

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

- ✓ Strategy for Current Affairs Paper
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- ✓ Art of Attempting Current Affairs Paper
- ✓ Important Topics for Current Affairs Paper
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## STRATEGY FOR CURRENT AFFAIRS

It will be no exaggeration to term Current Affairs as the backbone of CSS because if this subject is strong, then half of the work is done. Current Affairs plays a pivotal and overlapping role in most of the compulsory and optional subjects. In this article, I intend to share my preparation strategy and paper attempting strategy for Current Affairs.

### FOR PREPARATION

01. First things first, you need to develop a keen interest in Current Affairs. Make it a leisure subject which you thoroughly enjoy preparing when you want to take a break from rest of the subjects.
02. Go through the revised syllabus changes and break them down into different broad areas.
03. Bifurcate these broad areas into categories of essays topics, organizations, international relations, current global issues and miscellaneous topics. Get your hands on good quality material which would serve as a backgrounder of all these topics. Consult quality Internet resources for this purpose. Develop basic understanding of the issues from this bulk of knowledge.
04. Next important thing is to update these topics by reading newspaper on daily basis. Do not invest more than an hour reading the paper at this stage because news are still in the formative phase and by the time you take your exams in February 2016, they will be fully developed.
05. Develop the ability to organize this information in a relevant manner. That can be done by practicing different topics and questions and getting them evaluated by competent teachers. Consult recent papers of Current Affairs and practice them. Do not worry about the time you are investing in this activity because it is going to pay you off by the end.

### FOR PAPER ATTEMPTING

01. Choose the questions carefully. Go for the topics about which you have extensive knowledge.
02. Make coherent outlines and follow that pattern strictly while answering the question. An outline serves as a snapshot of what lies ahead for the examiner. It facilitates students as well for properly organizing their scheme of answer.
03. Proper introduction, analysis, pointers to support the premises and conclusion are some essential constituents of a good answer. Employ a good number of headings and present your paper well.
04. Be extremely relevant, targeted and focused. Answer the gist of the question only.
05. Avoid passing sweeping statements rather back your arguments with relevant statistics, figures, maps, diagrams, flow charts, examples, case

studies, quotations and views of significant authors and experts of the concerned subject. Statistics need to be current and correct. Do not think examiner will not find out if you're misquoting figures.

06. Give a proper conclusion.
07. Skim through your answer after completion in order to avoid any mistakes.
08. Time yourself throughout and complete all your answer well in time. Do not assign more than 35 minutes per question.

**Personally,** I do not believe in the myth of scoring and non-scoring subjects. Any subject can be scoring if the paper is attempted analytically, critically and relevantly. I presented my answers in an extensive and coherent manner. This is something which has worked for me and it can work for most of you if it is practiced thoroughly.

## SOURCES FOR CURRENT AFFAIRS

### MAGAZINES

- 01 Jahangir's World Times
- 02 Press Review
- 03 Economist Magazine
- 04 Strategic Studies Digest Quartely Digest issued by Institute of Strategic Studies ([www.issi.org.pk](http://www.issi.org.pk))
- 05 IPRI Journal published by Islamabad Policy Research Institute ([www.ipripak.org](http://www.ipripak.org))

### BOOKS

- 01 Jahangir World Times All in One (Yearly Book)
- 02 Advanced Contemporary Affairs by Imtiaz Shahid
- 03 Current Affairs by Dr. Safdar Mehmood

### NEWSPAPERS

- 01 The DAWN
- 02 The News

### ONLINE

You should also check online websites including for Current Affairs:

- [www.newsweekpakistan.com](http://www.newsweekpakistan.com)
- [www.economist.com](http://www.economist.com)
- [www.foreignpolicy.com](http://www.foreignpolicy.com)
- [www.spiegel.de/international](http://www.spiegel.de/international)

## STRETAGY FOR READING NEWSPAPER

Obviously, reading the newspaper is a very tedious job for almost all of the aspirants for CSS exam. Majority of us are not used to reading English newspaper throughout our academic career and therefore, we find it difficult to skim through the entire newspaper within a short span of time.

