

Instructions to Secure Good Marks in the Current Affairs Paper

Part B.

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.

Introduction :-

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.

has expressed ideas that are different from both Russia and NATO's. This makes finding a clear and peaceful way to stop the fighting incredibly challenging for everyone involved on the world stage.

Analyzing The Conflicting Stances and Recommending a Way Forward:

To truly understand this complex situation, we need to look closely at what each main player wants and how their goals are often in direct opposition.

① Russia's Stance: Security Demands and Territorial Control:-

Russia's main goal for ending the war generally involve Ukraine becoming a neutral country, meaning it would not join military alliances like NATO. They also demand that Ukraine

reduces its military power and officially recognize Russia's control over certain Ukrainian territories it has annexed.

Russian president Vladimir Putin has repeatedly stated these aims, emphasizing what he views as Russia's security concerns and historical claims.



② NATO's Stance: Ukraine's Sovereignty And Territorial Integrity:

The NATO alliance, which includes the US, Canada

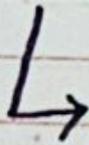
and many European nations, strongly support Ukraine's right to be an independent country with all its original borders intact. They demand that Russia withdraw all its forces from Ukrainian territory and hold those responsible for the war accountable.

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg has consistently affirmed this position, highlighting the alliance's commitment to international law and deterring further aggression.

NATO



US, Canada,
Majority European
Nations



Support



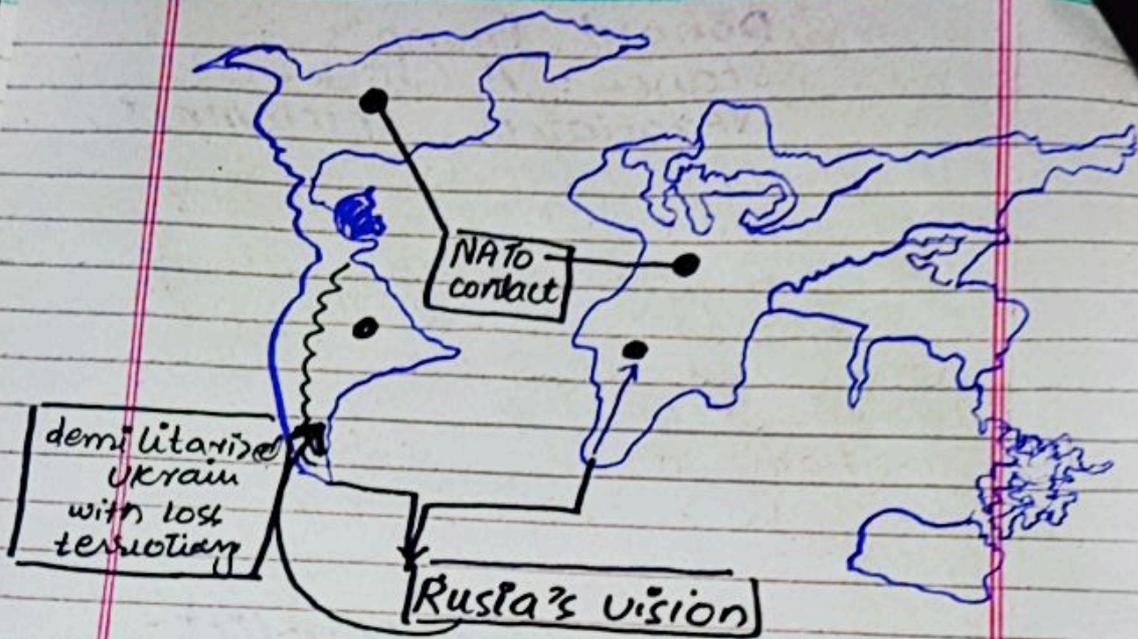
**Ukraine's
right**

③ Donald Trump's Stance: A Quick, Negotiated Settlement

U.S. president Donald Trump has often stated he could end the war very quickly, suggesting a swift peace deal that might involve Ukraine making concessions. He has also questioned U.S. aid, prioritizing a quick resolution.

④ The Core Conflict: Opposing Visions for Ukraine's Future:-

The fundamental problem is that Russia's vision (a neutral, demilitarized Ukraine with lost territory) directly opposes Ukraine's and NATO's vision (a sovereign, independent nation with original borders, free to choose alliances). This deep disagreement makes easy compromise very difficult.



