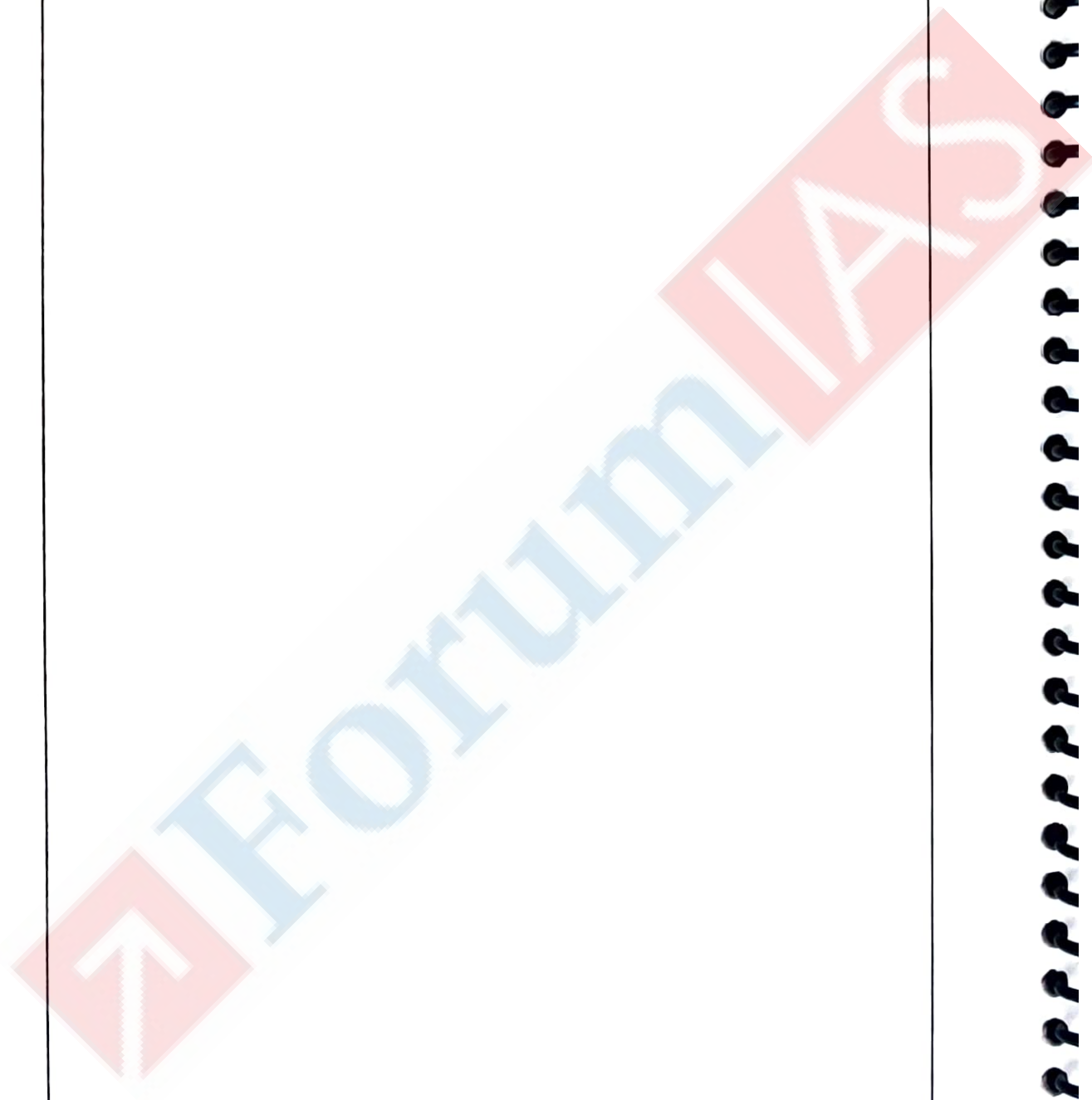


Piyush Gathale

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ANSWER WRITING FOCUS GROUP 2024
TEST #21

Instructions to Candidates -

- There are 7 Questions in this Question paper.
- All Questions are Compulsory.

For all updates, please visit the noticeboard – <https://noticeboard.forumias.com/awfg-2024>

Q.1) Write a short note on the following:

- a) Truman Doctrine
- b) Fascism
- c) Cuban Missile Crisis

(150 Words)

Q.2) In what ways did the Industrial Revolution in Europe lay the groundwork for imperialism and colonialism?

(150 Words)

Q.3) Bring out the factors behind the policy of appeasement. How far was the policy responsible for the onset of the Second World War?

(150 Words)

Q.4) Examine the significant reasons behind the Russian Revolution of 1917 and explain how the first revolution differed from the second.

(150 Words)

Q.5) Outline the purpose and outcomes of the Potsdam Conference. To what extent did this conference set the stage for the Cold War?