I was no exception either when I began my preparation for CSS. I never read English newspapers before the commencement of my preparation. So, I found reading English newspapers and magazines so hectic and boring. Nothing seemed to interest me. The length of the news and articles further estranged me from studying about current affairs and politics. Therefore, I had to sort out a way of reading the newspaper on my own. Today, I am going to share my way of reading it. You may or may not find it suitable but it worked for me.

In the first few days, I did not care about sorting out the news; which ones to read and which ones to ignore. I simply flipped through the whole newspaper in about half an hour. After glancing over the DAWN for a week or so, I was able to identify those hot news and issues on which I should concentrate and ignore all the other ones. In the second phase, I went ahead to read the newspaper from its first page. I ignored all the other news and only gave attention to those hot issues which I spotted in my first phase. For instance, such issues included Pak-US relation, Afghanistan imbroglio, Energy crisis and Terrorism etc.

After reading the first page, I used to move to the last four pages of DAWN which focused on foreign affairs and issues in the international arena. I guess, these four pages are the most important and must be read with rapt attention. Within these four pages, I also read only those hot issues I classified in my first phase. Examples include Middle Eastern crisis, African continent issues and South Asian news etc.

The next step was reading the first two editorials on the editorial page of DAWN. I usually skipped the third editorial because it was not that much important compared to the first two ones. Concerning the opinions/articles/columns, I read only those ones which were related to the affairs of Pakistan or issues of international importance. These might comprise of terrorism, extremism, education, good governance, law and order and foreign policy etc. There are some eminent columnists whose columns should always be read and in some cases, cut/pasted in a separate register. In my case, they were Munir Akram, Najmuddin A. Sheikh, Syed Saadat, A.R.Rehman, Muhammad Amir Rana and so

many others.

You should be able to read all of the above discussed stuff in min 30 minutes and max 40 minutes. There is no need to read the rest of the newspaper. For example, Metropolitan, National and Sports pages, etc. You will be just wasting your time if you do. However, you can skim through the business pages of DAWN because they may help you in quoting facts and figures in the paper. Do try to read some of the core issues in IMAGES pages every Sunday in DAWN. You can find so many references and facts and figures regarding some hot national issues like drug addiction, child labor and old people problems.

You must be wondering that I have told you what to read and what not to, but I have not told you 'how' to read the news. So, first of all comprehend the fact, that most of the times, the present scenario of the news is discussed in the first few paragraphs. The rest (last few paragraphs) is its historical background and views of the other people and institutions. Initially, you can begin to read the news by reading the entire news story and after a few days of reading it, gradually reduce it to reading only first 4-5 paragraphs. Because with the passage of the time, you will not need to read its past events. You will only be focusing on the present scenario and the future prognosis.

Another counsel is to always read the newspaper at a first pace. Just skim through each news story, column and editorial. Do not try to understand each and every sentence, statement, word and fact. Develop the habit of scanning. Nobody can dedicate a whole hour to newspaper on daily basis because one has 11 more subjects to study as well. Aspirants get bored from reading newspapers because they read it like a subject. They want to cram and store each and every word of the news they have read. It is not advised and it is not possible either. Do not worry that you forget what you read in the newspaper. Unconsciously, your mind is storing everything that you read and ultimately, in the paper, you will be able to recall everything required to corroborate your answer. That is my belief as well as my experience.

## ATTEMPTING CURRENT AFFAIRS PAPER (MUHD MUSA ALI BOKHARI PAS)

Let it be very clear from the outset that to believe that one can get through the CSS exam with only two, three or four months of preparation is absolutely a flawed idea. It would be a mere repetition if I say that hard work is the only key to success. It should also be always kept in mind that merely passing the CSS exam doesn't open the doors of Civil Services for you, rather it is the higher marks which help you embark on an illustrious career. Since it's a competition, so do remember that there is no shortcut to success in it. Through this write-up I will try to guide you through the art of tackling the Current Affairs paper.

A question that baffles every aspirant is that how much time and what sort of study is required to pass the CSS exam. I also faced this question during early stages of my preparation. The answer to this question is that before taking the exam, one must assess oneself with complete honesty. Besides this, an aspiring candidate should also consult some successful candidates to understand what it takes to be a CSP. Every success story would make you believe that passionate devotion is a prerequisite to achieving your dreams.