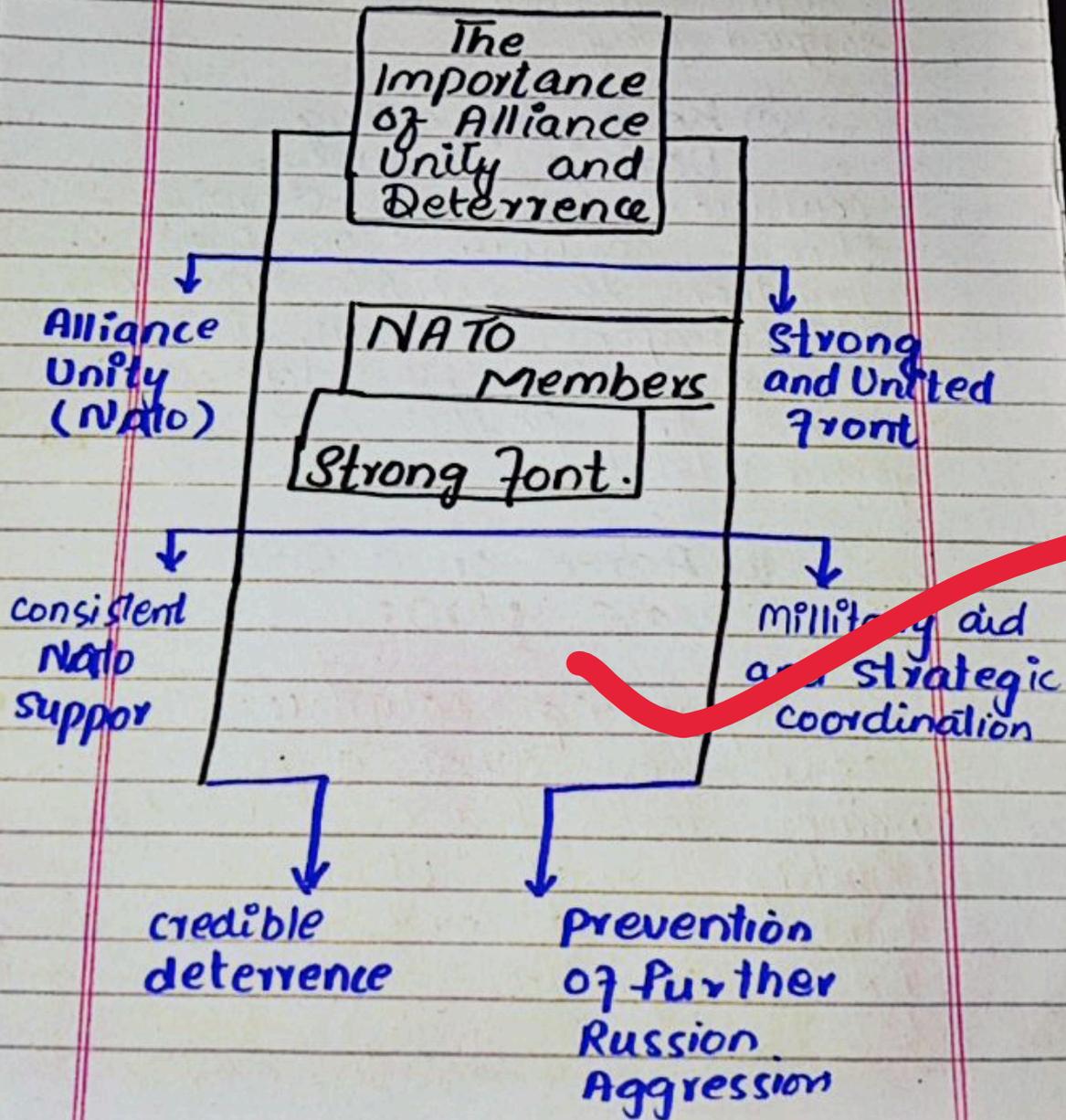
⑤ Potential Impact of Trump's Approach on the Alliance:

In a future U.S. administration adopted Trump's approach, reduced U.S. support could weaken Ukraine and create divisions with NATO, making collective action against Russia harder.

⑥ Risk of an Unjust or Unstable peace Deal:

Experts like Dr. Fiona Hill

warn that a peace deal not
not fully respecting Ukraine's
sovereignty or forced upon
it could be very unstable.
It might only be a temporary
halt to fighting, potentially
leading to future conflicts,
not lasting peace.



Recommendations for Path Forward:

To help move toward a stable and fair end to the war, here are some important steps explained in the simplest way.

(a) Keep Supporting Ukraine Strongly:

Countries supporting Ukraine should continue working together to provide necessary aid (weapons, money). This strengthens Ukraine's defense and its position for peace talks.

(b) Agree on a clear peace plan:

All supporting countries should agree on what a fair peace looks like, clearly stating that Ukraine's borders and freedom must be respected.

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Day: _____

© Make NATO Stronger:

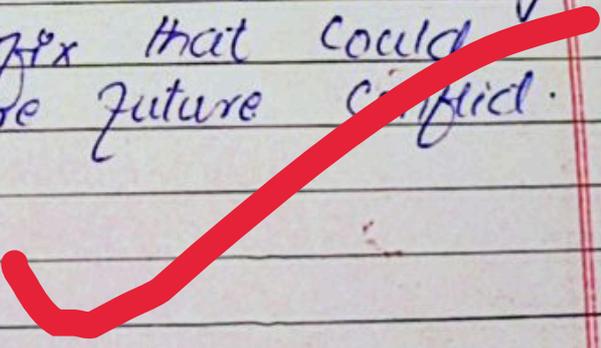
NATO countries should continue improving their military defenses. This shows Russia the alliance is ready to protect its members and prevents further attacks.

(d) Solve differences within NATO:

Leaders of NATO countries should openly discuss and resolve any disagreements to keep the alliance strong and united.

(e) Aim For Lasting Peace:

Any solution must lead to a true, long-term peace that is fair and follows international rules, avoiding a quick fix that could cause more future conflict.



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Conclusion~

A Strong and United NATO is essential to deter Russia. When member states stand together and provide consistent support, it shows strength and credibility. Any division within the alliance signals weakness and can encourage further aggression.

