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Political Science & International Relations

Crash Course & Test Series - 2023

Test 3

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 250

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Test Date 14/08/2023
Email Address _____
UPSC Roll No 0218002

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						

For any issue related to PSIR Test Series, write only at
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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...!!!

e.1 (a)

Comment on post-modernist critique of structuralism. (10 Marks)

Structuralism is a school within realism that tends to define the nature of international politics. It emerged as a criticism of classical realism by Morgenthau who has based his theory on the human nature i.e., it was based on actor level analysis.

Structuralist like K. Waltz and Mearsheimer have contradicted the theory of classical realism because it is too subjective as it is based on human nature.

Thus structuralist have shifted the focus of study of

International politics from actor level analysis to the structure level analysis - because the structure of the international politics is more or less stable in contrast to the human nature

They base the study of international politics on anarchical structure and hence suggest that states are continuously striving for power maximisation to ensure their security

Post-modernists have criticised it for over looking the actor-level analysis & hence suggest both the actor & the structure must be taken into consideration

e.1(b)

Discuss the feminist approach to security. (10 Marks)

Realist scholars assume that the international politics is in state of flux because of its anarchical nature and hence are continuously striving for power maximisation (offensive realism) to ensure their security.

Security as a concept holds huge significance in the study of international relations & hence is important for nations to ensure their stability.

The concept of security has led to arms race among the nations and also gave rise to the concept of

deterrence.

The feminist scholars have criticised the approach of political scholars toward security as it has reduced the discipline to a masculinist one.

Scholars like Ann T. Tickner have rather suggest to give primacy to the security of females in the international politics as they are ^{at} the greatest disadvantaged position & hence suffer from multiple burden like patriarchy, sexual exploitation, suppression, etc and hence feminists have emphasised on female idea of security.

e.1(c)

Discuss the role of MNCs in shaping the politics across the developing countries. (10 Marks)

Developing countries are usually the post-colonial countries that have now being integrated into the world economy mostly due to their cheap labour and huge market size.

According to Kwame Nnamah the developing countries are now under new form of colonialism i.e. Imperialism ~~is~~ ~~the~~ and the drain of wealth continues to happen in form of Imperialist rent.

The western countries have been setting up their

Industrial bases in the developing countries because of following reasons:

- (i) huge possibility of growth & profit because of cheap labour & huge market size
- (ii) To offset their climate response targets

These MNCs have been impacting not just the economies but also the politics of these countries.

Globalist like M. McLuhan consider globalisation as real that has impacted sovereignty of states eg:- WTO's rule on subsidies while statist like Robert Gilpin consider that sovereignty of states has remained intact. But the reality that globalisation is not a zero-sum game - at some places state is winning & other globalisation

e.1(d)

Describe the political sociology approach. (10 Marks)

Political sociology approach is a hybrid concept in comparative politics which tends to study the interface between politics and society in order to understand the political system better.

This approach is widely used to study the political system of the post colonial countries like India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, etc

Because only studying their constitution, institutions and state is not sufficient as these are an example of overdeveloped state and hence understanding

The context of their societies is more important.

Here the focus is on studying the impact of sociological factors like caste, religion, ethnicity, etc on the politics of the country. Scholars like Christophe Jaffrelot, Paul Brass, etc have studied this in context of India.

Thus political sociology approach has broadened the scope of political science by placing it in the sociological perspective, but has been also criticised for making Political Science a dependent discipline on sociology. However we must understand that politics is not independent of society.

e.1(e)

Critically evaluate democratic peace theory. (10 Marks)

The democratic peace theory has been given by the liberal scholars stating that the countries that adopt Democracy are more peaceful in comparison to one who don't.

This has been supplemented by Political development Approach of Lucian Pye. According to the Marxist scholars, there are just metanarratives to establish the hegemony of western liberal ideology based on multilateralism and democracy.

The best example in this regard is India & Pakistan both of which are renowned democracies of South Asia but have seen two full fledged wars (1965, 1971) and thus committing that democracy ensure peace is not completely correct.

