



Political Science & International Relations

Crash Course & Test Series - 2021

Test 06

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 250

Name SAMYAK JAIN
Test Date 18-12-21
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Instructions:

1. There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS and candidate has to attempt five questions in all.
2. Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any three are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each section.
3. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the booklet in the space provided.
5. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
7. All parts of the question should be written at one place itself.
8. Write the test in exam atmosphere.
9. **Filling all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.**

S. No.	a	b	c	d	e	Total
1						
2				X	X	
3				X	X	
4				X	X	
5						
6				X	X	
7				X	X	
8				X	X	
Grand Total						

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	Poor	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Understanding of Questions					
Structure & Flow					
(a) Introduction					
(b) Conclusion					
(c) Overall					
Subject Knowledge					
Presentation					
(a) Underline					
(b) Paragraph					
(c) Overall					

Overall Remarks:

Dear Student,

All the best for next test...!!!

Discuss the limitations of structural functional approach to the study of comparative politics. (10 Marks)

Structural functional approach is a behavioral approach in modern comparative politics. It was devised by Gabriel Almond and Powell to make comparative politics more inclusive and scientific.

It looks at several structures, functions with a political system that impact its environment and outcome through the seven input - output model.

However, it has several limitations such as :

1) According to Marxists, this approach is eurocentric. It considers western



liberal model as ideal type. Moreover, it has is status-quoist and has no method of inculcating social movements, disruptions etc -

2) According to Traditionalists, it brings only cosmetic changes and complex terminology to arrive at same conclusions. It is also more expensive.

3) Feminists note that it fails to acknowledge patriarchy as basic structure of society.

Despite limitations, structural-functional approach is a huge improvement over Easton's systems approach. It can be used to explain political systems in developing world like by Rajni Kothari in India.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Comment on Morgenthau's views on national interest. (10 Marks)

Morgenthau is often called as the 'Father of Realism'. In his book "Politics Amongst Nations", 1949, he talks about national interest as the core of Realism.

According to Morgenthau's six principles of Realism, nations always act in their national interest.

Although, national interest remains the core concern, but it is dynamic in nature.

National interest keeps on changing from time to time. For eg. the US before I World War considered only "America" as its core national interest (Munn doctrine)



But, since WWI has expanded its national interest to West Asia and now Indo-Pacific.

Morgenthau further deliberates that national interest is contingent upon human behavior and the nature of leader of nation.

He has been criticised by Marxists like Mohd. Younis who opine that national interest is a pseudo theory and false consciousness. Eg. In Pak, military & ISI interests are portrayed as national interests.

Yet the relevance of national interest has been reinstated as "timeless wisdom" in post-COVID era.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Elucidate the difference between defensive and offensive realism.
(10 Marks)

Structural realism looks at the international politics through the prism of structures, which constraint the choices of international actors.

These are two sub-schools of thought namely Defensive and offensive realism.

Defensive realism believes that power is the means and security is the end. While offensive realism believes that power is the means and ends.

Thus, Defensive Realism calls states "security maximizers" while offensive realists call states "power maximizers".



Defensive realism given by Kenneth Waltz during detente period in 1979. While offensive realism given by John Mearschiemer in the post cold war era.

Defensive realism can be exemplified by India's nuclear doctrine vis-a-vis Pak. offensive Realism can be seen in the security dilemma and relations between US and China.

As realism remains a "timeless wisdom" so does the application of defensive and offensive realism in their different scenarios in global politics.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Write a short note on Religious Terrorism with reference to Al Qaeda (10 Marks)

Terrorism is defined as use of non-state actors for a political goal by terrorising the opponent into accepting political demands.

Religious terrorism entails violence on civilians on ideologies based on religious fundamentalism. This is evident in religious terror groups like ~~Al-Qaed~~ Al-Qaeda using Islamic fundamentalism.

Features of Religious Terrorism

- 1) they are usually funded indirectly by political actors. Eg. Al-Qaeda funded by US ^{and} Pakistan.
- 2) they are created with a clear objective



of political gains. Eg. Al-Qaeda to drive out Soviet from Afghanistan.

3) They indulge in low-intensity guerrilla warfare and radicalisation of youth.

Eg. Indian Mujahideen.

4) Realists consider religious terrorism as agent of proxy warfare.

The past few decades have seen

a rising menace of religious terrorism.

