

CHAPTER 2

Contending Perspectives on International Politics

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Collectivism egoism
 - a. is the root of class conflict in Marxism.
 - b. reduces international conflict in liberal analysis.
 - c. is a gendered concept in feminist analysis.
 - d. contributes to international conflict in realist analysis.

ANS: D

REF: 35

1. Realists believe that social and international conflict are inevitable because
 - a. inequality and exploitation always produce conflict.
 - b. any social order benefits some more than others.
 - c. people believe it is inevitable.
 - d. a balance of power encourages conflict.

ANS: B

REF: 34-37

3. The belief that conflict is fundamentally a consequence of inequality and exploitation is most closely associated with
 - a. realists.
 - b. constructivists.
 - c. Marxists.
 - d. Hans Morgenthau.

ANS: C

REF: 42

4. Liberals tend to see increased trade and commerce as a force for peace because it
 - a. makes people wealthier.
 - b. undermines state sovereignty.
 - c. creates common interests.
 - d. reinforces collective egoism.

ANS: C

REF: 40

5. Commerce is often cited as force for greater international peace by
- liberals.
 - realists.
 - Marxists.
 - classical realists.

ANS: A

REF: 40

2. The idea that democracies are more peaceful is usually associated with
- liberalism.
 - constructivism.
 - feminism.
 - realism.

ANS: A

REF: 40

7. It is somewhat difficult to speak of a Marxist approach to international relations because
- Marx himself did not write much about international relations.
 - Marx wrote so much about international relations and much of it is contradictory.
 - it is not much different than liberalism.
 - Marxism is about economics, not politics.

ANS: A

REF: 41-42

3. Which perspective most emphasizes the economic roots of war and conflict?
- Feminists
 - Marxists
 - Constructivists
 - Realists

ANS: B

REF: 42

9. For Marxists, the fundamental cause(s) of social conflict is(are)
- collective egoism.
 - nationalism and religion.
 - inequality and exploitation.
 - the security dilemma.

ANS: C

REF: 42

10. For Marxists,
- class conflict is a social construction, not based on objective conflicts.
 - the state is a neutral actor.
 - class conflict is less important in international relations than domestic politics.
 - the state in capitalist societies works against the interests of the working class.

ANS: D

REF: 42-43

11. Feminist perspectives
- a. see male dominance as rooted in biology.
 - b. share a realist view of social conflict as inevitable.
 - c. see male dominance as a dependence on critical social constructions of gender roles.
 - d. claim that men are inherently more aggressive than women due to biology.

ANS: C

REF: 46

12. Constructivists argue that
- a. a world government is feasible.
 - b. international anarchy inevitably leads to war.
 - c. international anarchy does not inevitably lead to war.
 - d. a balance of power is likely to be peaceful.

ANS: C

REF: 49-50

TRUE / FALSE

13. Realists believe that the world is becoming a more peaceful place.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: B

REF: 38

14. Idealism is a label sometimes applied to liberal perspectives on international relations.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: A

REF: 38

15. Realists adhere to a generally optimistic/positive view of human nature.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: B

REF: 34

16. Liberals believe that as the world becomes more democratic, it will also become more peaceful.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: A

REF: 40

17. All realists see international institutions as critical for creating peace.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: B

REF: 41

18. Institutional liberalism advocates the creation of world government.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: B

REF: 41

19. Liberals see the basic nature and dynamics of international politics as unchanging.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: B

REF: 46

20. According to a Marxist analysis, United States policies in the Persian Gulf as motivated by elite economic interests.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: A

REF: 44

21. Realists argue that women in positions of power are more likely than men to start wars.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: B

REF: 34-36

22. For feminists, gender roles and norm are biologically determined.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: B

REF: 46

23. Constructivists agree with realists that war and conflict are inevitable.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: B

REF: 50

24. Constructivists and feminists both emphasize the importance of social norms and beliefs for understanding international relations.
- a. True
 - b. False

ANS: A

REF: 49

FILL IN THE BLANKS

4. _____ is an approach to international relations with important intellectual roots in conservative social and political philosophy.

ANS: Realism

REF: 34

26. _____ tend to have a pessimistic view of human nature.

ANS: Realists

REF: 34

27. Realists argue that _____ leads to a security dilemma that makes cooperation among states difficult.

ANS: anarchy

REF: 37

28. Realists tend to stress the importance of _____, or the absence of a central political authority on global scale.

ANS: international anarchy

REF: 37

5. The belief that trade and commerce reduce the likelihood of war is most closely associated with a _____ perspective on international relations.

ANS: liberal

REF: 40

30. According to _____ organizations such as the United Nations and the European Union help states overcome many of the uncertainties of international anarchy to achieve cooperative outcomes.

ANS: liberal institutionalism

REF: 41

6. The emergence of _____ was in large part a response to the social and economic conditions of early industrial capitalism.

ANS: Marxism

REF: 42

7. _____ emphasize the centrality of economic/class conflict at both the domestic and international levels.

ANS: Marxists

REF: 42

33. Marxists the world as divided between wealthy industrialized _____ and an impoverished and underdeveloped _____.

ANS: core; periphery

REF: 44

34. In feminist analyses of international relations, _____ refers to the norms of behavior we associate with masculinity and femininity.

ANS: gender

REF: 46

8. According to _____, the dynamics of international relations are shaped by the theories to which people adhere.

ANS: constructivism

REF: 49

9. The _____, _____, and _____ levels of analysis are different stages for thinking about international relations.

ANS: individual; state; international

REF: 51

ESSAY

10. According to realists, what are the consequences of international anarchy?

ANS: Students' answers will vary.

11. Realism has long dominated thinking about international relations. As a result, alternative perspectives often attempt to counter directly what they regard as the main shortcomings of realist analyses. For each of these alternative perspectives, explain its main points of disagreement with realism.

ANS: Students' answers will vary.

12. How and why do liberals think that international relations is being transformed?

ANS: Students' answers will vary.

13. How one thinks about the problems and issues of international politics is usually rooted in more basic beliefs about how the world works. Focusing on realism, liberalism, and Marxism, explain how the specific issues of international politics reflect on more general assumptions about the nature of politics.

ANS: Students' answers will vary.

14. Two of the most recent approaches to challenge more traditional perspectives on international relations are feminism and constructivism. Though there are some differences between these two perspectives, there are also some significant similarities. Compare and contrast these two recent additions to the debate.

ANS: Students' answers will vary.