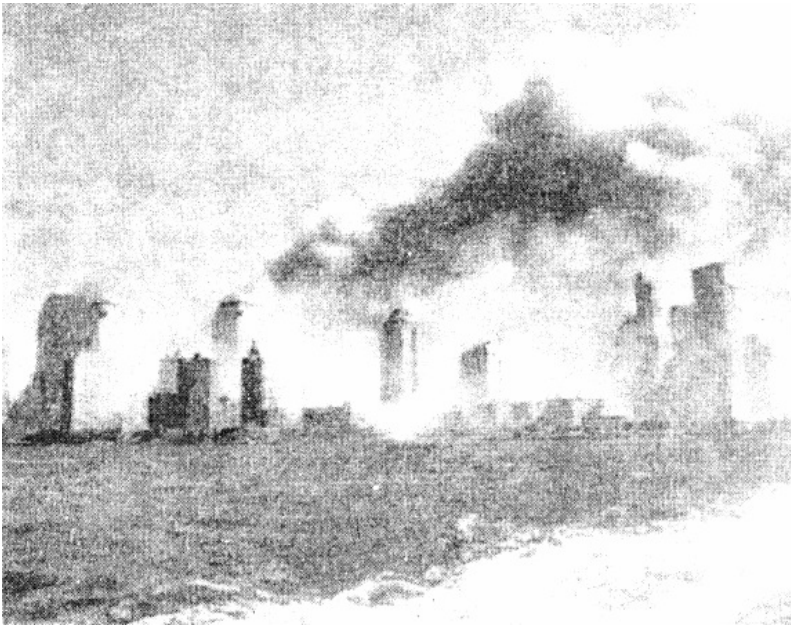


CBSE Test Paper 04
Class 12 - Political Science (B-1 Ch-3 US Hegemony in World Politics)

1. Slobodan Milosevic was related with _____.
 - a. Czechoslovakia
 - b. Yugoslavia
 - c. Bulgaria
 - d. Afghanistan
2. Name the elected president of the USA in the year 1992 and 1996.
3. Which organisation could possibly moderate the exercise of the American power?
4. Why is the First Gulf War called a 'computer war'?
5. What is the main reason for beginning of the US hegemony in 1991?
6. What is 'Bandwagon strategy'? How does it differ from the strategy of 'hide'?
7. "The US hegemony does not dominate the world only as hard and structural power but as a soft power also." Justify the statement.
8. Analyse the political impact of hegemony of the US on the world.
9. What is US hegemony? Describe any two constraints of American hegemony.
10. Assess the 'New World Order' which emerged after the collapse of Soviet Union?
11. See the picture given below and answer the questions that follow :
 - i. What does this picture show?
 - ii. Who were the people behind this incident?
 - iii. What did the US do after the incident?



12. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions:

Some people argue that it is strategically more prudent to take advantage of the opportunities that hegemon creates. For instance, raising economic growth rates requires increasing trade, technology transfers and investment, which are best acquired by working with rather than against the hegemony. Thus, it is suggested that instead of engaging in activities opposed to hegemonic power, it may be advisable to extract benefits by operating within the hegemonic system. This is called the bandwagon strategy.

Questions

1. What is prudent during a period of hegemony?
 2. What benefits can be acquired within the hegemonic system?
 3. What is the bandwagon strategy?
13. Mention three ways in which US dominance since the Cold War is different from its position as a superpower during the Cold War.

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Answer

1. b. Yugoslavia, Explanation: In 1999 NATO nations led by the USA attacked Kosovo (a province of Yugoslavia) and lastly captured.
2. The elected president of the USA in the year 1992 and 1996 was William Jefferson Bill Clinton of democratic party.
3. NATO(North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) could possibly moderate the exercise of American power.
4. The First Gulf War is called a 'computer war' because of its highly publicised use of so-called 'smart bombs' by the US.
5. The disappearance of the Soviet power from the international order was the main reason for the beginning of the US hegemony in 1991.
6. The 'Bandwagon Strategy' this strategy compels the states not to oppose the hegemony power but extract benefits by operating within the hegemonic system. For instance, raising economic growth rates requires increased trade, technology transfers and investment which are best acquired by working with rather than against the hegemony. On the other hand, the 'Hide Strategy' it implies staying as far removed from the dominant power as possible. These attributes of hiding Strategy were noticed in China, Russia, and the European Union- all of them seeking to stay below the radar of US.
7. The US hegemony does not dominate the world only as purely military and in economically terms without considering the ideology of US hegemony. It is about the capacity to 'manufacture consent' from the rest of the world in the cultural dimensions also. The cultural dimension implies class ascendancy in the social, political and ideological spheres where the ideas of 'good life' are flourished. Its most appealing example is of 'blue jeans', which were the ultimate symbol of 'liberation', which had the capacity to engineer even as generational divide.
8. It would be a mistake to see U S hegemony in purely military and economic terms without considering the ideological or the cultural dimension of US hegemony. This third sense of hegemony is about the capacity to 'manufacture consent'. Here, hegemony implies class ascendancy in the social, political and particularly ideological superiority. Hegemony arises when the dominant class or country can win the