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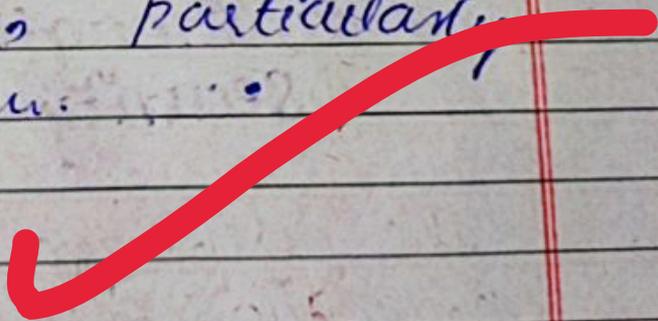
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Question # 5

Pakistan - KSA Defense pact would have for reaching geopolitical achievement for both the countries and economic opportunities for Pakistan.

Introduction:-

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia share a long-standing strategic and defense relationship based on mutual trust, Islamic solidarity, and shared security concerns. A formal or strengthened defence pact between the two countries would not only enhance their geopolitical standing but also open significant economic opportunities, particularly for Pakistan.

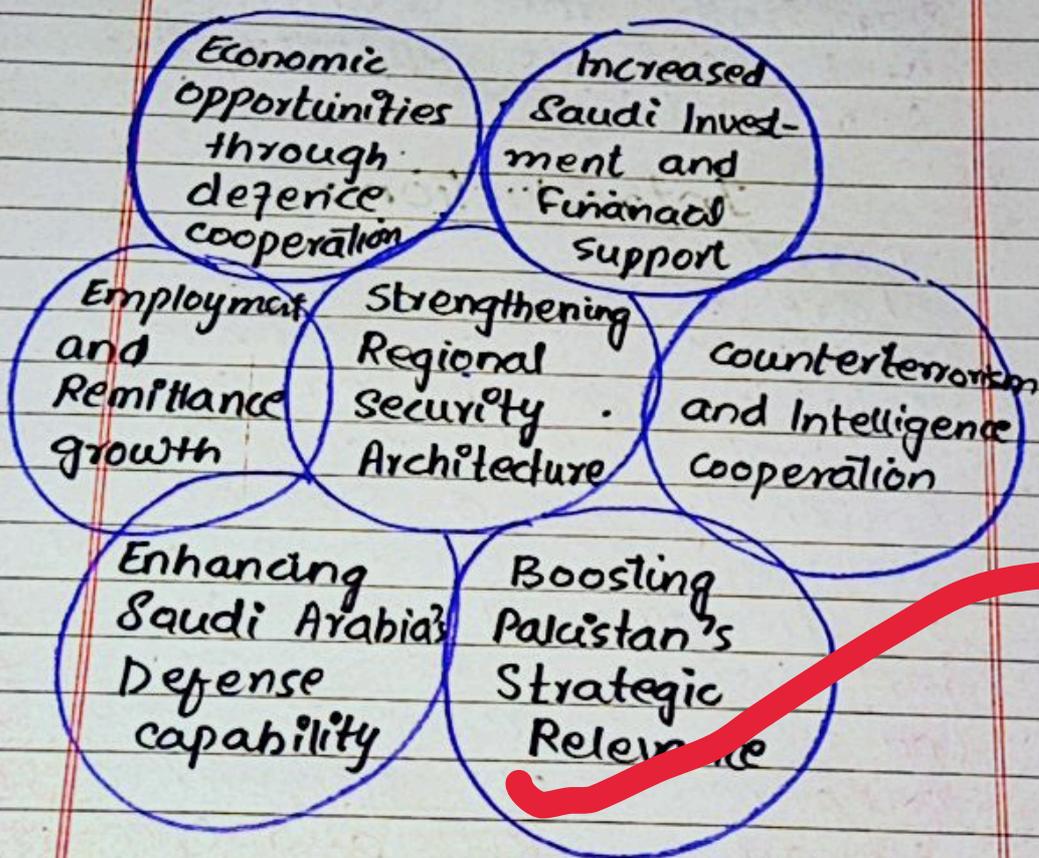


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Geo-political And Economic Significance of Defence

Pact:



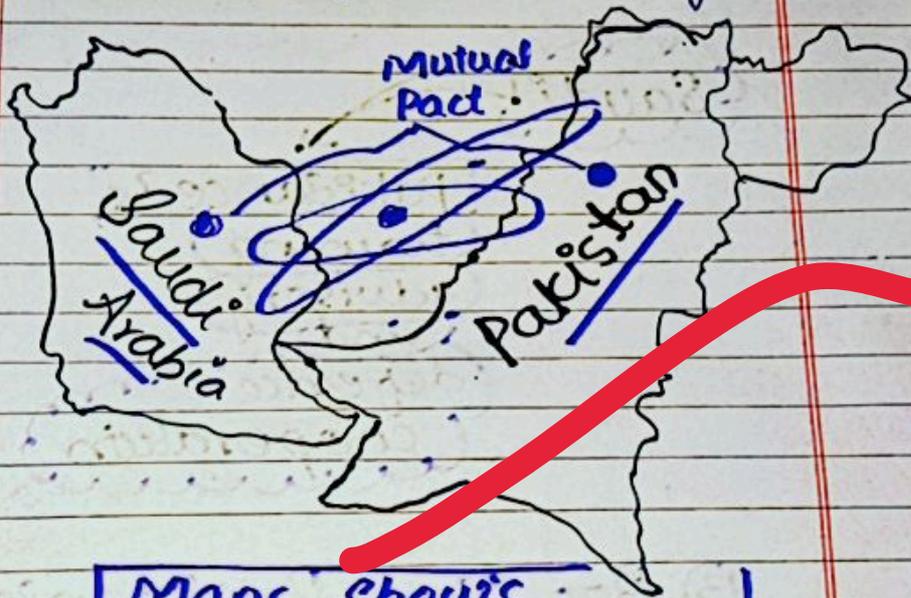
① Strengthening Regional Security Architecture:

