

Foundations of International Relations

International Relations · Practice Test · 18 Questions

1. Which international organization was established after World War II with the primary aim of preventing future global conflicts?

- A) The League of Nations
- B) The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- C) The United Nations (UN)
- D) The World Trade Organization (WTO)

2. The concept of 'sovereignty' in international relations refers to a state's:

- A) Absolute right to interfere in other states' domestic affairs
- B) Exclusive authority over its own territory and population, free from external control
- C) Obligation to join all international alliances
- D) Dependence on international aid for survival

3. Realism, a prominent theoretical perspective in International Relations, emphasizes the role of which factor in shaping state behavior?

- A) International cooperation and shared values
- B) Economic interdependence and global trade
- C) The pursuit of power and national interest in an anarchic system
- D) The influence of non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

4. Which historical event is widely considered to have marked the beginning of the modern state system in Europe?

- A) The French Revolution
- B) The Congress of Vienna
- C) The Peace of Westphalia (1648)
- D) The Napoleonic Wars

5. A 'non-state actor' in international relations is an entity that is not a sovereign state but has influence on the global stage. Which of the following is an example?

- A) The United States of America
- B) The International Criminal Court (ICC)
- C) A multinational corporation (MNC) like Google
- D) The United Nations Security Council

6. Diplomacy is the primary tool through which states conduct their foreign policy.

What is a key function of diplomatic missions?

- A) To initiate military interventions
- B) To negotiate treaties and promote friendly relations
- C) To unilaterally impose sanctions
- D) To cease all communication with other states

7. The Cold War was a period of geopolitical tension between which two superpowers?

- A) Germany and Japan
- B) The United States and the Soviet Union
- C) France and the United Kingdom
- D) China and India

8. International law is a body of rules that governs the relations between states.

Which of the following is a primary source of international law?

- A) The opinions of international relations scholars
- B) Treaties and customary international law
- C) Domestic court rulings
- D) Public opinion polls

9. Multilateralism refers to the practice of coordinating national policies in groups of three or more states. Which of the following is an example of a multilateral institution?

- A) A bilateral trade agreement between two countries
- B) The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), now USMCA
- C) The European Union (EU)
- D) A unilateral declaration of policy

10. The concept of 'national interest' is central to the study of foreign policy. It generally refers to:

- A) The collective desires of a nation's citizens for leisure activities
- B) The perceived goals and objectives of a state to ensure its survival, security, and prosperity
- C) The personal ambitions of the country's leader
- D) The promotion of cultural exchange programs only

11. Which of these is a significant challenge faced by developing countries in the international system?

- A) Excessive foreign investment
- B) High levels of technological advancement
- C) Economic inequality and debt burdens
- D) Dominance in global manufacturing

12. The theory of 'liberalism' in International Relations often highlights the role of which factor in fostering peace and cooperation?

- A) Military strength and deterrence
- B) Democratic governance and economic interdependence
- C) The dominance of a single hegemonic power
- D) Protectionist trade policies

13. What is the primary function of the United Nations Security Council?

- A) To promote global health initiatives
- B) To maintain international peace and security
- C) To arbitrate international trade disputes
- D) To coordinate humanitarian aid efforts

14. A 'security dilemma' in international relations occurs when:

- A) One state's efforts to increase its security are perceived as threatening by another state, leading to an arms race
- B) All states in a region possess equal military capabilities
- C) International organizations effectively resolve all conflicts
- D) Countries voluntarily disarm their forces

15. The term 'anarchy' in International Relations, as used by realists, describes:

- A) A state of lawlessness and chaos within a country
- B) The absence of a central, overarching world government or authority above sovereign states
- C) The breakdown of social order within a society
- D) The complete absence of any form of international cooperation

16. Which of these is a fundamental principle of the United Nations charter?

- A) The right of states to intervene in the domestic affairs of other states
- B) The sovereign equality of all member states
- C) The promotion of global communism
- D) The establishment of a single world currency

17. What does 'soft power' refer to in international relations?

- A) The ability to coerce other states through military force
- B) The use of economic sanctions to achieve foreign policy goals
- C) The attraction of a country's culture, political ideals, and policies
- D) The establishment of international trade barriers

18. The end of the Cold War led to a period often described as a 'unipolar moment' dominated by which country?

- A) Russia
- B) China
- C) The United States
- D) The European Union