

# INSIGHT GS MAINS TEST SERIES

## GENERAL STUDIES

### TEST - VIII

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

### QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

(Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions)

There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**. All the questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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**Answer all the following questions. Each question is to be answered in not more than 200 words. Each question carries equal marks.**

1. India-Gulf ties in recent years are increasingly moving beyond the traditional 'buyer-seller' relationship to the 'strategic partnership'. Examine the statement with various examples. Highlight the constraints being faced by India in boosting ties with the Gulf countries. 12½
2. India's relations with Vietnam has transformed from the ideological orientation to Economic and Strategic orientation. Examine the statement. Also, elaborate how Vietnam has emerged as a pivotal state in India's 'Act East' Policy. 12½
3. Discuss the factors that are turning SAARC ineffective and dysfunctional. Do you think 'SAARC minus Pakistan' and revival of BIMSTEC could revitalize the SAARC's mandate of regional connectivity and shared prosperity. Critically Analyze. 12½
4. India's permanent membership in SCO offers tremendous prospects and many challenges. Elucidate. Do you think joining a China dominated organization at this juncture could serve our nation interests? Comment. 12½
5. Indian Ocean has emerged as the centre stage of global politics. In the light of this statement, discuss the importance of Indian Ocean especially for India. Examine the challenges being faced by India in having control over the waters of Indian Ocean. 12½
6. "Given the democratic character of NDB especially in terms of voting's rights and shared capital requirements, India's interests are better served with NDB than AIIB". Critically examine. In the light of above statement, discuss the divergent objectives and goals of these banks. 12½

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7. Indo-Israel relations have overcome “hesitations of history”. In this context, discuss critically the prospects and challenges. Elaborate on the strategic imperatives which India may face given the hostilities of several Arab countries. 12½
8. The Doklam stand-off was aimed at challenging India’s special relationship with Bhutan. Do you agree with this statement? Critically analyze the importance of Doklam for India, China and Bhutan. 12½
9. World powers are making moves to counter China’s global thrust on infrastructure building under Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Elaborate. Do you think the proposed Asia – Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) is counter to One Belt and One Road Initiative? 12½
10. Democratizing post-war bodies like UNSC, IMF and World Bank is the need of hour. Do you think maintaining status quo at UNSC is in the interest of permanent members? In this context, examine the prospects and challenges of reforming these institutions. 12½
11. India’s interests in Africa are geo-strategic, economic and geo-political. Elaborate on the evolving nature of relationship between Indian and Africa since independence. In the light of China’s new base in Djibouti, do you think India can challenge Chinese pre-eminence? Analyze. 12½
12. Recently, the Trump administration came up with a new policy for South Asia criticizing Pakistan for hosting terror sanctuaries and creating instability in Afghanistan. It also recognized India’s role to bring in stability in Afghanistan. How important is this for India? Do you think India’s role in Afghanistan should be considered from the US perspective? 12½
13. “Redefining engagement with the India diaspora” is the theme of 2017 Pravasi Bharatiya Divas. In the light of this statement, assess the growing importance of Indian diaspora. What are the challenges being faced by India in connecting to its diaspora? 12½
14. In spite of Sri Lanka having geo-strategic importance and being closest maritime neighbour, India has not fully tapped the potential of its relationship with Sri Lanka. Examine. Discuss the issue of fisherman as an irritant in their bilateral relationship. 12½
15. Along with hard power, countries are increasingly leveraging on their soft power in the today’s world. In this background, discuss various elements of India’s soft power and advantages in promoting soft power. Do you think our soft power credentials can challenge increasingly assertive China? Comment. 12½
16. India’s nuclear doctrine is based on “building and maintaining a credible minimum deterrent.” What are the prerequisites for the credibility of our deterrent? Is it necessary to revisit India’s nuclear doctrine? 12½
17. India’s energy security demands diversifying its energy source basket. In this context, highlight the prospects of Africa and South-East Asia. 12½
18. The US Congress’s willingness to designate India as a “Major Defence Partner” represents the culmination of a process that has slowly, but surely brought the two states into a mutually supportive defence cooperation relationship. Discuss the impact of such move. 12½
19. “India’s high voltage endeavour for membership of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) was quite unnecessary particularly after we had secured a waiver for import of nuclear fuel and civil nuclear reactors in 2008.” Do you agree? 12½
20. What do you understand by Bilateral Investment Treaties (BIT)? Analyse the features of recently revised model BIT. To what extent, this model BIT would help in attracting and safeguarding foreign investment more effectively? 12½

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