The defence pact enhances collective security in the middle East and South Asia. According to Stephen Walt's

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Day: _____

Balance of Threat Theory,
States form alliances to
counter perceived threats.
Pakistan's military expertise
and Saudi Arabia's
strategic location together
improve regional stability.



Maps show's
Regional Security

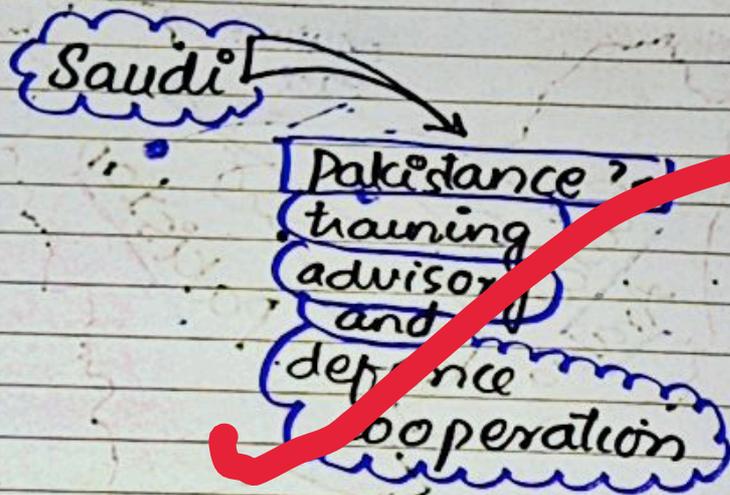
② Enhancing Saudi Arabia's Defence Capability:

Pakistan has one of the most experienced armed forces in Muslim world.
Former Saudi Crown prince

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Mohammed bin Salman acknowledged Pakistan as a "reliable security partner" highlighting Saudi reliance on Pakistani training, advisory, and defence cooperation.

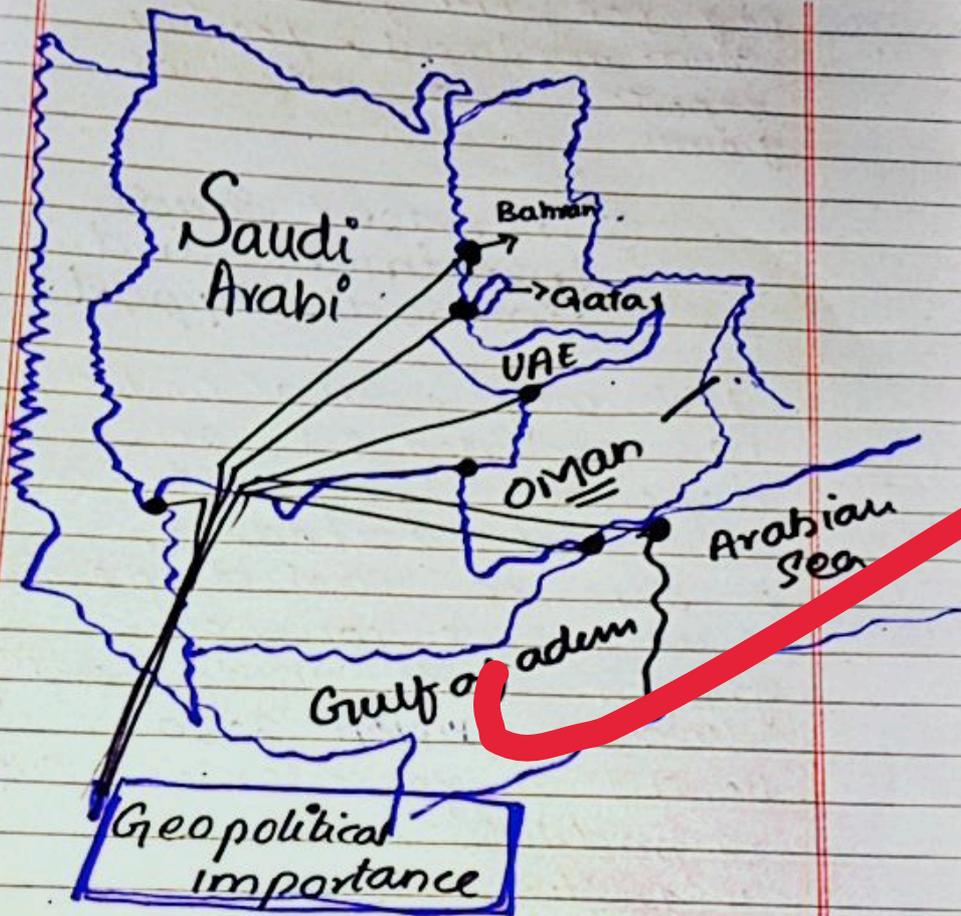


③ Boosting Pakistan's Strategic Relevance:

The pact elevates Pakistan's geopolitical importance in the Gulf region. As noted by ~~Strat~~ John Mearsheimo, alliances increase a state's strategic value. Pakistan's role as a security provider strengthens its diplomatic leverage globally.