Coming back to the topic, Essay and Current Affairs papers are considered the most difficult obstacles to defeat. It is so because Current Affairs as a subject and Current Affairs as a phenomenon are the foundations on which candidates have to build the edifice of their preparation. In short, it's the backbone of CSS examination, the 'key'. Apparently, Current Affairs is only a single compulsory paper yet its use in Essay, Pakistan Affairs and Islamiyat as well as in the optional ones like Geography II, International Relations, Indo-Pak History, International Law, Political Science, etc., is all too visible. That's the reason why a huge chunk of candidates opts for these subjects.

The first step of a sound preparation is to get a copy of Current Affairs papers of the last ten years. Then you have to comb through those to get a fair idea of the nature and scope of questions asked. This would remove all ambiguities regarding the path which you will have to follow for best preparations.

After going through the papers, next step is to start preparing from the exam point of view. Sans this, your hard work would yield no substantial result because the whole toil of yours would be clouded with uncertainty.

Here, I would beg to differ with those who follow a set pattern for Current Affairs. This paper has no parameters and should be treated as such. Instead of limiting the scope

of your study, you must diversify your reading and knowledge beyond Dawn newspaper. Magazines, especially Jahangir's World Times, and channels like CNN/BBC are the best source to stay updated. There are numerous candidates who would do anything in order to grab the notes prepared by those who qualified the exam. This, I feel, means confining oneself and it does more harm than good. However, it is alright if you want to look into those notes only to make your own ones better. If you rely solely on notes provided by academies and mentors, you will be doing a sheer injustice to yourself. It is a known fact that there are certain favourite topics each year which can be prepared comprehensively. The information collected on these topics would be useful for all other subjects. For example, Women-related Issues, Terrorism, Good Governance, Energy Crisis, Water Crisis, Future or Failure of Democracy, South Asian Politics and Role of China are the topics to bank on.

While attempting the paper, most candidates do not understand the questions before answering them. There is a wide gulf between what they write and what has been actually asked. For example, the question is: "Resolution of Kashmir issue between India and Pakistan can bring peace and prosperity in the region. Discuss."

Most candidates would go on writing all they knew about Kashmir while remaining completely oblivious to what has been actually asked. Here, what is required is to discuss only one aspect of the many branches of the Kashmir dispute. So, do read the question again and again to grasp what examiner wants to see in your answer, and then write your points accordingly.

### **HAVE A LOOK AT THE FOLLOWING QUESTION AND THE OUTLINE OF ITS ANSWER.**

Q. Discuss the causes of extremism and militancy in Pakistani society. Suggest ways and means for the state organs to overcome these issues.

1 Introduction

2 Causes of Extremism and Militancy in Pakistan

1. Motivation by religious ideologies and grievances.
2. Injustice to Minorities.
3. Terrorists will use poverty, social strife, inequality and oppression to their advantage.
4. Involvement of Foreign Hand
5. Several interpretations of Islam.
6. Illiteracy
7. Low employment rate

### 3 Ways to Overcome These Issues

1. Invigorate law-enforcement agencies.
2. More vigilance along borders.
3. Depriving criminals of their profits
4. Providing necessary technology, harmonizing laws and sharing information.
5. Seek negotiated political settlement.
6. Reorganize national priorities with education as main concern.
7. Prevent others from following the same path and thus succeed in eliminating the terrorism menace.

*(This outline is for demonstration purpose only. It is not required in actual exam.)*

The answer should be completed with a forceful conclusion. The introduction and conclusion must leave an impact on the reader. Being impressive doesn't mean that one should flaunt one's vocabulary or work towards a superb climax. Be simple, to-the-point and eloquent. Correct English, nice expression, coherent writing and deep analysis make a paper out of the ordinary.

In Current Affairs paper, facts and figures on economy, energy, etc., would fetch additional marks. Drawing diagrams, where necessary, would also benefit you. This does not, at all, mean that one should start the answer of a question on terrorism by sketching weapons and bullets. Having a fair idea of how to draw the World Map, Map of Pakistan and of South Asia would be beneficial.

Moreover, candidates generally believe that writing a lengthy answer would fetch high marks. This is a pernicious myth. Not quantity but quality matters in Competitive Exams especially CSS. Moreover, every candidate is up against the brightest brains from Pakistan. Like I said before, if you want the service of your choice, you should not look for merely passing the exam but you have to go all out in your efforts to score higher than the rest. In addition to all these things, using markers, pointers and presenting a neat paper to the examiner would most certainly pass a very silent and personal message; 'Choose me.'