Asymmetrical balancing by nations like

CCIT ~~has~~ can help root out terror.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Enumerate Reforms needed in UN peacekeeping. (10 Marks)

UN Peacekeeping is a form of collective security envisaged under the UN Charter. However, India's permanent representative to UN, Syed Akbaruddin has called it a "no-man's land", calling for reforms.

Reforms needed in UN peacekeeping

- 1) Mandate of UNPKF can be expanded to include intra-state conflicts and proxy wars.
- 2) Better balancing between funds and troop contributing countries for more democratic decision making.
- 3) Training of and equipments for ensuring safety of Peacekeepers (Blue berets)

- 4) Accountability of peacekeeping forces and oversight mechanisms in situations of war crimes. eg. Mass rapes in Haiti.
- 5) Moving from peacekeeping to peace-building approach. eg. India's role in Afghanistan.

A4P - Action for Peacekeeping Initiative is a positive step in reimagining collective security. India as one of the largest contributors can play an active role in reforms in UNPK.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

The rivalry between USA and China has become a guiding paradigm of international relations shaping both scholarly debates and real world of politics. Discuss (20 Marks)

In the past three decades, the centre of economic growth has shifted from the west to the East led by China. This has prompted a rivalry between hegemonic US and revisionist China.

This power transition and rivalry has attracted the attention of scholars. Starting with structural realists like Mearschimer, who sees China as a textbook case of revisionist power who wants to replace western liberal hegemony.

this is further discussed in the framework of Thucydides' Trap (Graham Allison) in which ~~two~~ a hegemonic power feels insecure due to rise of another power ultimately leading to security dilemma.

Some debates revolve around the New Cold War 2.0. This cold war is steered by trade war and technology wars, instead of territory and ideology. Though this view is contested by social constructivists like Xi Jinping himself.

In the backdrop of GFC 2008, and then COVID-19 pandemic, scholars also talk of Kindleberger Trap, wherein no superpower has ability to manage public



Not only scholarly debates, but the real world of politics is also shaped by this rivalry.

The shift of US foreign policy priority to Indo Pacific and the formation of Quad is in this context.

As noted by Harsh V. Pant, the US needs India in the Quad as an ideal balancer for China.

The recent formation of AUKUS can be seen as a move to counter Chinese naval presence in Indian Ocean by strengthening Australian Navy.

The US pullout of Afghanistan is another strategic move aimed at China.



According to C Raja Mohan, it is a part of long overdue strategy to refocus American capabilities towards China.

The formation of Western Quad, and Abraham Accords can also be seen as an extended strategy of US-China rivalry.

It is pertinent to note that in today's era of complex interdependence (Keohane and Nye), US-China is not a zero-sum game but has ripple effect on global politics.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Que.2(b)

"The center of gravity of International politics is shifting towards Indo-pacific". Comment. Analyse the role of Quad in advancing the areas of cooperation and Mutual interest in the region. (15 Marks)

Shyam Saram in his book - "How India sees the world" mentions about the shift of centre of gravity of International politics from Atlantic to Indo-Pacific.

since ~~for~~ it is said that "flag follows trade", the rise of economies of China, India, South East Asia have attracted the presence of major powers in the region.

The importance of maritime power in geopolitics as per AT Mahan's principle, has also led the shift towards Indo-Pacific. Today, more than



80% of global trade by volume passes through Indo-Pacific and its choke points like Malacca, Strt. of Hormuz etc.

Therefore, Indo-Pacific features prominently in foreign policy priorities of almost all powers from Europe to West Asia to East Asia.

The formation of Quad comprising India, Japan, Australia, US is for advancing mutual interests in the geopolitical arena.

In the recent Quad summit, 2021, areas of cooperation like maritime domain awareness, critical technologies, vaccine development, Information sharing etc were agreed upon.



With security exercises like Malabar, Quad also has the unstated agenda of countering China's aggressiveness in South China Sea and Indo-Pacific.

As PM Modi stated in the shangri-la dialogue, Quad is aimed at a "free-open-inclusive Indo-Pacific" which upholds a rules based international order.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

Since the end of the cold war nothing had a more decisive impact on the structure of the international system than the rise of China.
Elucidate. (15 Marks)

By the end of cold war 1991, and establishment of US unipolarity, scholars like Francis Fukuyama declared 'End of History'. But soon after S.P. Huntington in "Clash of Civilisations" recognised Sinic (China) challenge to the world order.

Rise of China and its decisive impact.