(250 Words)

Q.6) It was a gradual buildup of multiple factors that led to the outbreak of World War I. Comment.

(250 Words)

Q.7) What factors made the Iranian Revolution of 1979 a significant event in the history of the world both in terms of its causes and consequences?

(250 Words)

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Truman Doctrine

After second world war, the capitalist countries feared rise of communism. The poverty and communist propaganda needed response.

Truman Doctrine started with revival of Greece and then became an economic package for recovery from war and reconstruction of economy along capitalist lines.

Fascism

Philosophy of fascism is rooted in Hegelian deification of state. It means, absence of any alternative power centre or party than the state.

It is best seen in Italian and Nazi German polity during inter-war period. Benito Mussolini was unrepentant advocate of fascism, curbing liberty and freedom of expression in Italy.

Cuban Missile Crisis

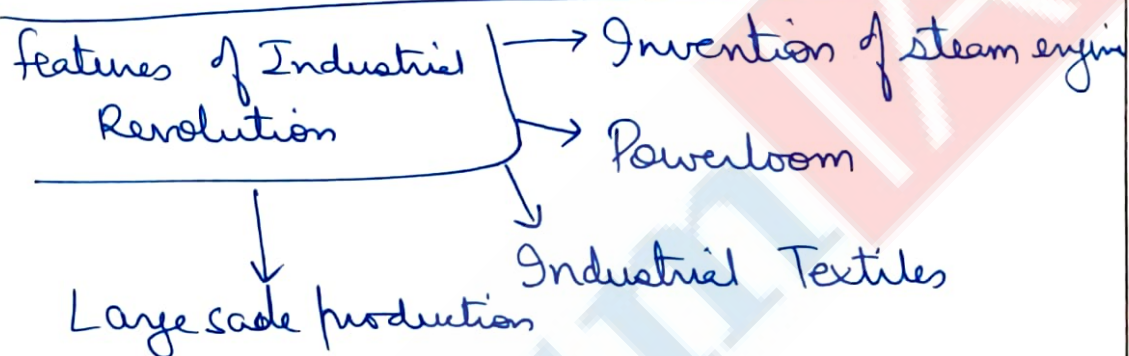
In 1960, the American spy planes discovered suspect nuclear launch sites in Cuba. It was found that USSR had sent nuclear missiles for Cuban defense. This led to quarantine of Cuban coast by US Navy and closest reach to Nuclear War. Ultimately, mutual withdrawal of advanced nuclear launch sites was done - de-escalation.

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Q.2

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Industrial Revolution is a period of rapid rise in industrial productivity due to new technology, during 1760-1840.



Role in laying ground for Imperialism

- Need for large amount of raw material → Small European states need large landspaces of Africa and Asia.
- Mercantilism - National Monopolies like British EIC compete against other countries.

- Need to control financial / economic policy in other countries → Cash crops like Indigo needed.

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Colonialism

- Imperialist control over Bengal after Buxar, 18764 → Complete use of colonies to serve domestic interests
- Free Trade with Colonial power imposed
- Triangular Trade for goods → Use of India and China as markets and raw materials



Thus, industrial demand after industrial revolution led to adoption of colonialism and imperialism policies augmented by military superiority

Q.3

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Policy of appeasement during 1930s was British effort to pacify grievances of Germany to avoid outbreak of another world war.

Factors Responsible

1) Global depression - Crash of global economy in 1933 led to inward looking politics.

2) Devastation of first world war - Popular imagination of war as glorious was forever lost.

3) Need for rearmament - British needed time to be prepared for a war.

4) Genuine sympathy for the

Appeasement evidences

- Hitler allowed capture of Czechoslovakia -
- Japan invaded Manchuria.
- Italy capture of Abyssinia No action by League of Nations

German plight after Treaty of Versailles and Hyper-inflation.

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How far was it Responsible for World War-2

Yes, major cause

- Magnified aspirations of Hitler → Port of Danzig more legitimate than Czech.
- Gave sense of invincibility and miscalculations by Japan and Germany.

Not a factor

- Lebensraum policy of Hitler was expansionist by design.
- Economic failures led authoritarians towards war to quell public.

Thus, World War-2 while being largely accused to be a result of appeasement by Chamberlain, had other factors responsible as well.

Q.4

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Russian Revolution of 1917 was founded on the premise pushing russians into modernity out of the clutches of Czarist regime.

Russian Revolution Reasons

- 1.) Disastrous defeats against Germany in World War 1
- 2.) Economic backwardness of Russia, led to public discontent.
- 3.) Authoritarian Czar led to penting up of public outrage → into revolution.
- 4.) Distrust in state benevolence due to Rasputin's influence on queen.