## DOES CURRENT AFFAIRS PAPER DEMAND ANY STRATEGY?

When most people decide to appear in CSS exam, they lack some very basic general knowledge skills:

**Knowledge** about different oceans, location of countries and their Economic and Political Blocs, world organizations and their basic functioning, Division of Asian and Arab Countries as per their proximity with the poles, and other basic concepts. Instead of guiding the students and nourishing them with general concepts, the mentors advise them to read newspapers and to watch news. At this level - with no clear understanding of basic knowledge of world map, global politics and global economics - the process of learning, merely through newspapers and digest, becomes tedious and complicated.

**Securing** good marks in current affairs can prove one's knowledge of contemporary affairs but he/she might not be the best person to guide regarding the subject. Many people have comprehensive reading, good schooling where they have had already developed several concepts - later -aiding them to understand global issues, and might have good analytical skills. They can pass the CA paper with good score, but cannot be helpful in guiding someone; at-least, not when they keep on charring constantly to read the newspaper.

## IMPORTANT TOPICS

### PAKISTAN'S DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

01. Baluchistan crisis
02. Karachi at war
03. Poverty
04. Unemployment
05. Corruption
06. Education
07. Energy Crisis
08. Water Crisis
09. Economic Problems
10. Environmental Issues
11. Health Care Issues,
12. Food Security
13. Human Rights
14. Status of Women
15. Status of Minorities
16. Population Explosion
17. Militancy, Extremism, Sectarianism
18. War on Terror
19. Media
20. Federalism
21. Good governance
22. National Security
23. National Action Plan
24. Election Related Reforms
25. Democracy and political instability in Pakistan
26. Foreign policy of Pakistan
27. Geo-strategic importance of Pakistan
28. Disaster Management

### PAKISTAN'S EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

01. Its Neighbors (India, China, Afghanistan, Russia)
02. The Muslim World (Iran, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Turkey)
03. The United States
04. Regional and International Organizations (UN, SAARC, ECO, OIC, WTO, CW)

### GLOBAL ISSUES

01. International Security
02. International Political Economy
03. Human Rights
04. Environment: Global Warming, Kyoto Protocol, Copenhagen Accord
05. Population: world population trends, world population policies
06. Terrorism and Counter Terrorism
07. Global Energy Politics
08. Nuclear Proliferation and Nuclear Security
09. Nuclear Politics in South Asia
10. International Trade (Doha Development Round and Bali Package)
11. Cooperation and Competition in Arabian Sea,

Indian and Pacific Oceans

12. Millennium Development Goals, Current Status,
13. Globalization
14. Middle East Crisis
15. Kashmir Issue
16. Palestine Issue

## CURRENT AFFAIRS: STUDY PLAN

### PART 1: RELATION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

#### PAK-US

**(2003)** In the current relationship of mutual dependence, American obligations are minimal while Pakistani ones are substantial. Comment.

**(2006)** The US President Bush visit to Pakistan had yielded no positive outcome except for promises and pledges. In the backdrop of changing US mindset former Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali had urged the government to establish more vibrant relations with Iran, Saudi Arabia and China. Comment.

**(2008)** Discuss the various dimensions of Pakistan US relations in the wake of Pakistan's playing the role as a front line state against International terrorism.

**(2014)** Discuss the impact of ACPAK policy on Pak-US relations.

#### PAK-AFGHAN

Note: Pak-Afghan Relations **(2006)**

How far India factor is responsible for the present state of Pakistan-Afghanistan relations? Analyze. **(2008)**

What is ACPAK policy; how to manage its implication on Pakistan? **(2011)**

#### PAK-IRAN

Analyze the convergence and divergence of interests in Pakistan-Iran relations since the last two decades. **(2005)**

#### PAK-INDIA

Note: Communal riots in India **(2002)**

The amicable solution of Siachen glacier and Sir Creek maritime boundary disputes might harbor the settlement of the core issue of Kashmir between Pakistan and India. Discuss. **(2008)**

What feasible measures would you suggest to bridge the existing trust deficit between Pakistan and India for the resumption of stalled process of composite dialogue.