Though democracy ensures that government works in accordance to the wishes of people and obviously people don't prefer war and hence "peace theory" rather depends on rationality of leaders and humanity among people



e.2(a)

Discuss the salient features of system theory of International Politics. Do you think it as an inadequate theory? (20 Marks)

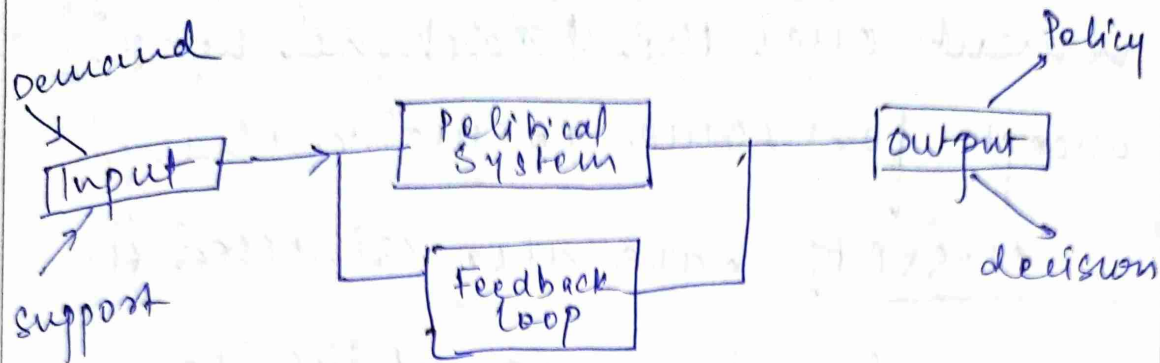
International politics is considered to be a subdiscipline of political science as it deals with the concept related to states. In order to understand the international politics several theories have been put forward by the political scholars one such theory is the "System Theory".

System Theory has been put forward by David Easton. It has shifted the focus of understanding the international relation based on static concepts like state, institutions

and constitution to understanding
it through the study of the entire
political system

Political system is a set up
consisting of several elements
that are continuously interacting
with each other, impacting
each other and in return also
gets impacted.

The purpose of systems
approach is understand the
dynamics instead of just
focussing on static way of
understanding the international
politics



Daniel Easton has explained the relation between several elements in the political system through a schematic diagram where there is input in form of -! demands and support from the people; and in turn gives the output i.e. decision & policies by the state

This system theory of international politics has been criticised by traditional scholars

as it does not provides much improvement over the traditional methods except for some cosmetic changes. Marxists have also criticised the approach - because of the concept of "system maintenance" in form of feedback loop as it overlooks the scope of revolution and breakdown.

Though system approach has brought a shift from Normative method towards scientific method

Yet looking at the complexities that exists in International politics - no one method is completely apt and hence there are combination of studies that are used

.2(b)

Distinguish the functions of political parties with that of pressure groups. Compare and contrast the nature of politics of pressure Groups in Developed and Developing societies. (15 Marks)

Edmund Burke has defined political parties as group of individuals sharing a common social, political and economic ideology that come together to implement their ideology by gaining power.

Political parties are the institutional mechanisms of Representative democracies. According to Lester, without political parties the idea of democracy is inconceivable. They are the major characteristic of democratic system.

while on the other hand pressure groups are informal grouping of people who come together to achieve a political or social aim, without entering into politics. They are more of tactics based groups. ~~Finer~~
Finer has called them as "invisible empire"

Unlike political parties who contest elections and focus on coming to power in order to implement their ideology, pressure groups work outside the government, they pressurise the party in power to take cognisance of

UPSC

Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.
Any page or portion of the page left blank must be clearly struck off.

Only write
question
number in
this margin

the needs and aspiration of the people, they use methods like electioneering, lobbying, hartal, strikes, etc.

If we look nature of policies of pressure group in developing and developed society, both are based on Foucault's concept that power can no longer seen to be concentrated in a central authority rather it is decentralized

However, their institutionalisation, working and functioning is more advanced and developed in developed countries where they wield huge power (Roberto Dahl)

unlike the pressure groups in developing countries which are more of non-absorbtional groups

Que.2(c)

'World System Theory is a 'macro-sociological' perspective seeking to explain the dynamics of capitalist world economy'. Discuss the contemporary relevance of World System Theory (15 Marks)

World system theory is a part of Dependency school of Marxism which seeks to explain the nature of state in the post-colonial countries along with explaining the dynamics of the capitalist world economy.

The world system theory has been put forward by a Marxist scholar - Immanuel Wallerstein who has explained the socio-economic perspective towards the economies with

advent of globalisation.

Globalisation has led to increase in interconnectedness and interdependence among the sovereign nation states with respect to people, economy, states and governments.

