

American Foreign Policy: Processes and Outcomes

The First Examination: A Practice Examination
Ole J. Forsberg, Ph.D.
Creighton University

This is a practice test for this course (in-class portion). The real examination will be longer than this practice. However, this does offer a good insight into the types of questions I will be asking. Your job as a test taker is to show me quickly that you know the concepts being tested. As such, DO NOT pad your answers. Enjoy!

Section One: That's Just a Theory

Here is a list of the IR theories we have studied:

- Classical Realism
- Structural (Neo-) Realism
- Liberal Realism
- Neoclassical Realism
- Wilsonianism
- Neoconservatism
- Liberalism
- Neoliberalism
- Constructivism
- Marxism
- Functionalism

For each of the scenarios below, select the IR theory used by the analyst. There may be several answers that *could* work. You must select one and explain why that is the correct answer.

1. Turkey's parliament recently approved military operations against Kurdish separatists in Iraq, defying pressure from the United States. Turkey has decided that the United States will ultimately support their decision because of the shared anti-terrorism ideology by both states.
2. Pakistani President General Pervez Musharraf toppled the Pakistani government in a coup d'état in 1999. In 2001, when the United States decided to go to war with Afghanistan, the United States chose Musharraf as an ally in the war and not India or Uzbekistan.

Section Two: Take the Hat

In each of the following scenarios below, you are to analyze the response from the provided IR theory.

3. Snippet: Russia's President Vladimir Putin has offered qualified support for Iran's nuclear program on a visit to Tehran. Mr. Putin told journalists that "peaceful nuclear activities must be allowed" and cautioned against using force to resolve the dispute over Iran. But he was evasive when asked whether the Bushehr nuclear plant Russia is building would be finished on time or if Moscow would supply nuclear fuel.

You are a Structural Realist. Why would President Putin offer any support to the Iranian regime?

4. Snippet: The United States refuses to halt talks with the Czechs and Poles on building radar and missile bases in the two countries as a condition for Washington-Moscow talks on European elements of U.S. anti-missile defense, Martin Povejsil, from the Czech Foreign Ministry said.

You are a Marxist. Why would the United States put the US-Russian talks in danger over the proposed missile and radar bases?

Section Three: Icky, Basic Stuff I have to Test

5. Friends of the Lepers (Vietnamese, Hội Bạn Người Cùi) is a non-profit organization helping people suffering from Hansen's disease in Vietnam. Established in 1995 by Americans of Vietnamese origin and based in California, USA. Among the objectives: financial support, medical help, nutrition help, housing for the patients with leprosy, assistance in social and economic adaptation for the patients families, scholarships for the children suffering directly or indirectly from the illness. The Organization is sponsored and run mainly by the Vietnamese Community in USA. The President is a Christian priest, Giuse Trinh Duc Hoa, who also holds sermons on Vietnamse American Catholic Radio. This organization is classified as which of the following?
- International Governmental Organization
 - International Non-Governmental Organization
 - Non-Governmental Organization
6. The European Beer Consumers' Union (EBCU) is an independent non-religious, non-politically affiliated organisation founded during May 1990 in Bruges by three European national beer consumer organizations: CAMRA (UK), Objectieve Bierproevers (Belgium) and PINT (Netherlands). The aims of the EBCU (at the European level) are to preserve traditions in European beer culture particularly regional and local producers using traditional methods; promote craft beers and breweries including local/national beer styles and breweries and help support small breweries to prevent assimilation into multinational companies; and represent beer drinkers to ensure consumers receive quality beers and value for money and choice in the marketplace. This organization is classified as which of the following?
- International Governmental Organization
 - International Non-Governmental Organization
 - Non-Governmental Organization
7. Give an example of each of the following:
- Non-Sovereign State:
 - Sovereign State:
 - Non-State Actor:

Section Four: And then there were just short answers

8. The United States was in the following alliance organizations during all (or part) of the Cold War: Organization of American States, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Central Treaty Organization, Southeast Treaty Organization, and ANZUS. Explain why the United States would join so many alliance organizations across the world during the Cold War. Would this have been done during containment, détente, or coercive era within the Cold War? Which of the IR theories would the United States most likely be following during this time period? Analyze the policy of creating (and joining) so many alliance organizations. What was the expected outcome? What was the real outcome?

9. Which of the six models of US foreign policy making is most correct during the Clinton years? Support your assertion with facts.