

Geopolitical Science and Strategic Theory

Geopolitics · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which scholar introduced the concept of the 'Heartland' in his 1904 paper 'The Geographical Pivot of History'?

- A) Nicholas Spykman
- B) Halford Mackinder**
- C) Alfred Thayer Mahan
- D) Friedrich Ratzel

2. The concept of 'Rimland' theory, which argues that the power controlling the maritime fringes of Eurasia determines global influence, was proposed by which geographer?

- A) Nicholas Spykman**
- B) Isaiah Bowman
- C) Halford Mackinder
- D) Ellen Churchill Semple

3. According to the 'Law of the Sea' (UNCLOS), the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) extends to how many nautical miles from a country's coastal baseline?

- A) 12
- B) 24
- C) 100
- D) 200**

4. What is the primary scientific focus of the 'Strait of Hormuz' in terms of global geopolitical energy security?

- A) The transit of roughly 20-30% of the world's total global petroleum liquids**
- B) The location of the world's largest deep-sea mineral deposit
- C) The junction of three tectonic plate boundaries
- D) The primary fiber-optic cable node for the Middle East

5. In political geography, what does the term 'Anocracy' define?

- A) A regime that mixes democratic and autocratic features**
- B) A state with no centralized governing authority
- C) A system governed exclusively by elderly religious leaders
- D) A geography-based theory regarding river basin control

6. What specific geographic feature is identified as the 'Choke Point' that connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Atlantic Ocean?

- A) The Suez Canal
- B) The Bosphorus Strait
- C) The Strait of Gibraltar**
- D) The Bab-el-Mandeb

7. The 'Lebensraum' theory, often associated with geopolitical expansionism, was originally popularized by which human geographer?

- A) Karl Haushofer
- B) Friedrich Ratzel**
- C) Alexander von Humboldt
- D) Halford Mackinder

8. Which theory posits that state power is inextricably linked to the control of the sea, famously detailed in 'The Influence of Sea Power upon History'?

- A) Mahanian Theory**
- B) Mackinderism
- C) The Domino Theory
- D) The Peloponnesian Theory

9. Which of the following describes the 'Thucydides Trap'?

- A) The inevitability of civil war in island nations
- B) The structural stress when a rising power threatens to displace an established ruling power**
- C) The collapse of landlocked states due to lack of trade
- D) The tendency for maritime empires to overextend their supply lines

10. The 'Great Game' of the 19th century was a geopolitical competition between which two empires for control over Central Asia?

- A) Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian
- B) British and Russian**
- C) French and German
- D) Portuguese and Spanish

11. What is the term for a state that is completely surrounded by other landlocked states?

- A) Doubly landlocked state**
- B) Enclaved sovereign state
- C) Fragmented state
- D) Archipelagic state

12. The 'Arctic Council' focuses on geopolitics in the north, primarily dictated by which legal framework regarding sovereignty over the seabed?

A) The Antarctic Treaty

B) UNCLOS

C) The Geneva Convention

D) The Svalbard Treaty

13. Which geopolitical term describes the reduction of the influence of distance as a factor in human interaction, often caused by technological advancements?

A) Time-space compression

B) Geodeterminism

C) Territoriality

D) The Digital Divide

14. The 'Buffer State' theory is best exemplified by which historical geopolitical role of Afghanistan between the British Raj and the Russian Empire?

A) A resource-rich colony

B) A neutral zone to prevent direct contact between rivals

C) A maritime trading hub

D) A puppet state for direct military occupation

15. In geopolitics, what does the term 'Irredentism' refer to?

A) The movement to reclaim territory culturally or historically associated with one's nation

B) The act of building defensive walls along borders

C) The isolationist economic policy of a state

D) The migration of people due to climate change