On the strategic front, China's initiatives like Belt and Road Initiative, Maritime Silk Road, String of Pearls, not only advanced Chinese influence but also provided strategic depth undermining US hegemony.



The aggressiveness shown by China in South China sea, land borders, Hongkong, Taiwan has led to counter-balancing by neighbours and major powers. Eg. Quad, AUKUS.

China's rising economic stature has led to trade war, protectionism with the US. China's chequebook diplomacy has also led to debt traps eg. Sri Lanka, Maldives.

While US withdraws from international bodies like UNHRC, WHO; China gains ground leading to decay of liberal institutional order.

It has also created several alternatives to IMF, WB such as AIIB.



This has altered the rules of international economic diplomacy.

However, other factors like the decline of US hegemony, ^{rise of Asian} powers like India, Japan, GFC 2008, Pandemic COVID-19 etc. have also played significant role in the new world order.

As our EAM Mr. S. Jaishankar said,

"A multilateral world order is in the interest of all", which can maintain a balance of power vis-a-vis China.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	

Do you think that the International institutions played significant role in making cooperation possible among the nation states? Give examples to substantiate your point of view. (20 Marks)

Liberal Institutionalism given by Woodrow Wilson in his 14-point speech proposed to build international institutions to convert 'jungle into zoo'. They provide platform for countries to communicate and cooperate.

Role played by international institutions

In making cooperation possible among nation states:

Institutions provide for rules based conduct in international relations

Eg. IMO, Seabed Authority ^{UNCLOS} making rules on international waters



Institutions promote cooperation in various fields like health, space, disaster management, poverty alleviation, food security. Eg. UN World Food Programme.

Programme:

Institutions act as platform for conflict resolution and peace. UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said that "the world is safer with UN than without it".

Even contentious issues like trade and foreign capital flow have been facilitated and regulated by international institutions. Eg. WTO, UNCTAD etc.



Not only trade and conflict resolution, international institutions also provide a regime for human rights promotion, international policing and counter-terrorism operations. Eg. Role of UNHRC, ICC, InterPOL, UNODC etc.

On the other hand, these institutions have been criticised for the following reasons :

- 1) Realists consider them as an extension of foreign policy and national interests reign supreme rather than common interests for nations.
- 2) Moreover, the liberal institutions suffer from "democratic deficit", as mentioned by Joseph Stiglitz in his book "Making Globalization Work".

- 3) They are dominated by superpowers. Eg. Deadlock in UNSC by P-3 and P-2.
- 4) They have proven to be ineffective during COVID-19 pandemic. Eg. The role of WHO and China bias has been questioned.
- 5) The recent Glasgow summit is also an example of the lack of cooperation on 'global commons' i.e. climate change.

Nevertheless, their relevance remains unparalleled as they have the power to convert anarchy into anarchical society (Headley Bull).

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks:	

Que.3(b)

How do feminist approach to International Politics contribute in addressing the subordination of Women in Global politics? (15 Marks)

The feminist approach to International politics has risen alongside the rise of Radical feminism in the later half of 20th century.

Subordination of women in global Politics

women have been the worst sufferers and passive recipients of mainstream political theories which are essentially "male-stream" and gender-blind.

Cynthia Enloe points towards low women representation (25 heads of state in 100 years) and asks: "Where are the women?" in her book "Beaches, Bases and Bananas".

She also talks about subordination of women through objectifications, models for attracting tourism, wives of diplomats, military prostitution etc.

Contribution of feminist approach

Feminist approach seeks to address the subordination by recognising that "Personal is international".

Recently, Sweden became the first country to roll out a feminist foreign policy. It looks at women, not as victims but as agents of change in international arena

They seek to promote human rights which are essentially women



Rights (Hillary Clinton).

They promote female perspective and gender-lens in policy formulation to make it more inclusive in nature.

Even in the context of South Asia, scholars like Nirupama Rao have stated that feminist approach to international politics, will not only empower women but entire mankind.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	

Discuss the constructivist critique of realism. How does the Constructive critique differs from the postmodernist critique of realism?(15 Marks)

Although realism has been touted as 'timeless wisdom' by K. Waltz, various schools of thought have emerged in international politics criticising its core assumptions. Eg. Constructivists, post-modernists, English school, Marxists etc.

