



LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

FIRST SEMESTER – APRIL 2023

PIR 1504 – UNDERSTANDING GEOPOLITICS

Date: 05-05-2023

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

Time: 09:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

PART – A

(4 x 10= 40 Marks)

Answer any Four of the following in 400-500 words each

1. Define geopolitics and discuss about its origins.
2. Briefly explain any two distinct features of the post-cold war era.
3. Discuss the Cuban missile crisis and its impact on US-Soviet relations.
4. What is the significance of OPEC in the geopolitics of oil?
5. Analyse India's role in the G4 countries and their agenda.
6. Outline at least three geographical features that determine India's relations with its neighbours.

PART – B

(3 x 20 = 60 Marks)

Answer the following in 1200 words each

7. a) Discuss the theory of 'Cycle of Leadership'. How does it help in understanding the rise and fall of dominant powers?

(or)

b) Analyse the contribution of Critical Geopolitics in challenging mainstream understandings of Geopolitics. How does it make the study of Geopolitics more inclusive?

8. a) What is the Heartland theory of Halford J Mackinder? Explain the assumptions of this theory and the reasons for the theory becoming outdated.

(or)

b) Discuss the evolution of ties between the People's Republic of China and the United States in the 20th century. What is the importance of 'Normalisation of ties' between the two countries?

9. a) Illuminate the role of the IMF and the World Bank as important International Financial Institutions. Explain their functions in providing foreign aid to various countries.

(or)

b) Explain the emergence of BRICS as a new forum of international cooperation. What is India's role in BRICS?