**(2010)**

If India is granted Permanent seat in Security Council; what can be the options available to Pakistan to manage the Indian Hegemony in South Asia? **(2011)**

Evaluate the significance of water conflict between India and Pakistan in global perspective of climate change.

**(2012)**

Evaluate the significance of water conflict between India and Pakistan in perspective of water management projects in Indian held Kashmir. **(2014)**

Discuss the possibilities of progress under the recently agreed rubric of comprehensive dialogue between Pakistan



& India. In your opinion what are the major constraints at present? **(2016)**

### PAK-CHINA

Note: China's potential as super power. **(2000)**

The strength of Chinese economy is perceived as a threat by USA to its dwindling hegemony. What changes at policy level are required by America for harmonious relations with china? **(2009)**

Note: Chinese aided development Projects in Pakistan. **(2010)**

Discuss impact of economic development of China on World Order. **(2012)**

Discuss the importance of Pak-China relations. How does this relationship effect political and security environment in South Asia? **(2013)**

Discuss the prospects and challenges to the construction of *China-Pakistan Economic Corridor*. How will CPEC become a game changer for the region? **(2016)**

### AFGHANISTAN

Visualize the post-Taliban Scenario in Afghanistan and discuss its implications for Pakistan. **(2001)**

Give a long-term scenario of Afghanistan and Iraq beyond the perspective of 'Nine Eleven'. **(2003)**

Discuss the current sociopolitical and security situation of Afghanistan and its implications for the neighbouring countries. **(2013)**

### CENTRAL ASIA

Note: Great Game in Central Asia **(2008)**

Note: Economic Potential of Central Asia. **(2009)**

### ASIA

China, India and Pakistan are three Nuclear States in the Asian Continent. Is this a potential threat or strength for the continent? Analyze. **(2007)**

Dynastic Politics in South Asia has become a norm rather than an exception what are the merits and demerits of this political arrangement? Analyze and comment? **(2009)**

In the present day turbulent World, most of the countries in East Asia have been relatively calm and stable in Political & Economic sphere. What reasons would you assign for this success? **(2009)**

Discuss the importance of Pak-China relations. How does this relationship effect political and security environment in South Asia? **(2013)**

### MIDDLE EAST

How do you see recent developments in the Middle East, particularly with reference to deteriorating relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran? What role, if any, Pakistan could play in reducing the tensions between the two Muslim countries? **(2016)**

## PART 2: INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### UN SECURITY COUNCIL

The UN Security Council is regarded as a tool for the veto

wielding powers and a debating forum for non permanent members. Make a case for restructuring the Council with special emphasis on judicious distribution of veto power. **(2006)**

If India is granted Permanent seat in Security Council; what can be the options available to Pakistan to manage the Indian Hegemony in South Asia? **(2011)**

Substantiate Pakistan's role in UN peace keeping missions. **(2014)**

### SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANIZATION

Note: Shanghai Cooperation Organization **(2001)**

Why Pakistan is desperately seeking full-fledged membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization? **(2008)**

Pakistan provides the natural link between the SCO states to connect the Eurasian heartland with the Arabian Sea and South Asia." Substantiate Pakistan's claim for the membership of SCO in the view of the above mentioned statement. **(2010)**

### OIC

The ongoing anti blasphemy campaign launched by Muslims all over the world and the West's obduracy not to yield on the issue in the name of freedom of press has put the two on a collision. What role the UN and the OIC can play to prevent recurrence of acts of blasphemy in future? **(2006)**

What are the ground realities inhibiting the capacity of Organization of Islamic conference as an effective body to protect the legitimate interests of Muslim world? **(2003)**

Analyze the role of OIC in the resolution of problems faced by its members **(2002)**

The organization of Islamic Countries (OIC) has not played and effective role in protecting the rights of member states. How can it become a vibrant organization to achieve its objectives? **(2007)**

### WTO

Discuss politics of World Trade Organization and Globalization. **(2000)**

Discuss the potential challenges Pakistan is facing in the WTO regime. **(2008)**

### ASEAN

Association of the South East Asian Nation (ASEAN) is a success story of regional organization. What lessons SAARC can learn from the experience of ASEAN? **(2007)**