Constructivist critique of realism

Constructivists like Alexander Wendt look at the world through prisms of social constructs. They believe in these constructs being the creation of man and hence not permanent they criticise realist assumption

of security dilemma as only a
perceived problem. Wendt says that -
"Anarchy is what states make of it"

It thus, can be overcome
through communication and dialogue.
A shining example is the security
community in western Europe.

Difference from post-modernist critique

The Post-modernists like Derrida,
Deleuze, Richard Ashley talk
about discourses in international politics.
They believe that there is no ultimate
truth, no "timeless wisdom".

Rather than universality of
nation states and national interest, they

propose subjectivity (text and context)

while constructivists seek to resolve

security dilemma, anarchy through better communication, post-modernists don't

see any universal way to do so. Post

modernists see Realism - just as a

'theory for someone and some purpose'

Although, constructivists and

post-modernists have some overlapping

ideas, both provide a unique

perspective in critique of Realism.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	

Discuss the Role of Soft power : as a major foreign policy tool for India. (10 Marks)

Joseph Nye in his book - 'soft power'

power : the guide to International Politics" states that soft power is ability to achieve national interests and influence decisions without coercive means .

Soft power as a foreign policy tool for India

In line with India's international

ethos of Manohar's Karam, India stands for multilateralism,

It has promoted capacity building, unconditional financing to least

developed countries .

India uses culture like religion, dance, Masala food, Bollywood, cricket, Yoga etc. enhance its global footprint.

India considers its diaspora as Permanent Ambassadors to further

its soft power.

More recently, the positive role of India is soft power is seen in medical diploma Vaccine Maithi initiatives.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	

Lack of trust between India and Sri Lanka has made the transactional. Comment. (10 Marks)

India and Sri Lanka have civilisational ties. However, the relations have been 'wired in mistrust' (Amb. Mahesh Sachdeva).

The lack of trust emanates from ethnic disputes on Tamil identity, IPKF intervention. There are also issues related to fishermen, and India's big brotherly attitude.

This has pushed Sri Lanka towards China making relationship transactional.

Sri Lanka scrapped the joint Indo-Japan East Container Terminal project.

Japan Inspite of China's debt trap, India's

projects like Mattala airport are seen with suspicion. Sri Lanka looks to China to balance India's dominance. However, in recent times, due to the looming economic and food crisis, trust deficit in India-Lanka relations is decreasing.

As envisaged in Neighbourhood First Policy 2.0, India Sri Lanka can work as equal partners as per SACGAR doctrine.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	

Que.5(c)

Explain the New horizons in India Africa relations. (10 Marks)

Mr. Rajiv Gandhi has rightly pointed out that India Africa relations have grown from "what India can do for Africa" to "what India and Africa can do together".

India looks at Africa as an indispensable partner for South-South cooperation. Global South issues like climate change, Poverty, disaster mitigation are some new horizons -

As Africa progresses in demography and development, it is an attractive destination for investments. Eg- AACG, India-Africa Business Forum.

Africa can also provide the much needed food security for growing Indian population eg: Pulses, oilseeds -

However, the new horizons demand 'walking the talk' and proactive diplomacy, especially with a competing China.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	

Elaborate the reasons why India needs more FTAs. (10 Marks)

Free trade agreement can be defined as bilateral or multilateral agreements seeking to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers for trade.

According to NITI Aayog India @ 25, India's FTAs ^{regime} have not been effective so far, and we need more FTAs.

Why India needs more FTAs.

1) Increase presence in global value chains Eg. ASEAN FTA; MERCOSUR FTA.

2) In the past, India's trade growth manifold after ASEAN FTA.

- 3) The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the importance of resilience in supply chains via more FTAs.
- 4) It enhances India's image as an attractive FDI destination.

However, as found in the ~~FT~~ ongoing FTAs reviews, the FTAs need to be designed to further India's economic social interests.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	

Que.5(e)

Write a short note on India's humanitarian diplomacy. (10 Marks)

India's humanitarian diplomacy has its roots in its civilizational values of 'Vaidhava Keturupam', cosmopolitan ethos.

Historically, India being the pharmacy of the world had as the biggest source of generic medicines.

In the ongoing pandemic as well, India has been at the forefront in Vaccine Maitri, COVAX, medical supplies etc.

To help its neighbours in humanitarian crisis, it launched

Operation Nee (sent water to Maldives), Operation Insaniyat (for Rohingya),

Operation Sanjeevani etc.

More recently, it sent food, medical aid to Afghanistan, which was also thanked for by Talibans -

In the ongoing Sri Lankan crisis, India has supplied line of credit, food, fertilisers in support.