He divides the countries in world into three categories

(i) Core countries - eg - USA,

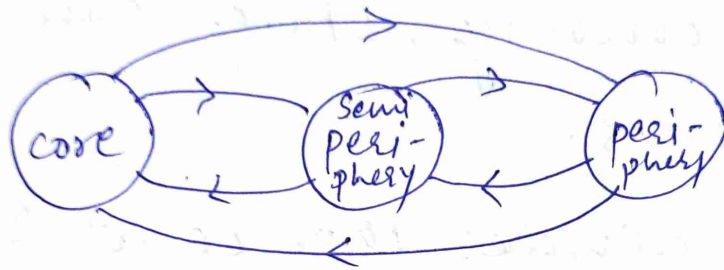
Russia, etc. these are the ones who have yielded the fruits of Industrial revolution and hence have the advantage of first movers

(ii) Semi-periphery countries - eg -

Japan, S. Korea, etc who were earlier dependent on core countries but are now having

their own mark

(iv) periphery countries eg:- African and asian nations that have become a puppet regime of the core countries



These are all connected to each other and despite the end of colonialism, we are witnessing that countries of global south (peripheral countries) are still under new form of colonialism i.e. imperialism and the drain of wealth is continuing in form of imperialist rent (Kwame Nnamah)

e.3(a)

Explain the difference between 'realist' and 'neo-realist' approach to international politics. Discuss the relevance of feminist critique of realism. (20 Marks)

International Relation is a comparatively young dynamic discipline, which tends to understand the dynamics of the politics at global level. There are several school of thoughts that tend to define the nature of international politics based on their ideology.

Amongst the various school of thought - Realist Approach is considered to be dominant and the hegemonic approach to the study of international politics.

The realist approach takes the power view of politics which is inspired by scholars like - Machiavelli

They consider that the nature of International politics is anarchical due to absence of a central government

This is responsible for the continuous struggle for power

among the national states in order to ensure their security. Within realism the prominent school is that of classical realism which has been given by Morgenthau who calls his theory as scientific. And he has based the nature of

International politics on the nature of humans - as plato states "State is individual writ large" i.e., state is what people make of it.

Similarly Morgenthau has based his theory on human nature which is inspired by Hobbes idea of social contract, just like man is power-seeking so are the states and hence they focus on power maximisation because of security dilemma, which further disturbs the Balance of power and the vicious cycle continues. This theory has been contradicted by Neo-realists like K. Waltz and Mearsheimer

who are of view that classical realism cannot be a scientific theory as it is based on human nature which is very unpredictable and subjective - (Hobbes - man is fierce minded). Thus they shift the focus from actor level analysis to structure level analysis according to which - since the structure of international politics is anarchical thus we observe that states go for power maximisation (Offensive realism) or security maximisation (Defensive realism).

This theory has been criticised by Feminists like Ann Tickner because the theory lacks feminine perspective making it a masculinist description.

e.3(b)

Critically examine the relevance of theory of Balance of Power in 21st century. (15 Marks)

The theory of Balance of power is based on the realist concept of international politics and traces its origin to the westphalian world order (1648-1919).

During the westphalian world order the discipline of international politics was dominated by European nations like Britain and france. USA at this time was following its isolationist policy (Munroe doctrine) and they were involved in power politics

The concept of Balance of Power

is based on the idea that the world is in state of anarchy with no central authority to ensure rule based order.

In other words the model of world is "Billiard-Ball Model"

(A mold waffer) where states are in continuous conflict with each other, so as to maximise its power and ensure its security.

This model was replaced by the idea of collective security

Based on ideology of liberalism post world war II after the establishment of multilateralism

as world became more interdependent and interrelated (web model)

If we look at the world order in 21st century, multilateralism is under threat & liberal world order is dying especially after the events like - 2008 Global financial crisis & COVID-19

We are witnessing a shift in the countries approach from multilateralism to self interest centered eg :- USA's America first policy which has been countered by other countries like China, Russia, India, etc and thus again world is witnessing the shift towards Balance of power politics especially with advent of nuclear weapons.

Que.3(c)

What is gender justice? Do you think gender justice in law as well as in practice is key to achieve SDGs? (15 Marks)

Rights are the most important claims of a person to ensure a dignified life. One such right is the right to equality, i.e. equality between the sexes. which is also known as gender Justice

Gender Justice is a method of ensuring that people are treated equally irrespective of their sexes, be it male,

female or the trans genders. The biggest suffering one can go through is to be born in a gendered society

As Susan Mollerokim says
"one is not born women, one
becomes women" - after she
is exposed to the gendered society
and has to take the burden of
existing stereotypes.

