

Political Science

(Contemporary World Politics)

(Chapter - 4) (International Organisations)

(Class - XII)

Question 1:

Mark correct or wrong against each of the following statements about the veto power:

- (a) Only the permanent members of the Security Council possess the veto power.
- (b) It's a kind of negative power.
- (c) The Secretary General uses this power when not satisfied with any decision.
- (d) One veto can stall a Security Council resolution.

Answer 1:

- (a) Only the permanent members of the Security Council possess the veto power. **Correct**
- (b) It's a kind of negative power. **Correct**
- (c) The Secretary General uses this power when not satisfied with any decision. **Wrong**
- (d) One veto can stall a Security Council resolution. **Correct**

Question 2:

Mark correct or wrong against each of the following statements about the way the UN functions:

- (a) All security and peace related issues are dealt within the Security Council.
- (b) Humanitarian policies are implemented by the main organs and specialized agencies spread across the globe.
- (c) Having consensus among five permanent members on security issues is vital for its implementation.
- (d) The members of the General Assembly are automatically the members of all other principal organs and specialized agencies of the UN.

Answer 2:

- (a) All security and peace related issues are dealt within the Security Council. **Correct**
- (b) Humanitarian policies are implemented by the main organs and specialized agencies spread across the globe. **Wrong**
- (c) Having consensus among five permanent members on security issues is vital for its implementation. **Correct**
- (d) The members of the General Assembly are automatically the members of all other principal organs and specialized agencies of the UN. **Wrong**

Question 3:

Which among the following would give more weightage to India's proposal for permanent membership in the Security Council?

- (a) Nuclear capability
- (b) It has been a member of the UN since its inception.
- (c) It is located in Asia.
- (d) India's growing economic power and stable political system.

Answer 3:

- (d) India's growing economic power and stable political system.

Question 4:

The UN agency concerned with the safety and peaceful use of nuclear technology is:

- (a) The UN Committee on Disarmament
- (b) International Atomic Energy Agency
- (c) UN International Safeguard Committee
- (d) None of the above.

Answer 4:

- (b) International Atomic Energy Agency

Question 5:

WTO is serving as the successor to which of the following organisations:

- (a) General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs
- (b) General Arrangement on Trade and Tariffs
- (c) World Health Organisation
- (d) UN Development Programme

Answer 5:

- (a) General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs

Question 6:

Fill in the blanks:

- (a) The prime objective of UN is_____.
- (b) The highest functionary of the UN is called _____.
- (c) The UN Security Council has_____ permanent and _____ non-permanent members.
- (d) _____ is the present UN Secretary General.

Answer 6:

- (a) The prime objective of UN is to maintain peace and security.
- (b) The highest functionary of the UN is called Secretariat.
- (c) The UN Security Council has 5 permanent and 10 non-permanent members.
- (d) Ban-ki-Moon (earlier) Antonio Guterres (current in 2022) is the present UN Secretary General.

Question 7:

Match the principal organs and agencies of the UN with their functions:

1. Economic and Social Council
2. International Court of Justice
3. International Atomic Energy Agency
4. Security Council
5. UN High Commission for Refugees
6. World Trade Organisation
7. International Monetary Fund
8. General Assembly
9. World Health Organisation
10. Secretariat

- (a) Oversees the global financial system.
- (b) Preservation of international peace and security.
- (c) Looks into the economic and social welfare of the member countries.
- (d) Safety and peaceful use of nuclear technology.
- (e) Resolves disputes between and among member countries.
- (f) Provides shelter and medical help during emergencies.
- (g) Debates and discusses global issues.
- (h) Administration and coordination of UN affairs.
- (i) Providing good health for all.
- (j) Facilitates free trade among member countries.

Answer 7:

1. Economic and Social Council —(c) Looks into the economic and social welfare of the member countries.
2. International Court of Justice—(e) Resolves disputes between and among member countries.
3. International Atomic Energy Agency—(d) Safety and peaceful use of nuclear technology
4. Security Council—(b) Reservation of international peace and security
5. UN High Commission for Refugees—(f) Provides shelter and medical help during emergencies.
6. World Trade Organisations—(j) Facilitates free trade among member countries.
7. International Monetary Fund—(a) Overseas the global financial system.
8. General Assembly—(g) Debates and discusses global issues.
9. World Health Organization—(i) Providing good health for all.
10. Secretariat—(h) Administration and coordination of UN affairs.

Question 8:

What are the functions of Security Council?

Answer 8:

Its main function is to maintain peace and security in the world and the other functions are as follows:

1. It recommends methods to adjust disputes among nations.
2. It can take military action if required.
3. It elects the judges of International Court of Justice and appoints the Secretary General by recommending to the General Assembly.
4. It can apply economic sanction also to stop any aggression.
5. It investigates the disputes in case a friction arises.

Question 9:

As a citizen of India, how would you support India's candidature for the permanent membership of Security Council? Justify your proposal.

Answer 9:

As an Indian citizen, we may support India's candidature for the permanent membership of Security Council in the following manner:

- It is the most populous country in the world with one-fifth of world population.
- It is world's largest democracy.
- It has economic emergence on the World Stage.
- It is a regular financial contributor to the UN.
- It signifies a growing importance in world affairs in conduct of its foreign policy.
- It has participated in all the initiatives of the UN.

Question 10:

Critically evaluate the difficulties involved in implementing the suggested reforms to reconstruct the UN.

Answer 10:

The difficulties in implementing the suggested reforms to reconstruct the UN are:

1. How big an economic and military power may qualify to become UNSC membership?
2. What should be the level of budget contribution that should be enabled?
3. How to guarantee to be effective as Council Member in respect for democracy and human rights.

4. Why should the issue of equitable representation be decided by geography and not by levels of economic development?

5. Why not to give more seats to members of developing world?

All the above mentioned criteria which were adopted but not universally accepted.

Question 11:

Though the UN has failed in preventing wars and related miseries, nations prefer its continuation. What makes the UN an indispensable organization?

Answer 11:

UN is indispensable organization as-

1. Interdependence and globalization is not possible without the international organisations such as the UN.
2. To implement cooperation on the issues like poverty, unemployment, environmental degradation, crime rate etc.
3. To provide financial help to the developing countries to stabilize their economy all over the world, the UN and its specialized agencies are always required.
4. The UN works as a forum to solve any international dispute among nations and sort out the best possible way.
5. Hence, though the UN has failed in preventing related wars and miseries, despite the nations need its continuation due to above mentioned reasons to promote international peace and understanding.

Question 12:

"Reforming the UN means restructuring of the Security Council". Do you agree with this statement? Give arguments for or against this position.

Answer 12:

Yes, we agree with the statement because Security Council plays a vital role in functioning of the UN. In today's scenario supremacy equations have been changed with the disintegration of USSR and many new countries are entering into the UN:

- The UN charter has given an advantaged position to permanent members to bring stability all over the world. This position remains the same and no one is allowed to enter.
- The permanent members also enjoy veto power which places them in an important position.
- Permanent member's category is from industrially developed countries which should be balanced by increasing the representation from developing countries to become either permanent or non-permanent members.

Hence, Security Council should reform and improve its working to make the UN more effective i.e., addition of member states should be judged on the basis of contribution to peace keeping initiatives and not on their development.