Date: _____

Day: _____



④ Economic opportunities through defence cooperation:-

Defence collaboration can lead to arms production, joint ventures, and technology transfer.
Pakistan's defence industry

Date: _____

Day: _____

(e.g. POF, PAC) can access Saudi investment, boosting exports and industrial growth.

⑤ Increased Saudi Investment and Financial Support:

Historically, Saudi Arabia has provided oil on deferred payments and financial assistance. A defence pact deepens trust, encouraging greater Saudi investment under Vision 2030, benefiting Pakistan's energy, infrastructure, and industrial sectors.

⑥ Counterterrorism and Intelligence Cooperation:

Joint intelligence sharing improves internal security. Pakistan's counterterrorism experience supports Saudi security, while regional stability indirectly supports

leverage

Date: _____

Day: _____

Pakistan's economic confidence.

Conclusion:

A Pakistan - Saudi Arabia defence pact offers clear geopolitical advantages by strengthening regional security and elevating both states strategic positions. Economically, it creates investment opportunities, supports Pakistan's defense industry, secures remittances, and deepens financial cooperation. Thus, the pact is a strategic win-win for both countries.

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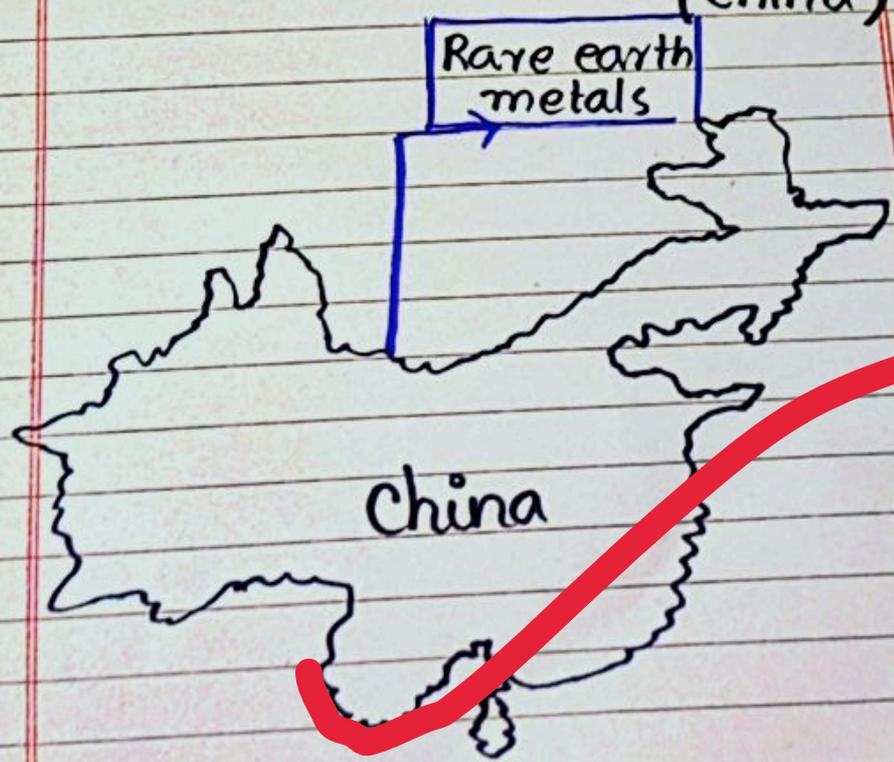
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Question #7

US used chip as weapon and china in return used rare earth metals. critically evaluate the future trade war between the two world largest economies in the light above statements.

Introduction:

