

LIBERAL STUDIES (THE MODERN WORLD) AS-LEVEL

1.30 pm – 4.00 pm (2½ hours)

This paper must be answered in English

1. This paper consists of **Section 1** and **Section 2**. Section 1 carries 75% of the module marks, and Section 2 carries 25%.
2. **Section 1** consists of three questions, *all* of which are to be answered. **Section 2** consists of four questions, of which candidates may attempt any *one*.
3. Each question is worth 25 marks : 20 marks are allocated for content and 5 marks for effective communication.
4. The maximum content marks are indicated in brackets at the end of each question and sub-question. They are a guide to the length of answer required, which may vary from one to several paragraphs.
5. Candidates are reminded that this subject emphasises the ability to present and support points of view in a clear, concise and logical manner, rather than the ability to recite facts.

SECTION 1

Answer *all* the questions in this section.

1. Consider the following data, which relate to the poverty situation in various regions of the world:

Region	% of Population Below the Poverty Line			Number of Poor People (Millions)		
	1985	1990	2000	1985	1990	2000
A. South Asia	51.8	49.0	36.9	532	562	511
B. East Asia	13.2	11.3	4.2	182	169	73
C. Sub-Saharan Africa	47.6	47.8	49.7	184	216	304
D. North Africa and the Middle East	30.6	33.1	30.6	60	73	89
E. Latin America and the Caribbean	22.4	25.5	24.9	87	108	126
F. All developing countries	30.5	29.7	24.1	1,051	1,133	1,107

Source: F. Pearson & J. Rochester, *International Relations: The Global Condition in the 21st Century*, N.Y.: McGraw-Hill, 1998.

- (a) Select *two* regions from A to E above and identify, with the help of graphs or charts, the trends relating to the poverty situation between 1985 and 2000 in each selected region. (12 marks)
- (b) Suggest the possible reasons for the trends in each of the two regions you selected in (a). (8 marks)

2. The following data show the nuclear weapons strength of declared Nuclear Nations (Russia, United States, China, France, Britain, India and Pakistan), undeclared Nuclear Nations (Israel), and suspected Nuclear Nations (Iran, Iraq, Libya and North Korea) in 1998:

Countries	Nuclear Weapons Strength		
	Number of Warheads	Missile Range (km)	Remarks
Declared Nuclear Nations:			
Russia	22,500	11,000	Weapons were located in about 90 sites.
United States	12,000	13,000	Weapons were located in 14 states.
China	400	11,000	Weapons were located in about 20 sites.
France	450	5,300	Weapons consisted of three types of warheads in four bases.
Britain	380	12,000	Weapons were about to be replaced by a single type located on submarines.
India	12-18	2,500	Claimed that the five nuclear devices tested in 1998 included one with an explosive yield more than twice the power inflicted on Hiroshima in 1945.
Pakistan	12-18	1,500	Tested a medium range nuclear missile in April 1998 and responded to India's nuclear tests with six of its own.
Undeclared Nuclear Nations:			
Israel	It was believed that Israel had over 100 nuclear weapons.		
Suspected Nuclear Nations:			
Iran	Might be developing weapons under the cover of its nuclear power generation programme.		
Iraq	Had its nuclear programme dismantled under United Nations' supervision after the 1991 Gulf War.		
Libya	Analysts believed that Libya had the money to buy nuclear technology from the former Soviet Union. However, this was prevented by a strict embargo.		
North Korea	Put its nuclear programme on hold in 1994 but later threatened to resume it.		

Source: URL: <http://edition.cnn.com/SPECIALS/cold.war/experience/the.bomb/deployment/>.

- (a) 'The spread of nuclear weapons is already out of control, and should be a serious concern to the entire international community.' Do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer in the light of the above data. (12 marks)
- (b) Suggest some methods by which the spread of nuclear weapons might be controlled. Explain your answer. (8 marks)

3. Consider the following extracts:

Extract A

US President George W. Bush's ultimatum to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had powerful overtones for the United Nations (UN). The Iraqi President was given the option of going into exile or going to war.

- Bush believes that UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan faces his own obvious choice: re-invent the UN or it will become an irrelevance.
- Bush stated that one of the reasons the UN had been formed after World War II was to prevent the rise of dictators "before they could attack the innocent and destroy peace".
- "The UN Security Council has not lived up to its responsibilities, so we will rise to ours," Bush said.

The Bush administration now sees the UN mostly as a humanitarian rather than a security organisation. "Its job doing humanitarian interventions is good," a foreign policy expert in Washington said. "But the idea that the UN is somehow the international legaliser is a sick joke."

Source: *South China Morning Post*, 19 March 2003.

