverts economic spending towards payments of loans that

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are meant to be spend on health, education, social welfare & sectors. According to World Bank, 2021 Report, low income countries spent on average 20-30% of government revenues on debt servicing, reducing allocations to health and education. Pakistan is also no different. In FY 2023, Pakistan's debt servicing was reached to 45% of revenue. (Ministry of Finance, Pakistan). Hence, foreign aid when comes in the form of loans prove to be a recipe of disaster for recipient country.

In a nutshell, it is an undeniable fact that foreign aid is a recipe of disaster for developing countries. It not only creates economic dependency and reliance but also hampers economic sovereignty. However, some argues that foreign

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aid boosts economic stability and act as a relief during hard times. But these short term benefits can not undermine its long-term damages to countries' economy.
Foreign aid In present world, foreign aid - rather than a tool for economic development - are proved to be a recipe for disaster.

"Aid has often been a curse disguised as compassion."

Incorporate in the conclusion.

- Dambisa Moyo
(Foreign Aid, 2009)