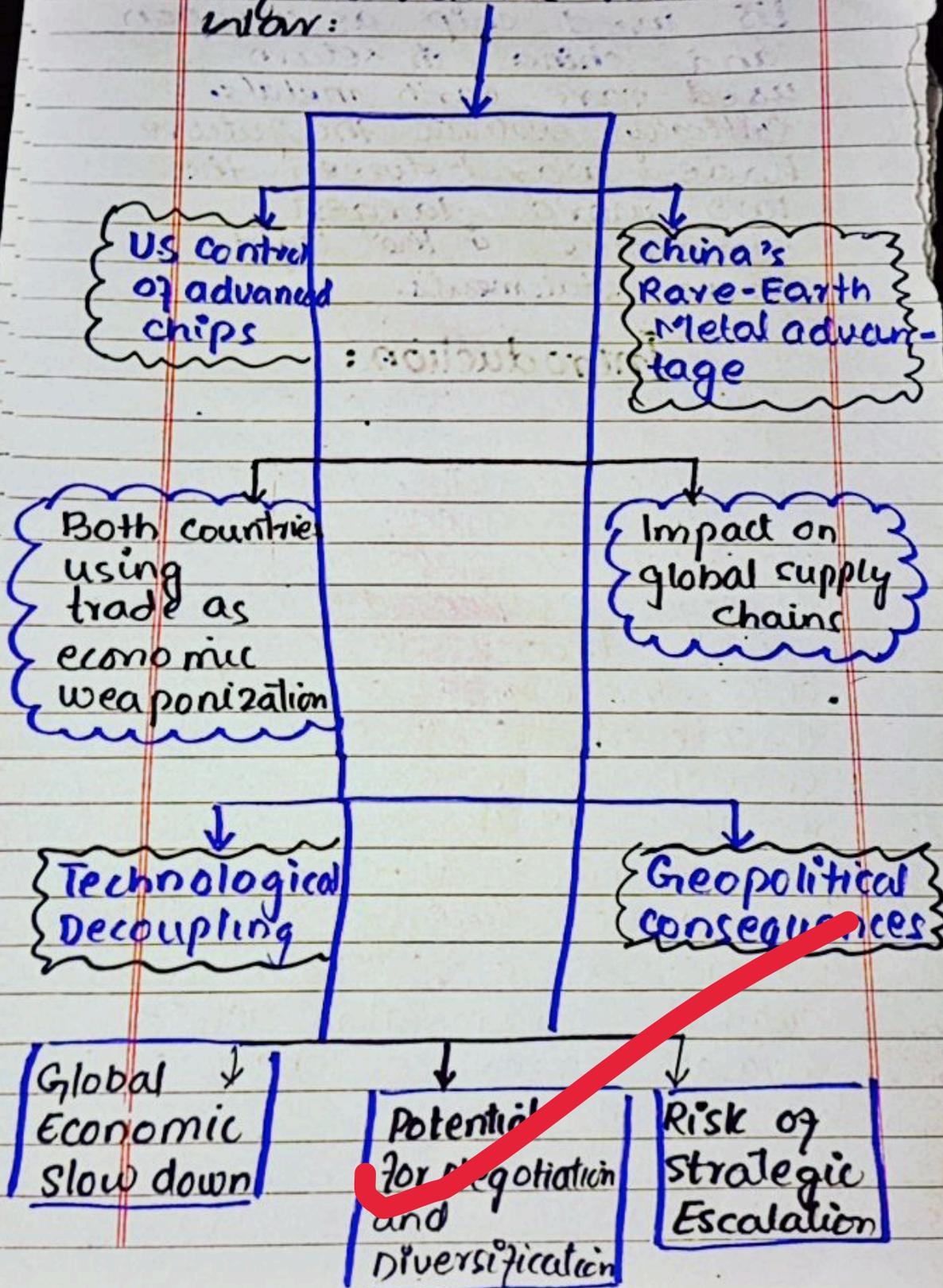
The US and china are the two largest economies in the world. Recently the US has used semiconductor technology (chips) as a strategic weapon by restricting china access to advanced chips. In response china has threatened to use its control over rare-earth metals, which are vital for electronics, defence, and renewable energy industries. This reflects a new form of economic confrontation where strategic resources become tools of power.



Date: _____

Day: _____

Critical Evaluation of the Future Trade War:



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Day: _____

(a) U.S Control of Advanced Chips:

The U.S leads in designing and producing high-tech semi-conductors used in AI, 5G, and military applications. Restricting china's access to these chips limits its technological growth and defense capabilities.

(b) China's Rare-Earth Metal Advantage

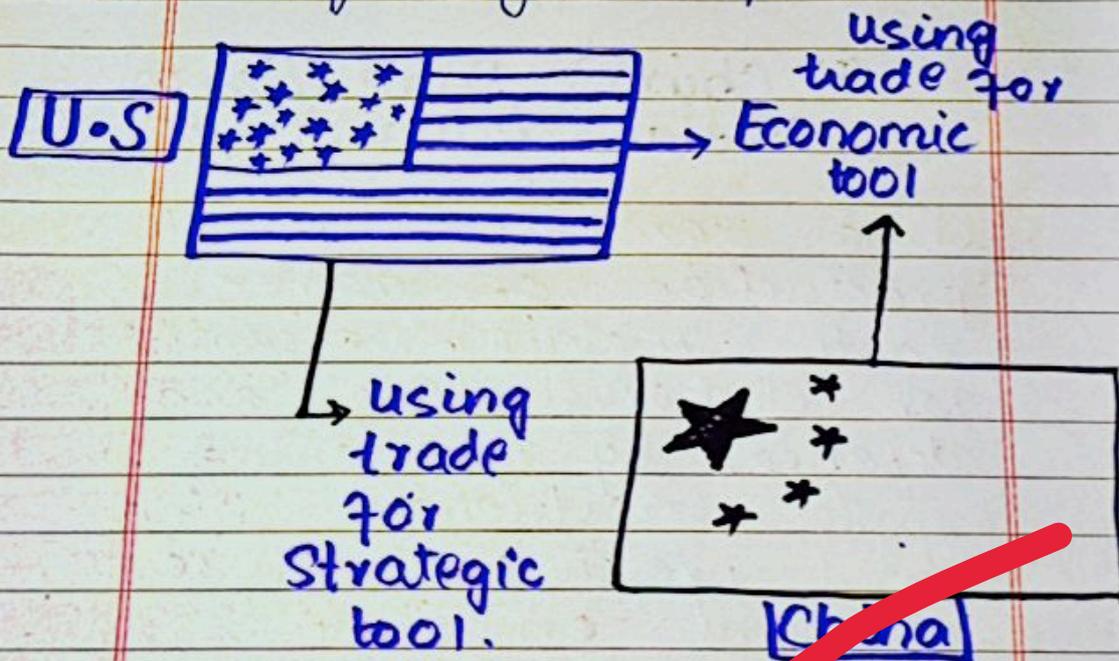
China dominates global production of rare-earth metals, essential for electronics, EVs, and defense. By threatening exports restrictions, china can pressure countries dependent on these materials.