Extract B

"The UN is not the only organisation that will suffer from American unilateralism. The World Trade Organisation, the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation will also be affected. It's going to create more instability than stability. There's going to be a massive economic and administration effort in Iraq, and I don't think the US Bush administration has either the staying power or the capabilities to see this through," said Dr Lehmann, a professor at the Switzerland-based International Institute for Management Development.

Source: *South China Morning Post*, 19 March 2003.

- (a) With reference to Extract A, elaborate on the three US perceptions of the effectiveness of the UN. (10 marks)
- (b) Do the US perceptions of the effectiveness of the UN, suggested in Extract A, create more or less stability in the modern world? Explain your answer in the light of Extracts A and B. (10 marks)

SECTION 2

Answer *one* question from this section.

4. Consider the following data, which show the positions of a few countries, out of a total of 62 ranked in terms of their globalisation indexes (GI)*, compiled by *Foreign Policy* magazine:

Globalisation Index Ranking (The country ranked 1 st has the highest degree of globalisation.)		
Countries	2002 Ranking	2003 Ranking
Eire (Ireland)	1 st	1 st
Switzerland	2 nd	2 nd
Sweden	5 th	3 rd
South Korea	31 st	28 th
Japan	38 th	35 th
China	53 rd	51 st

Source: 'Measuring Globalization: Who's Up, Who's Down?', *Foreign Policy*, January/February 2003.

* calculated on the basis of the following four criteria:

1. **Political Engagement:** number of memberships in international organisations, number of United Nations Security Council missions in which each country is participating, number of foreign embassies in each country;
2. **Technology:** number of Internet users;
3. **Personal Contact:** international travel and tourism, international telephone traffic, cross-border transfers;
4. **Economic Integration:** trade, foreign direct investment and capital flows.

- (a) Select any *one* country from the table and explain its relative position in the globalisation index ranking with reference to the criteria above. (12 marks)
- (b) From the perspective of globalisation, discuss the impacts on China of its entry into the World Trade Organisation (WTO). (8 marks)

5. Consider the following extract:

Wars can be regarded as 'just wars' when they satisfy the following three principles:

1. The methods of fighting must be in proportion to the intended outcomes.
2. A distinction must be maintained between fighting and non-fighting personnel.
3. The wars must be fought only for just causes, such as self-defence.

Source: H. Lentner, *International Politics: Theory and Practice*, St Paul: West Publishing Company, 1997.

In the light of the three principles above, do you consider the war waged by the United States against Iraq in March 2003 to be a 'just war'? Explain your answer. (20 marks)

6. Consider the following extract:

Four sectors have been identified in the context of international integration: economic, social, political, and security.

Historically, the sector most frequently integrated has been the *economic*, commonly seen in the formation of free trade areas and common markets. The second major sector is the *social*, which means transforming nationalism preferences into loyalty to the larger political community, bringing about supra-national attitudes, such as a sense of social community, or 'European-ness', evolving in Western Europe. *Political* integration refers to the integration of basic political institutions – with transfer of sovereignty over external policy to common international institutions. The fourth major sector for integration is *security*, which calls upon all members of an alliance to contribute to decision making in the planning, deploying and commanding of security forces.

To promote integration, certain preconditions must be satisfied. The foremost precondition is *social assimilation*, with common acceptance of social prerequisites such as mutual tolerance of cultures, common identity of foreign-policy goals, and cordial contacts between governments. A second precondition is the *sharing of common values*, especially among the leaders of participating nations. *Expectation of mutual benefit* is the third precondition: nations must be able to predict that benefits will accumulate in the process. A fourth precondition is *a history of peaceful interactions* between the nations and governments.

Source: W. Jones, *The Logic of International Relations*, N.Y.: Longman, 1997.

In the light of the above extract, evaluate the extent to which international integration in the modern world has been achieved in each of the sectors specified in the source. (20 marks)

7. Consider the following extract, which relates to the main activities of two non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the Red Cross and Amnesty International:

The Red Cross:

- Working to
- protect victims of war;
 - allow exchange of letters between separated family members;
 - trace missing persons;
 - bring about family reunions;
 - provide medical supplies;
 - repair water supplies and sanitation;
 - provide drinking water;
 - teach basic humanitarian principles to those involved in armed conflicts.

Amnesty International:

- Working to
- free all prisoners of conscience (i.e. people detained anywhere for their beliefs or because of their ethnic origin, sex, colour or language, who have not used or advocated violence);
 - ensure fair and prompt trials for political prisoners;
 - abolish the death penalty, torture and other cruel treatment of prisoners;
 - end extrajudicial executions and 'disappearances'.

Source: Richard Owen, *Guide to World Organizations*, London: Times Book, 1996.

- (a) In the light of the above extract, evaluate, in terms of humanitarian development, the contributions of non-governmental organisations. (12 marks)
- (b) What limitations do non-governmental organisations face in carrying out their activities? Explain your answer. (8 marks)

END OF PAPER