In order to ensure gender
justice - the multilateral organi-
sation like the United Nations
has taken the lead in 1990s
and declared 1973 as the
international year of women &
member countries were asked
to come up with a report high-
lighting the condition of women
in their country.

This is when the world
was once again exposed to how

poorly the women have been subjected to disabilities.

thus laws and rules were to be made to ensure that women just like men are also entitled to dignified life. The Gender Justice laws are not sufficient to ensure their upliftment rather their proper implementation & practice will.

These laws needs to be regularly updated to grasp the realities of the changing environment for women and ensure their security this will help us achieve the SDG -

Weaknesses of traditional approach to comparative politics. (10 Marks)

5(a)

Comparative politics is a subdiscipline of political science and it has its roots in political philosophy. Aristotle is known as father of comparative politics, because he has studied 158 constitutions of the world.

In comparative politics the earliest method / approach that has been used is - Traditional Approach which can be classified as:-

(I) Normative - value based eg:- Aristotle, Machiavelli.

(II) Historical as given by Marx

(III) Legal-institutional - eg:- Dicey, Ivor Jennings, etc.

This was based on study of the Constitution, State, Institutions, etc and hence has been criticised by scholars like Ray Macridis as parochial, speculative, static and non-comparative.

Especially after the emergence of post-colonial countries, rise of behaviouralism, etc the traditional approach seemed irrelevant which further led to the development of modern approach.

The modern approach is considered to be more dynamic, scientific and also appropriate for study of post colonial countries,
eg:- System Approach, Structural functional approach etc

2.5(b)

New International Economic Order (NIEO). (10 Marks)

After the world war II the entire world was divided into two blocks → capitalist block led by USA and communist block led by USSR.

But the countries of Global South who had emerged fresh out of the darkness of colonial rule preferred to stay non-aligned and created platform for themselves i.e. NAM on initiative of leaders from five countries - Ghana (Kwame Nkrumah), India (Nehru), Egypt (Abdul Nasser), Yemen (S.B. Tibi), Indonesia (Sukarno)

NAM not just remained a political platform but also started taking up the economic issues and thus the idea of NIEO i.e. New International economic order emerged in

19

The idea was to strengthen the economy of the post colonial societies which were burdened with poverty, poor economic growth, etc.; while at the same time had huge significance & potential because of its demography, market size, etc.

however with the collapse of USSR and end of cold war the idea of NIEO could never materialise in its full potential.

The concept of 'Over Developed State'. (10 Marks)

re. 5(c)

The concept has been given by Hamza Ali with respect to the post-colonial societies that have been best described by FW Riggs as "Pseudo-modern societies".

According to Hamza Ali - countries which were once the colonies of the west have been converted to overdeveloped states i.e. their political system is westernised and more developed while their economic system still remains traditional and underdeveloped.

b) The reason for this difference lies in the colonial legacy as the masters had strengthened the political structure so as to enforce their rule and ensure hold over the colonies, while they were bothered to strengthen their economy, rather the economy was exploited by them for their own development.

It we look at countries like India - it has a well established bureaucratic political structure but is predominantly agrarian. Gunnar Myrdal has used another term for these countries & calls them a "Soft state".

India's role in UN Peace Keeping (10 Marks)

ue.5(d)

United Nation is a collective security organisation based on the liberal ideology of ~~liberal~~ multilateralism. In order to enforce the collective security operation the UN security council has been empowered and one of the method is through the use of peacekeeping forces.

UN Peacekeeping operation has proved to be successful in it's mandate especially in the African nations. There are two components :- manpower and funds.

while the funds are contributed by the developed nations of the west, India dominates in the field of peace keeping forces.

India contributes the highest number of troops and is also known for capacity building as well as training of troops. Indian peace keeping forces are the most desired ones especially in the African countries.

With increase role of trans-national actors in the international politics, there has been increase in violence against peace keeping forces and India has lost so many lives. Thus idea of resolute Peace keeping has emerged.

ue.5(e)

International Court of Justice. (10 Marks)

International Court of Justice is one of the core organisation of the United Nations and is also known as World's Court

It is a civil court that looks into the dispute between member nations at the international level.

It however does not deal with disputes among private individuals. It consists of 15 members that are elected by the United Nation General Assembly for term of 9 years.

They adjudicate the matters which are of civil in nature and its decision is binding on the member countries. However, they do not look into criminal cases.