Date: _____

Day: _____

© Both Countries as Economic Weaponization

Both countries are using trade as a strategic tool, not just for economy. The U.S. chips ^{limits} ~~restricts~~, while China can restrict rare-earths, turning vital resources into bargaining weapons.



④ Global Impact on Supply chains

Trade restrictions disrupt

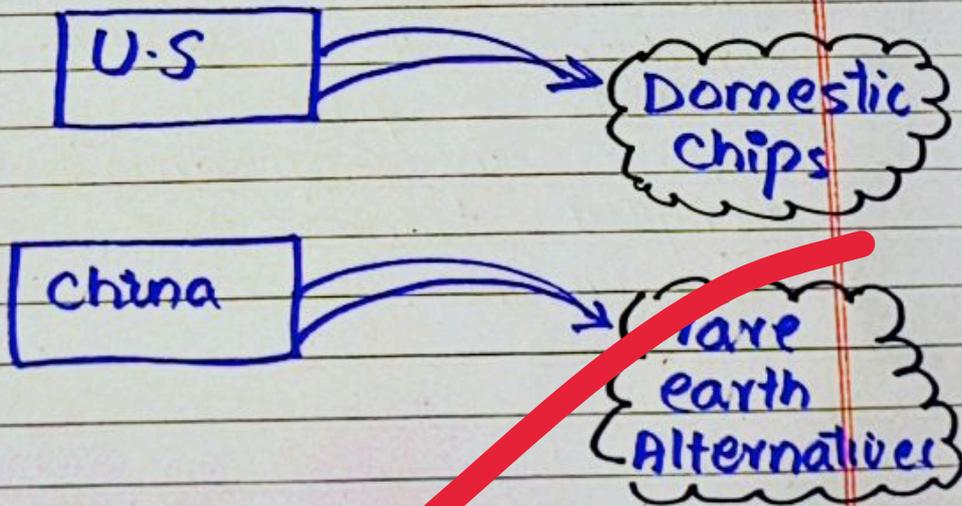
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production of electronics, renewable energy, and EVs worldwide. Companies may face shortages or rising costs, affecting global markets.

© Technological Decoupling of Both Countries.

The trade war encourages both sides to build independent supply chains. The U.S. invests in domestic chip production, while China develops rare-earth alternatives and recycling.



Date: _____

Day: _____

⑧ Geopolitical Consequences face by Both of the powers:-

Allies and partners may be forced to choose sides, reshaping global alliances.

For example Japan, South Korea, and the EU must consider tech and trade alignment with either country.

⑨ Global Economic Slowdown:

A prolonged trade war can reduce global economic growth and increase inflation.

The World Bank predicts a potential 0.5-1% decline in GDP due to disrupted trade and investment flows.

(h) Risk of Strategic Escalation:

Economic conflict may spill into military or tech tensions. Using chips and rare-earths as leverage increases the chances of confrontations in defense and cybersecurity sectors.

(i) Potential for Negotiation and Diversification.

Both countries may eventually compromise or diversify resources. The U.S seeks alternative rare-earth suppliers, while China invests in domestic recycling and substitutes to reduce dependency.

Conclusion:

The U.S - China trade war shows how strategic resources - chips and rare earths -

Date: _____

Day: _____

are new weapons. Both sides are vulnerable, the global economy faces risks, but negotiation and resource diversification may prevent a full-blown crisis.

Date: _____

Day: _____

Question #08.

Critically evaluate Gaza peace plan and the chances of its success. Also analyze the policy of Islamabad regarding the plan and its possible fallouts on Pakistan.

Introduction

The Gaza conflict has persisted for decades, with cycles of violence between Israel and Palestinian groups. Recently, international actors proposed a Gaza peace plan aiming to stabilize the region, ensure humanitarian aid, and create conditions for long-term resolutions. Pakistan, as a prominent Muslim country, has expressed support for Palestinian rights, and its stance on the plan could have political and economic implications.

Date: _____

Day: _____

Evaluating the Gaza peace plan And its Potential Impact:

(a) Objectives of the Gaza Peace plan to Reduce Conflict:

The plan seeks to end hostilities, improve living conditions, and facilitate negotiations between Israel and Palestinian authorities. It focuses on humanitarian aid, security guarantees, and gradual lifting of blockades.

For example, UN-backed initiatives aim to provide electricity, water, and food access to Gaza.