Difference between First and Second Revolution

First	Second
• <u>Overthrow of Monarchy</u> • <u>Largely bloodless</u> • <u>Democratic system</u> • Marxist influence in policies but focus on <u>western models</u>	• <u>Murder of Ruling class</u> • followed by <u>civil war</u> • Rise of <u>Lenin</u> • <u>Thoroughly Marxist-Communist state</u> founded

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The Russian Revolution gave birth to USSR and eventual division of world into two blocs. Even today, its influence is visible in leftist movements.

Q.5

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Potsdam Conference, 1945 was the final allied summit during the Second World War. It marked the onset of distrust between allies and early signs of ideological rivalry.

Features

- 1.) Oder-Naise river became Eastern border of Germany,
- 2.) Humane expulsion of Germans from Poland, Czechoslovakia etc.
- 3.) DeNazification of Germany, Nuremberg trials of Nazi War Criminals.
- 4.) Stalin's insistence on Soviet influence in Eastern Europe → UK, US prefer elections there.

5.) Occupation Zones in Germany and Austria.

Purpose of Potsdam Conference

- 1.) To establish rules for Post-war world order,
- 2.) Clarify policy on Germany and Eastern Europe
- 3.) Trust building measure for sharing of influence in Post-war era.

Outcomes

- 1.) Rise in distrust → No unity on the German reunification
- 2.) Nuclear weapon use by USA - Stalin was not informed prior unlike Churchill, led to arms race.
- 3.) Agreement that Germany's standard of living must not exceed average for Europe →

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was abandoned by Marshall Plan (1947).

4.) Construction of Berlin Wall by the USSR.

5.) No decision on Polish govt. in exile in UK led to breakdown of trust with USSR.

Setting the stage for cold war

Soon, Churchill announced that an iron curtain has divided Europe into two.

The Cold War was defined by -

1.) NATO vs Warsaw Pact

2.) Korean and Vietnam War

3.) Berlin Wall and German Occupation Zones.

As a result, nearly all of these have origin in erosion of mutual trust between USSR and the USA at Potsdam.

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World War 1 broke out between 1914 and 1918 among various European Countries. It was a result of multiple factors that led to large scale warfare.

Factors behind World War 1

1) Immediate Reason

- Assassination of Archduke Ferdinand Franz of Austria-Hungary.
- Austria gave an ultimatum to Serbia.

2) Web of Alliances

- Austria enjoyed German support while Serbia was allied to Russia.
- France and Britain were ~~allied~~ allied to Russia.

3.) Decline of Turkish empire

- Instability in Balkans
- Competition between regional powers like Austria and Serbia.

4.) Colonial Competition

- Scramble for Africa was over and no newer territories were left.
- Later powers like Italy and Germany sought more colonies.

5.) Rapid industrialisation of Germany

- Not as per extant Balance of Power
- Growing ambition to challenge British supremacy at sea.

Thus, the different factors behind World War I were a result of long term shifts in balance of power and web of alliances.

It is pertinent here that assassination of Austrian Archduke might have catalysed

immediate outbreak - but its role is exaggerated

Serbian Nationalism was creating multiple such flashpoints in Balkans. Bismarck is known to have said in 1890s that next great war would start in the East.

The outcomes of World War I resolved some of these tensions by giving right to self-determination to people. Similarly, colonial competition led people in India to see the War a result of imperialism in west since Industrial Revolution

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Iran Revolution of 1979 led to downfall of Shah Pahlavi and reversals in Iran's socio economic as well as diplomatic policies. This sent shockwaves across middle East and beyond.

[Causes of Iranian Revolt]

- 1) Unpopular social reforms of Shah,
- 2) Economic crisis
- 3) Control over oil by UK and US Companies
- 4) Soviet propaganda machines fuelled disdain for authority.

Significance of Causes

- 1.) Symbolised resistance against
 - Neo-Colonialism in oil
 - Cultural Colonialismin developing countries.

- 2.) Emphasised love of democracy even in poor and traditional societies.

Consequences of Iranian Revolt

- 1.) Overthrow of the Shah Pahlavi,
 - Nationalisation of oil.
- 2.) Return of Iranian chief clergy to Iran,
- 3.) Creation of Hybrid democracy with main control under clergy and its Revolutionary Guards.
- 4.) Unlike the promised liberal reforms, the new regime crushed dissent.
- 5.) Sowed seeds of current policy of Iran - definitive anti-US stance in region.

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Significance

- 1.) Rebalancing of Soviet - US influence in middle East → Boost to USSR.
- 2.) End of UK's influence in the region that was rooted in Baghdad pact.
- 3.) Rise of conservative backlash in Middle East
 - a.) Seize of Grand Mosque, Mecca
 - b.) Mujahideen Revolt in Afghanistan
 - c.) Saddam Hussain became Iraq's president
- 4.) Triggered Iraq - Iran war

Ultimately, the Iranian Revolution started a cold war in Middle East which has persisted till today between Iran and Saudi Arabia through proxies like Hezbollah.

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