Other two organisation at international level to deal with adjudication of disputes are - International criminal court and permanent court of arbitration - however they are not a specialised arm of United Nations, and also their decisions are not binding and usually considered advisory.

8(a)

Climate change remains the toughest and the most intractable contemporary global concern. Comment. Do you think "an environmental cold war" between developed and developing countries has contributed to this impasse? (20 Marks)

Climate change is one of the biggest international threat the world is witnessing. Recently the UNCTA chief Antonio Guterres has remarked that the era of global warming has ended and the era of global boiling has started.

This highlights the severity of the issue and hence demands both immediate and strict response from all the countries across the world. The world took notice of the deteriorating

climate in the 1970s and as a result of this climate change negotiations were started, and international organisation i.e., UNFCCC was instituted to deal with the issue of climate change. Since the beginning the world has not been able to arrive at a consensus because of the tussle between the developing and developed countries and this ideological cold war has stalled the development in this regard.

The developing countries are of view that the countries of

Global North have contributed to the climate change, because of the Industrial revolution and hence they advocate for common but differentiated responsibility.

Developing countries want the developed nations to help them both financially & technologically in order to cope up with the challenge of climate change.

while the developed nations want equal responsibilities to be taken by all the nations of the world as a result of this the financial help of \$100bn as promised under Kyoto Protocol still remains unimplemented.

However, under the Paris Deal with advent of the concept of Nationally determined contribution we are witnessing an increased participation even from developing world.

Countries like India have been very significant in being the torchbearer & taking the lead. India in COP26 has announced its Panchamrit i.e. 5 goals for its NDCs and has been involved in other climate friendly initiatives like LIFE, International Solar Alliance, etc.

Looking at the situation today it is no more a choice rather imperative for both developing & developed nations to collaborate on this issue.

(b) With an ongoing crisis in Multilateralism, how do you visualise the future prospects of WTO? What are the current challenges for WTO? (15 Marks)

After the second world war multilateralism was chosen as the model for international politics which is based on the idea of Global Governance which manifested in the form of International Institutions like - United Nation, Bretton Woods Institution like - IMF, WB, GATT, etc.

WTO was formed in 1995 as a successor to GATT after a series of talks under the Marakesh Treaty. This was considered to be a historic move

in multilateralism to ensure free and fair trade among the economies in world.

Post the Global financial crisis in 2008 and the World Pandemic in 2019 we are witnessing a shift in the attitude of countries from multilateralism towards increased protectionism, which has led to problems like - Trade war, currency war, etc.

This is presenting a huge challenge for WTO as the questions the credibility of the organisation. Today WTO is being jammed by ongoing debates between the

developing and the developed nations especially on issues related to:-

- (i) Subsidies in Agriculture
- (ii) IPR - compulsory licensing evergreening of patent
- (iii) Sanitary and phytosanitary measure
- (iv) taxing of e-commerce goods
- (v) digital taxation, etc

The developing nations have been very vocal of their demands and at the same time developed ~~the~~ countries like USA have time and again overlooked

their concerns creating a deadlock looking at performance of WTO we must understand with increasing quantum of trade, the need for such organisation becomes imperative this must be upheld.

Que.8(c)

Define cold war. To what extent it would be appropriate to suggest that the present state of US, China relations can be described as New Cold war? (15 Marks)

The term "cold war" entered into the lexicon of international politics post world war II. After the war two blocs emerged victorious — the US & USSR which were equally adamant on propagation of their specific ideologies — i.e. capitalism and communism.

Thus the phase could be best described as ideological bipolarity. Whole world was divided between these two power blocs, with Europe being the actual battleground.



The cold war ended in 1991 with the collapse of USSR marking the victory of liberal world order based on the idea of multilateralism and democracy over the communist ideology and led to establishment of USA's hegemony (Pax Americana)

The American Hegemony but now in the 21st century has been challenged by the rise of middle kingdoms, which has been described as the "decline of the west and rise of the rest"

A new race has started from semiconductor to submarine

between two major global powers
i.e., America and China

China's rise has been very
assertive and offensive which
has manifested in the form of
trade war between the two
nations along with increased
geopolitical tensions in several
areas eg:- Indo-Pacific

However, this new cold war
can not be described as ideological
bipolarity as the both the nations
are capitalistic economies unlike
US & USSR, it would rather be
better to define the new cold war
between USA & China as strategic
bipolarity