

Sample Question Paper for PhD International Relations

Format of the Entrance Test Paper

The duration of the Entrance Test will be two hours, and the question paper will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions of 1 mark each and will test the applicant's subject knowledge and general knowledge pertaining to South Asia and the world. All questions are compulsory.

- This is only a sample paper and only meant to be indicative of the type of questions that will be asked.
1. Which one of the following is not a key tenet of Liberalism(s):
 - a. Political philosophy of Kant
 - b. Political philosophy of Hobbes
 - c. Norms can influence state behavior
 - d. Regimes can influence patterns of cooperation

 2. Where, among the following sites in South Asia, has a 'Peace Park' been proposed?
 - a. Sundarbans
 - b. Siachen
 - c. Kargil
 - d. Lumbini

 3. Who wrote that the state is an institution that claims 'a monopoly of the legitimate use of physical force in enforcing order within a given territorial area'?
 - a) Jean Bodin
 - b) Max Weber
 - c) William Blackstone
 - d) Robert Dahl

 4. The English School in International Relations emphasises that there is:
 - a. A society of states
 - b. Only material capabilities matter in an anarchic world
 - c. A network of productive power
 - d. A base and a superstructure in world politics

 5. Read the paragraph below and answer the questions that follow:

“International institutions may therefore be significant, since institutions embody, and affect, actors' expectations. Thus, institutions can alter the extent to which governments expect their

present actions to affect the behavior of others on future issues. The principles and rules of international regimes make governments concerned about precedents, increasing the likelihood that they will attempt to punish defectors. In this way, international regimes help to link the future with the present. That is as true of arms control agreements, in which willingness to make future agreements depends on others' compliance with previous arrangements, as it is in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which embodies norms and rules against which the behavior of members can be judged. By sanctioning retaliation for those who violate rules, regimes create expectations that a given violation will be treated not as an isolated case but as one in a series of interrelated actions”.

(Keohane 1985)

1. Liberal institutionalists differ from realists in their:
 - a. emphasis on the role of norms, rules and institutions to influence state behavior
 - b. emphasis on the coercive capabilities of the state
 - c. prioritizing conflict over cooperation
 - d. drawing on the ideas of Hobbes

2. Liberal institutionalism does not place emphasis on:
 - a. ideas of shadow of future
 - b. linkage politics
 - c. rules and norms
 - d. balance of power

3. The democratic peace theory draws on the key tenets of liberalism:
 - a. True
 - b. False