(b) Measure to Promote political Dialogue between parties:-

The plan encourages dialogue and mutual recognition between

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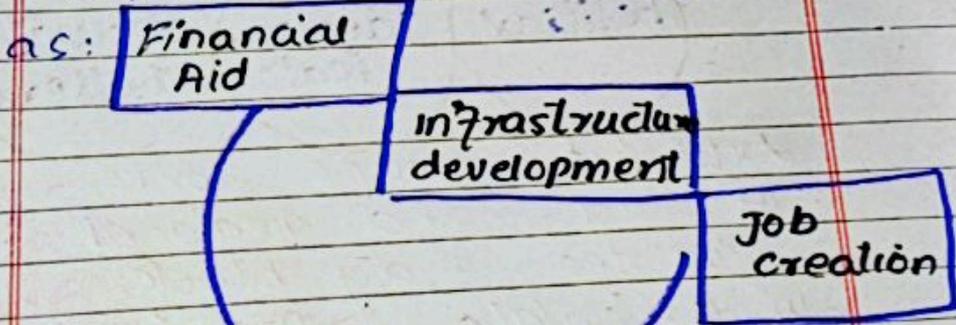
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Israel and Hamas/Fatah.
It envisions confidence-
building measures such
as prisoner exchanges and
ceasefires, designed to
create trust for long-
term negotiations.

© Economic And Humanitarian Incentives for

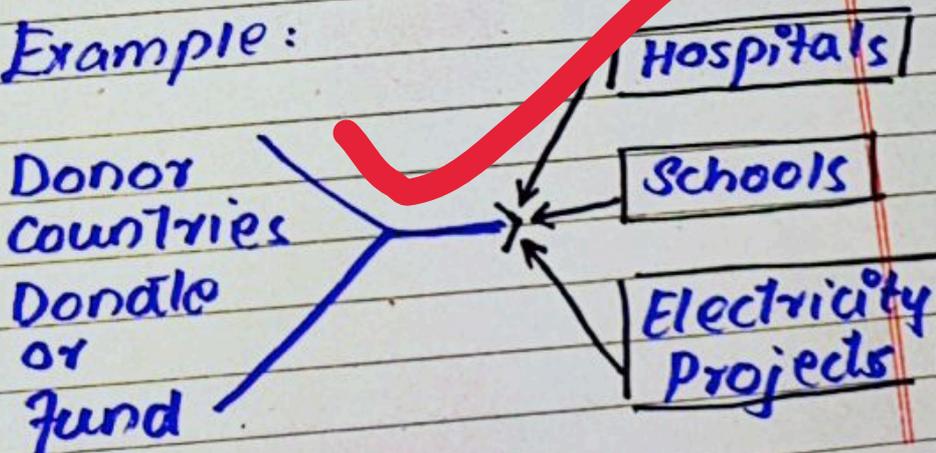
Peace :-

It proposes the following such



aims to Reduce poverty and
frustration in Gaza.

Example:



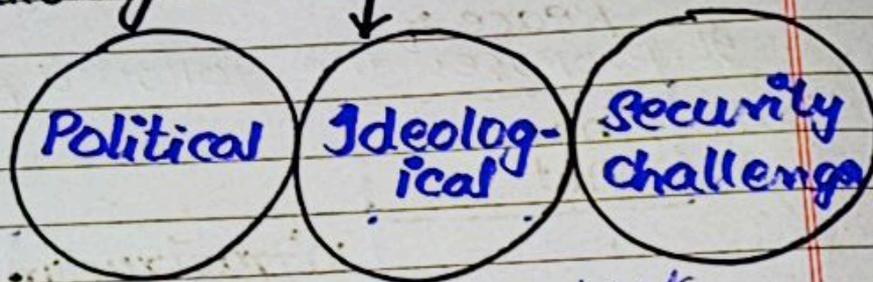
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@ Challenges in Implementation and Resistance from Stakeholders:

Despite good intentions, there are still some challenges in the path

Challenges



Extremist groups, lack of trust, and regional rivalries may block implementation. Previous plans have failed due to these entrenched obstacles.

Date: _____

Day: _____

(B) Assessing the Likely Success of the Gaza Peace Plan:

(i) Dependence on Cooperation Between Conflicting Parties:

The success heavily relies on Israel and Palestinian authorities cooperating. Any breakdown in talks or resurgence of violence can undermine the plan quickly.

(ii) Influence of Regional Powers on Gaza Stability:

countries like Egypt, Qatar and Turkey

Egypt

Qatar

Turkey

Turkey can play a pivotal role in mediating their support or opposition can strengthen or weaken the peace plan, showing regional politics

help in Mediating

Date: _____

Day: _____

as critical.

(3) Role of International Community in Sustaining peace:-

International donors, UN, and the US are needed to fund and monitor the plan, provide guarantees, and mediate disputes. Without sustained global support, the plan risks collapse.

(4) Historical Patterns of Failed peace Efforts:

Past Peace initiatives (Oslo Accords, 2023 Roadmap) failed due to mistrust, violence, and unmet promises, indicating the plan faces high hurdles for success.

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Day: _____

Diplomatic Support
for Palestinian Rights

Balancing relations
with International
Partners

Pakistan's Policy
on the Gaza
peace plan and
its Implications

potential domestic
political implications
in Pakistan

Economic and
Strategic consequences
for Pakistan

Pakistan has consistently supported Palestinian rights and call for an end to Israeli occupation. By backing the Gaza peace plan, Islamabad strengthens its diplomatic credibility in the Muslim world, balances relations with international partners, and may attract economic and

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Day: _____

and strategic benefits
Conclusion

The Gaza peace plan aims to reduce conflict and improve humanitarian conditions, but its success depends on cooperation, regional support, and international involvement. Pakistan's support strengthens its diplomatic standing and may bring economic and strategic benefits, though challenges remain.