### UNO

The United Nations Organization is being side-lined by denying the peace-making role that legitimately belonged to her. Examine the statement. **(2001)**

Highlight the factors and forces, which have contributed to sideline the United Nations Organization in terms of its peace and security role. **(2003)**

### SAARC

Give a critique of the performance of SAARC since its inception **(2002)**

Association of the South East Asian Nation (ASEAN) is a

success story of regional organization. What lessons SAARC can learn from the experience of ASEAN? **(2007)**

Note: Afghanistan is SAARC **(2008)**

Give recommendations to make SAARC an effective organization at regional level keeping in view success of European Union. **(2011)**

### OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Note: Expansion of European Union (EU) **(2002)**

Note: NATO's expansion is Eastern Europe **(2008)**

Note: IMF's objectives in funding Pakistan. **(2000)**

Note: SAFTA **(2008)**

### PERSONALITIES

Note: Noam Chomsky **(2003)**

Note: Arundhati Roy **(2003)**

Note: Edward Wadid Saeed **(2003)**

Note: Eqbal Ahmed (not Allama Iqbal) **(2003)**

## PART 3- NUCLEAR POLITICS IN SOUTH ASIA

### PART 4 MAJOR CONTEMPORARY CRISIS

#### ARAB SPRING

How will "Arab spring" effect the political and security environment in the Arab World? **(2013)**

What are the causes of Arab Spring? Identify their impacts on the future politics of the region. **(2015)**

### PART 5- MAJOR ECONOMIC SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ISSUES OF THE WORLD AND PAKISTAN

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

Discuss the adverse impact of climate change on the world and the measures recently adopted by the Paris Conference to address this issue. **(2016)**

#### GLOBAL WARMING & POLLUTION

What are the factors which contribute to the global warming? What measures have been agreed in the Kyoto protocol to minimize the harmful effects of Pollution?

**(2007)**

#### KASHMIR

Resolution of Kashmir issue between India and Pakistan can bring peace and prosperity in the region. Discuss. **(2013)**

#### GLOBALIZATION

Discuss politics of World Trade Organization and Globalization. **(2000)**

Globalization, as being shaped by the World Trade Organization in a world of un-equal nation-states, has un-manageable implications. Discuss. **(2003)**

### MISCELLANEOUS SHORT NOTES

Note: Economic consequences or preparation at the World Trade Centre **(2001)**

Note: Aftermath of Agra-Summit **(2001)**

Note: France's policy on Iraq's invasion. **(2003)**

Note: Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipelines project. **(2006)**

Note: Human Development **(2007)**

Note: Geneva Convention **(2007)**

Note: Balkanization **(2007)**

Note: Improving Quality of life in Africa **(2009)**

Note: Free Market economy and economic melt down **(2009)**

Note: Economic Potential of Central Asia. **(2009)**

Note: Combating corruption in developing countries **(2009)**

Note: Liberhan commission report. **(2010)**

## PART 6- SUPER POWERS AND ISSUES OF THE WORLD ORDER

### US POLICY

What are the strategic objectives of America's increased embroilment in South Asia's power relationship? **(2000)**

Determine the extent to which the objectives of Americans-led global coalition against the so-called terrorism are achievable. **(2001)**

Critically evaluate the US concerns about the production of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) **(2002)**

How has the conflict between US and Iraq affected them and the world at large? **(2002)**

The new dimensions in Indo US warming up of relations would have serious implications for Pakistan and the world region. Discuss. **(2005)**

America has been bogged down in Iraq and Afghanistan.

What would be America's exit strategy to disengage itself from the prevalent confrontational situation? Discuss. **(2005)**

US accusations against North Korea, Syria and Iran are meant to bring them within the purview of the doctrine of pre-emptive war. Discuss. **(2006)**

Note: Neo-Conservatism in USA **(2007)**

There is a perception that USA is preparing to attack Iran. Discuss the possibilities of this scenario and its implication at global level especially in the Middle East, and on Pakistan. **(2007)**

The attack on Iraq by USA was an attempt to control oil resources of the area and redraw the map of Middle East. Having failed in to achieve both objectives, what policy options would be required by USA towards Middle East for peaceful relations? **(2009)**

The strength of Chinese economy is perceived as a threat by USA to its dwindling hegemony. What changes at policy level are required by America for harmonious relations with china? **(2009)**

President Obama's extended hand of friendship to china ushers in a new era of realist diplomacy in Washington.