Art. 51 of Indian Constitution guides the Indian diplomacy to keep humanitarianism at the forefront.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	

Fight for South China Sea is the fight for the soul of international order. Comment. What is India's approach to South China Sea? (20 Marks)

With the rise of China and its aggressive military posture, South China Sea has gained limelight in the international deliberations. ~~Apert~~

Apart from China, several other small nations like Vietnam,

Philippines, Japan share their maritime boundaries and stake claims

in South China Sea.

China's aggressiveness in the

South China Sea via nine-dash line, is not only challenging the above stake claims but also the

International order .

The rules based international order is threatened by attempts of china to unilaterally alter rules in its favor . eg. UNSC, seabed Authority, UNSC mandates .

The fast militarisation of South china sea, attempts to capture Taiwan, threaten world peace . US has declared that it will go to war for Taiwan .

Rapid expansion of Chinese navy, building military ports across South China sea and beyond, threaten the freedom of navigation, which is the core tenet of mainline international order .

Recognising the urgency of maintaining the soul of international order, India has taken a proactive stand towards South China Sea.

India, initially had a soft balancing approach by providing Vietnam and Philippines with help. Eg. frigates supply, Brahmos missile etc.

India has time and again utilised international forums like UN, East Asia Summit, SCO, BRICS for voicing concerns on South China Sea.

More recently, it has transformed its approach towards hard balancing.



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It has started sending warships in SCS to strengthen surveillance, military presence in SCS.
The formation of Quad can also be seen in this context.

Under Act East Policy, South China sea is an integrated component of free-open-inclusive Indo Pacific for India.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	

USA's exit necessitates paradigmatic shift in India's Afghanistan policy. Explain? (15 Marks)

Afghanistan has immense strategic, economic, security importance for India. India has till now focussed on capacity building 'Afghan led, Afghan controlled', ~~Afghan~~ 'peace process'. However, the new situation demands a new policy.

US has withdrawn its troops from Afghanistan on August 31, 2021 followed by Taliban takeover. In light of the evolving situation, India's Afghanistan policy too, has taken a shift. India's earlier stance of 'No talks

with terroris" is no longer an option.
(Virek Khatiw). India needs to ensure
that Afghan soil is not utilised by
Pakistan for terror launch pads against
India.

India also needs to secure its
₹36 investments like parliament
building, Salma dam, hospitals built
over 20 years. It needs to promote
inclusivity in Afghan government - as
promised by Taliban in Doha talks.

Keeping in mind that Afghanistan
is India's gateway to Central Asia,
an integral part of INSTC, India must
not remain on sidelines. As recommended
by Mr. Sengam Saran, India must engage
with whosoever is in power.

To pursue this, Amb. Deepak Mittal met Taliban representative in Doha. As our EAM Mr. S. Jaishankar has accepted, that India is engaging with all stakeholders in Afghanistan. More recently, Taliban has expressed gratitude towards India for humanitarian help.

As suggested by C. Raja Mohan, India needs to enhance its presence its in Kabul to gain greater manoeuvrability in the 'land of great games'.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	
Overall Remarks :	

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New Delhi faces challenges in managing its relations with Iran within its competing interests and conflicting relations with other countries. Discuss? (15 Marks)

Iran forms an integral part

of India's extended neighbourhood. ~~via which~~ India sees it not only

as a gateway to Central Asia, but also a second front against Pakistan.

However, more recently, India has a 'walk a tightrope' with Iran balancing different interests and foreign relations (C. Raja Mohan).

Especially, since the US pullout of JCPOA, Indian and American interests have been at odds with Iran. It has impacted India's



Energy security, strategic autonomy
and development of Chabahar port.

India also has to balance
between conflicting interests of West
Asian powers vis-a-vis Iran. Eg.

Saudi, - Israel, - Iran rivalry.

Furthermore, the cut in Premium
oil imports by India has increased
the bon-homie in China-Iran.

Recently, a roadmap of \$400b over
25 years, military exercises were
announced by China.

There has also resumed Indian
companies from Zahedan project and
Parzad-B oil fields project.

Moving forward, as suggested by Mr. Talmiz Ahmad, India needs to adopt a bolder approach with Iran without worrying about sanctions.

India needs deft balancing among various competing and conflicting interests to navigate the choppy waters.

Understanding of Questions	
Structure and Flow	
Subject Knowledge	
Presentation	