



**STRATHMORE INSTITUTE
DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION
DIR 1102: FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

DATE: 25th April 2022

Time: 2 Hours

Instructions

1. This examination consists of **FIVE** questions.
2. **Answer Question ONE (COMPULSORY) and any other TWO questions**
3. Choose any two questions from **SECTION B**
4. Do not write on the question paper.

QUESTION ONE: Answer BOTH Part A and Part B (30 marks)

Part A

“There are several ways to discuss nation-state failure, but if we want to be as specific and as conclusive as possible, it behooves us to substitute clear for muddy criteria, and empirical for impressionistic measures. When States fail, the test of failure is the extent to which nation-states perform or fail to perform for their peoples, that is, the extent to which they deliver high or low levels of political goods and thus satisfy the fundamental, expressed expectations and needs of their citizens. A prime function of the nation-state, after all, is to provide political goods to persons living within its borders. I aggregate those political goods under five main categories—safety and security, rule of law and transparency, participation and human rights, sustainable economic opportunity, and human development. Failed states are those states which fall below a threshold of political goods and always fail to satisfy the safety and security minimums. The hierarchy of political goods is topped by publicly provided security. The state’s prime function is to prevent cross-border invasions, to eliminate attacks on the national order or social structure, to minimize crime, and “to enable citizens to resolve their differences with the state and their fellow inhabitants without recourse to arms or other forms of physical coercion.” - Robert I. Rotberg

1. One of the key concepts of International Relations is Conflict. Describe **three ways** States can provide security to ensure minimization of conflict for its citizens. Make references to the extract.
(9 marks)

2. A well governed state upholds human rights, rule of law and sustainable economic opportunity. Elaborate any **two assumptions** of Liberalism Theory of International Relations that supports these three categories.
(6 marks)

Part B) Answer ALL Multiple Choice questions in the booklet provided. Only one answer is correct:

1. Realists sought to

- A) Explore psychology
- B) Portray life as it is
- C) Symbolically join disillusioned generations
- D) Provide accounts of soldiers in the civil war

2. Liberalism assumes that

- A) Human nature is based on reason and that international life is nasty, brutish, and short
- B) Human nature is immutable, that the international system is anarchical, and that events are determined by the distribution of state capabilities.
- C) Human nature is based on reason that individuals can cooperate, and that international society is progressive.
- D) Human nature is irrelevant and that politics is the result of forces of economic production

3. International society is:

- A) The Central Concept of the 'English School'
- B) Presented most compellingly by Hedley Bull.
- C) Any association of distinct political groups that accept common rules, values, institutions.
- D) All of the above

4. Constructivists argue that:

- A) Scientific enquiry can uncover absolute truths.
- B) Material forces are much more important than ideas.
- C) Individuals are powerless to shape the world as they find it.
- D) The 'truth' is always socially constructed.

5. Students of international relations should

- A) Endorse liberal perspectives, because these reflect the dominant ideology of the West.
- B) Endorse postcolonial approaches because post colonialism improves human conditions
- C) Examine closely the full range of approaches before deciding if one of them is more persuasive
- D) Reject realism because it is immoral

6. Realism attempts to explain international relations primarily through which of the following concepts?

- A) Cooperation
- B) Diplomacy
- C) Economics
- D) Power

7. One of the assumptions of Neorealism is:

- A) Institutions are the key actors in International Relations
- B) Cooperation is an important feature of states
- C) Anarchy is a key determinant of actor behaviour
- D) The importance of absolute gains outweighs relative gains

8. What do neo-realism and neo-liberalism have in common?

- A) Cooperation is possible under conditions of systemic anarchy
- B) The international systems is characterized by anarchic conditions
- C) Institutions help in facilitating relations between states
- D) One State's gains is another's loss

9. Which of the following best describes constructivism?

- A) People construct knowledge through their experiences and interactions with the world
- B) People construct knowledge through reasoning
- C) People construct knowledge when they are not influenced by anyone
- D) None of the answers above are correct

10. Which of the following is a major assumption of rational choice theory?

- A) It assumes people are irrational and generally make decisions that minimise rewards while maximising costs
- B) It assumes people are self-interested and ultimately any choices we make will harm the greater good
- C) It assumes people will make choices maximizing the common good even if it means acting irrationally
- D) It assumes individuals are logical actors who always make choices that will maximise self-interests

11. The following prominent personalities supported liberalism EXCEPT:

- A) John Locke
- B) Hans Morgenthau
- C) Jeremy Bentham
- D) Woodrow Wilson

12. Diplomacy plays a key role for realists since it:

- A. Encourages cooperation
- B. Balances various national interests of the states
- C. Sovereignty of the state
- D. promotes peace

13. For liberalists the possibility of cooperation means:

- A) Military power can be the only measure of a country's interests
- B) Interdependence will help states thrive
- C) State-centrism is needed
- D) Balance of power will bring order to society

14. The common elements of realism include the following EXCEPT

- A) Statism
- B) Survival
- C) Cooperation
- D) Self-Help

15. The key actor in international politics according to Realism theory is:

- A) The State
- B) The non-state actor
- C) The United Nations
- D) The civil society

SECTION B- Choose any TWO questions

QUESTION TWO

- (a) Explain the communism doctrine according to Karl Marx by elaborating the terms proletariat and bourgeoisie **(5 marks)**
- (b) Describe the exploitative relationship between those in economic control and the workers from Marx's perspective **(4 marks)**
- (c) Suggest any two ways Marx proposes to reduce exploitation of the workers **(4 marks)**
- (d) In your opinion, how have the International Monetary Fund and Multi-National Organizations provided sufficient protection to the workers' human rights? Provide a current example **(2 marks)**

QUESTION THREE

The foreign policy process is a process of decision-making. States take actions because people in governments charged with the responsibility of making those decisions choose those actions

- (a) In your own words explain the term Foreign Policy. **(2 Marks)**
- (b) Elaborate **three** key issues addressed in Foreign Policy Analysis by giving current global examples. **(6 Marks)**
- (c) Actors of foreign policy are usually divided into two categories: state actors and non-state actors. Discuss **three** state actors. **(6 Marks)**
- (d) Explain one major role played by the public in Foreign Policy formulation **(1 Mark)**

QUESTION FOUR

- a) In the 17th Century, political philosopher Thomas Hobbes emphasized the necessity of having a powerful, centralized political authority. Describe briefly his view of human nature, sovereignty of states and security dilemma. **(9 Marks)**
- (b) U.S President Woodrow Wilson was an early advocate of idealism. Describe any 3 perspectives Wilson proposed **(6 marks)**

QUESTION FIVE

- (a) Briefly describe the United Nations definition of Human Rights **(3 marks)**
- (b) Explain **THREE** ways human rights contribute to conflict resolutions **(6 marks)**
- (c) Describe your understanding of gender equality and any **TWO** inequalities experienced by women in developing countries **(6 marks)**