

Foundations of Geopolitics

Geopolitics · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. According to Halford Mackinder's 'Heartland Theory', which region is considered the geographical pivot of history?

- A) The Americas
- B) Eurasia**
- C) Sub-Saharan Africa
- D) The South Pacific

2. What is the primary objective of the 'Rimland Theory' proposed by Nicholas Spykman?

- A) To control the interior of continents
- B) To isolate island nations
- C) To control the coastal fringes of Eurasia**
- D) To colonize arctic regions

3. The 'Thucydides Trap' is a theory used to describe the inevitable tension between which two parties?

- A) An established power and a rising power**
- B) Two neighboring democratic nations
- C) A colonial state and its territory
- D) Landlocked nations and coastal states

4. Which concept in geopolitics refers to the strategic necessity of maintaining a balance of power to prevent one state from becoming dominant?

- A) Sovereignty
- B) Isolationism
- C) Realpolitik**
- D) Containment

5. What term describes a country that is entirely surrounded by land, significantly impacting its trade and defense capabilities?

- A) Archipelago
- B) Landlocked state**
- C) Enclave
- D) Buffer state

6. In the context of geopolitics, what is a 'chokepoint'?

- A) A region with no natural resources
- B) A strategic maritime strait or canal**
- C) A country with no standing military
- D) A political alliance of landlocked nations

7. Which theory argues that the control of the seas is the ultimate key to global power?

A) Mahan's Sea Power theory

B) Mackinder's Heartland theory

C) Ratzel's Lebensraum theory

D) The Domino theory

8. The concept of 'Lebensraum', developed by Friedrich Ratzel, relates to what geopolitical requirement?

A) The need for maritime trade routes

B) The need for living space for a state's growth

C) The importance of democratic institutions

D) The reliance on renewable energy

9. Which international waterway is the primary shipping lane connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Indian Ocean?

A) Panama Canal

B) Strait of Malacca

C) Suez Canal

D) Strait of Hormuz

10. What does the term 'buffer state' denote in geopolitics?

A) A state that has no formal government

B) A small country situated between two larger, rival powers

C) A state that focuses solely on space exploration

D) An island nation with no borders