Highlight the new dimensions of U.S. foreign policy towards People's Republic of china. **(2010)**

"The new afghan strategy of U.S., in fact, is a veiled request for their safe exit. It is a gamble. the price of victory will be high and the price of failure is incalculable." Analyze and comment. **(2010)**

Discuss the strengths of USA to implement its economic



policies Worldwide. **(2014)**

Examine the emerging strategic competition between China and the US and its impact on global order. **(2016)**

### 9/11 CONSEQUENCES

A single catastrophic event –Nine Eleven – has turned the entire world topsy-turvy. Discuss. **(2002)**

Give a long-term scenario of Afghanistan and Iraq beyond the perspective of 'Nine Eleven'. **(2003)**

### PALESTINE

Note: Issue of control over Al Quds. **(2000)**

How has the apathetic role of Arab countries complicated the issue of Palestine? **(2001)**

Note: Current Palestinian situation and the Arab neighbours. **(2003)**

Note: Palestine issue. **(2008)**

Note: Jewish settlements in Palestinian territories. **(2010)**

## PART 7- STRUCTURE OF PAKISTAN'S ECONOMY, ECONOMIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

### PAKISTAN

The linguistic burden of English, Arabic, Urdu and the mother tongue on learning is a serious issue requiring serious treatment. Analyze. **(2000)**

Longer period of political stability is the requirement to institutionalize reformist policies whereas the same has not been available in Pakistan. Assess the prospects of recent multiple reforms in the context of this statement. **(2000)**

Discuss how Pakistan is affected by political and economic stakes and nuclear concern of Japan in South Asia? **(2000)**

Note: Gender prejudices and women empowerment in Pakistan **(2001)**

Evaluate the structural changes introduced in Pakistan's economy over the past two years. **(2001)**

In her foreign policy and trade, Pakistan has never benefited fully from her ideal geostrategic location. Discuss **(2002)**

Note: Pakistan's Pollution Problem **(2002)**

Note: Kalabagh Dam **(2002), (2006)**

In what ways India-Israel nexus, India-China bilateral relations and India-Iran geo-economics affect Pakistan? **(2003)**

In the Muslim Societies factors like justice, rejuvenation, education and enlightenment, which determine the conditions of human societies are miserably lacking. Analyze the problems confronting the Muslim world in the light of this statement. **(2005)**

Note: October 8, Post earthquake Scenario **(2006)**

Examine the causes of disturbances in Baluchistan. **(2006)**

Note: Chinese aided development Projects in Pakistan. **(2010)**

The issue of central importance about corruption and accountability in Pakistan is the increase in corruption despite six decades of efforts to eradicate it. Analyze and comment on the root cause of rampant corruption in the

society. **(2010)**

Note: Aghaz-e-haqooq Balochistan package. **(2010)**

If India is granted Permanent seat in Security Council; what can be the options available to Pakistan to manage the Indian Hegemony in South Asia? **(2011)**

How Pakistan can reduce foreign debt? Suggest mechanism in Pakistan economy to handle external perspective of Pakistan economy. **(2011)**

Give suggestions to manage political instability in Pakistan **(2011)**

What is climate change impact? What are its implications on Pakistan? How to manage climate change in policy and practice? **(2011)**

Discuss the impact of foreign aid on Pakistan in post 9/11 scenario. **(2012)**

Substantiate Pakistan's role in Common wealth. **(2012)**

How can the energy crisis of Pakistan be resolved? **(2012)**

How the corruption be managed in Pakistan? **(2012)**

Discuss the successes and failures of political parties in bringing about a meaningful change in Pakistan. **(2013)**

Critically evaluate the causes of Energy crisis in Pakistan and its consequences for the economic growth and social fabric in the country. **(2013)**

Since 1970 every election was accused of rigging, what electoral reforms you will suggest to improve the electoral system of Pakistan? **(2015)**

Do you believe that main cause of 2014 floods was Indian water terrorism or it was due to awful mismanagement of water resources in Pakistan? **(2015)**