consent of dominated classes to view the world in a manner favourable to the ascendancy of the dominant class. In the field of world politics and international relation, the notion of hegemony suggests that a dominant power deploys not only military power but also ideological resources to shape the behaviour of competing and lesser powers. Not only this, USA also influences the behavior and action of weaker states in such a way that favour its interests of the most powerful country, in particular its desire to remain pre-eminent. This attribute of hegemony is called soft power where the superpower US dominate the international relation and world politics through political persuade rather than coerce.

9. The US domination in the military, economic, cultural aspects over other nations to show her supremacy is known as US hegemony. The constraints on American hegemony today are as given below:

- i. **Institutional architecture of the American state:** There is a Presidential form of government in the USA. Under this, a system of division of powers and checks and balances between the three branches of the government limit the unrestrained and immoderate exercise of America's military power by the executive branch.
- ii. **Open nature of American society:** There is deep skepticism regarding the purposes and methods of government in American political culture. The American mass media may promote a particular issue on domestic public opinion but never opposed the purposes and methods of government in American Political Culture.

10. The sudden collapse of the Soviet Union surprised everyone. The US hegemony began in 1991 after Soviet power disappeared from the international scene. Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990, rapidly occupied and annexed it. After a series of diplomatic attempts failed at convincing Iraq to quit its aggression. The United Nations mandated the liberation of Kuwait by force. The US President George H.W. Bush hailed the emergence of 'New World Order'. In response to this, there was an emergence of war which came to be known as 'First Gulf War'. In this war, huge coalition force from almost 34 countries fought against Iraq and defeated it. This war was fought under the code name of 'Operation Desert Storm'. This operation of UN was mostly American. There were about 75% of the coalition forces were the US. The First Gulf War revealed the vast technological gap that had opened up between the US military capability and that of other states. The use of so-called smart bombs made it 'computer war'. Widespread television coverage made it a 'video game war', with

viewers around the world watching the destruction of Iraqi forces live on TV.

11.
 - i. The picture shows an attack on the twin towers of the World Trade Centre in New York on 11 September 2001.
 - ii. Al-Qaeda and the Taliban were suspected to be behind the attack.
 - iii. The US started its Global War On Terror and launched 'Operation Enduring Freedom'.
12.
 - i. To take advantage of opportunities that a hegemon creates was prudent during the period of hegemony.
 - ii. The following benefits can be acquired within the hegemonic system: Increased trade, technology transfers and investment.
 - iii. The Bandwagon strategy means to extract benefits by operating within hegemonic system in place of being engaged in the opposed activities.
13. During the years of Cold War (1945-91) power was divided between the two groups of countries, the US and the Soviet Union, represented the two 'camps' or centres of power in international politics during that period. The collapse of the Soviet Union left the world with only a single power, the United States of America. Thus, the bipolarity changed unipolarity i.e. there is only one centre of power. The USA has dominated world politics in the following ways since the Cold War which is different from me, a position as a superpower during the Cold War.
 - i. **Dominance as Hard Power:** The word implies the leadership or predominance of one state. It is related to the relations, patterns and balances of military capability between states. American military power is superior to the power of all other countries. Its dominance is both absolute and relative.
 - ii. **Dominance as Structural Power:** It emerges from a particular understanding of the world economy. The basic idea is that an open world economy requires a hegemon or dominant power to support its creation and existence. The US plays an important role in providing global public goods such as the Internet which is the direct outcome of a US military research project that began in 1950.
 - iii. **Dominance as Soft Power:** Such kind of dominance is about the capacity to 'manufacture consent'. It implies class ascendancy in the social, political and, particularly ideological spheres. America has class ascendancy in the social, political and ideological spheres. Most of the dreams and practices are results of an American lifestyle, e.g. blue jeans are used by young people.