Do you agree that Pakistan's role in afghan jihad against Soviet Union was the root cause of terrorism in Pakistan or it is a reaction of US invasion of Afghanistan after 9/11 and Pakistan's U-turn in afghan policy? **(2015)**

What measures would you suggest to improve the economy of Pakistan particularly in the areas of debt reduction and enhancing export capacity? **(2016)**

## PART 8- DOMESTIC ISSUES

### DEMOCRACY

Give a comprehensive appraisal of the revival of democracy after the interregnum of 1999-2002. **(2002)**

Debate National Interests VS Democratic Values in the context of recent political and constitutional developments in Pakistan. **(2003)**

The rise of religious extremism and militancy has become a major challenge to Pakistan's internal stability and promotion of democracy. Elaborate. **(2008)**

Why most countries of the Muslim world are devoid of democratic governance? What changes would you recommend to make them modern democratic states? **(2009)**

Democracy in Pakistan has remained an elusive dream.

Why it has taken so long to develop a road map and follow it with necessary modification? Explain **(2009)**

## GOVERNANCE (CORRUPTION)

Governance through ordinances has been the hallmark of all regimes, democratic or otherwise, in Pakistan. In this context briefly review Pakistan's political, constitutional and judicial landmarks. **(2000)**

Note: Ramification of Taliban's style governance. **(2000)**

Pakistan is suffering from crises of governance at Institutional level. Suggest remedies to mitigate this situation. **(2007)**

How can the corruption elimination be made part of the governance systems of Pakistan? **(2014)**

Define term good governance. What measures the present government should take to improve its performance? **(2015)**

## TERRORISM

The phenomenon of terrorism has occupied center stage in today's world. Highlight the difference between terrorism and a freedom struggle. Discuss the issue of terrorism in the back drop of what is happening in Iraq, Chechnya, Kashmir and Afghanistan **(2005)**

Critically evaluate the counter terrorism policy of Pakistan and suggest measures to eradicate this evil. **(2015)**

Discuss in detail the efficacy of counter terrorism measures adopted by the government, especially with reference to the National Action Plan. **(2016)**

## MILITANCY & EXTREMISM

The rise of religious extremism and militancy has become a major challenge to Pakistan's internal stability and promotion of democracy. Elaborate. **(2008)**

Discuss the causes of extremism and militancy in Pakistani society. Suggest ways and means for the state organs to overcome these problems. **(2013)**

## CONSTITUTION

Highlight the constitutional issues affecting Pakistan's politics since the army take-over in October 1999. **(2001)**

Debate, National Interests VS Democratic Values in the context of recent political and constitutional developments in Pakistan. **(2003)**

## PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY

How best can the issue of Provincial Autonomy in Pakistan be resolved within a viable Federal Structure? Discuss **(2005)**

"The troubling issue in Pak pertains to an overbearing centre's supremacy in the federations and the resulting demand for Provincial autonomy." discuss. **(2010)**

## EDUCATION IN PAKISTAN

Assess the growing impact of information technology on Pakistan's socio-economic and educational complexion.

**(2000)**

Judicious evaluation of examination scripts by the Universities and Boards of Education in Pakistan needs to be ensured. How can it be accomplished? **(2001)**

Countries that recognized the importance of higher education are way ahead of those who have ignored it.

What measures would you suggest to upgrade the standard of higher education in Pakistan? **(2006)**

What can be the strategies to reduce dependency of education sector on governmental funding? **(2011)**

Discuss issues in the higher educational system vis-a-vis 18th amendment in Pakistan. **(2012)**

What is character building? Assess the factor (character building) in education systems of Pakistan and give suggestions for improvement. **(2014)**

What is the role of education in character building of a nation? Highlight major pitfalls in Pakistan's educational systems. **(2015)**

## GWADAR

Sino-Pakistan collaboration on Gwadar Sea opening will have far-reaching economic and geo-strategic consequences. Comment. **(2001)**

The Gwadar Port would have great strategic significance in addition to its vast economic potential not only for the uplift of Baluchistan but for the neighboring countries like China, Afghanistan and Central Asian States, comment. **(2005)**

## ENERGY CRISIS

Critically appreciate the decision making in Pakistan regarding energy crisis in Pakistan. **(2014)**