

Chapter 2: IR Theories

TEST BANK

True/False Questions

1. A *theory* is a device used to order data, ask questions, and make sense out of a complex world.

True

Page Reference: 22

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.1 Explain why theories are necessary in IR.

A-Head: IR Theories

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

2. Gathering enough facts is sufficient to understand reality.

False

Page Reference: 22

Bloom's Level: Comprehension

Learning Objective: 2.1 Explain why theories are necessary in IR.

A-Head: IR Theories

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

3. Realism is a pessimistic philosophy.

True

Page Reference: 23

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.2 Review the main points of IR realism.

A-Head: The Oldest Theory: Realism

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

4. The neoconservatives in the Bush administration were actually Wilsonian liberals.

True

Page Reference: 30

Bloom's Level: Application

Learning Objective: 2.3 Evaluate the utility of IR liberalism.

A-Head: The Liberal Peace Seekers

Difficulty Level: 2—Moderate

5. The views of classic liberalism (i.e., Adam Smith) later became U.S. conservatism and are opposite to modern liberalism.

True

Page Reference: 27

Bloom's Level: Application

Learning Objective: 2.3 Evaluate the utility of IR liberalism.

A-Head: The Liberal Peace Seekers

Difficulty Level: 2—Moderate

6. Constructivism argues that objective reality rather than subjective understanding is what influences policy.

False

Page Reference: 30

Bloom's Level: Application

Learning Objective: 2.4 Explain the difficulties of putting IR constructivism into practice.

A-Head: The Newest: Constructivism

Difficulty Level: 2—Moderate

7. According to Lenin, countries that were just industrializing were capitalism's weakest link.

True

Page Reference: 34

Bloom's Level: Comprehension

Learning Objective: 2.5 Critique Marxism and its variations as IR theories.

A-Head: Marxist Theories of IR

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

8. According to critics, constructivism can grow into solipsism, a theory that teaches nothing outside of one's mind exists.

True

Page Reference: 32

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.4 Explain the difficulties of putting IR constructivism into practice.

A-Head: The Newest: Constructivism

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

9. Of all theories, realism is the most satisfactory as it closely matches with reality.

False

Page Reference: 37

Bloom's Level: Comprehension

Learning Objective: 2.6 Evaluate the possibility of a Christian theory of IR.

A-Head: IR Theories: An Evaluation

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

10. Christian theories of IR differ much from liberalism.

False

Page Reference: 37

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.6 Evaluate the possibility of a Christian theory of IR.

A-Head: IR Theories: An Evaluation

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

Multiple-Choice Questions (Answers are in bold)

1. According to Immanuel Kant, _____.

- a. gathering of facts is the basis of understanding of reality
- b. **merely gathering facts will leave one with a jumble of unrelated information**
- c. a theory is not essential for understanding an idea
- d. understanding facts is sufficient for understanding reality
- e. it's easy to distinguish meaningless from meaningful facts

Page Reference: 22

Bloom's Level: Comprehension

Learning Objective: 2.1 Explain why theories are necessary in IR.

A-Head: The Importance of Theories

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

2. Paradigms are _____.
- a. **widely accepted programs of how to study things**
 - b. the bases of political science
 - c. devices used to order data, ask questions, and make sense out of a complex world
 - d. simple statements of fact
 - e. the fundamental realities underlying all knowledge

Page Reference: 22

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.1 Explain why theories are necessary in IR.

A-Head: The Importance of Theories

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

3. Which of the following is a theory?
- a. Water exists.
 - b. Power is measured one way by CINC scores.
 - c. **Power matters for international relations.**
 - d. Political scientists sometimes measure distribution of power by the number of major powers in the international system.
 - e. The freezing point for water is 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

Page Reference: 22

Bloom's Level: Application

Learning Objective: 2.1 Explain why theories are necessary in IR.

A-Head: The Importance of Theories

Difficulty Level: 3—Difficult

4. A good theory tells you _____.
- a. what happened (the dependent variable)
 - b. when something happened
 - c. the independent variable that caused the event
 - d. **why something happened**
 - e. what will happen 100 years from now

Page Reference: 22

Bloom's Level: Application

Learning Objective: 2.1 Explain why theories are necessary in IR.

A-Head: The Importance of Theories

Difficulty Level: 2—Moderate

5. An empirical theory _____.
- a. is one that has been proven wrong
 - b. is one that has been proven absolutely right
 - c. **is supported by observable evidence**
 - d. has little observable evidence to support it
 - e. is one that is tested less often than any other theory

Page Reference: 22

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.1 Explain why theories are necessary in IR.

A-Head: The Importance of Theories

Difficulty Level: 2—Moderate

6. Realism focuses on _____.

- a. **power**
- b. international relations
- c. force
- d. international institutions
- e. democracy

Page Reference: 23

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.2 Review the main points of IR realism.

A-Head: The Oldest Theory: Realism

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

7. National interest is _____.

- a. what is good for the country in terms of domestic politics
- b. what the country is interested in obtaining through trade only
- c. what the country is interested in obtaining through force only
- d. **what is good for the country as a whole in international relations**
- e. the sum total of every individual's interests

Page Reference: 24

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.2 Review the main points of IR realism.

A-Head: The Oldest Theory: Realism

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

8. According to realists, a crusade is _____.
- a. an ideological war related to national interest
 - b. an ideological war unrelated to national interest**
 - c. a religious war
 - d. an ethnic conflict
 - e. an unjust war

Page Reference: 24

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.2 Review the main points of IR realism.

A-Head: The Oldest Theory: Realism

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

9. Liberalism is sometimes known as _____.
- a. idealism**
 - b. formalism
 - c. conservatism
 - d. pessimism
 - e. constructivism

Page Reference: 27

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.3 Evaluate the utility of IR liberalism.

A-Head: The Liberal Peace Seekers

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

10. Liberals tend to be _____.

- a. pessimistic
- b. optimistic**
- c. jealous
- d. unrealistic
- e. uncompromising

Page Reference: 28

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.3 Evaluate the utility of IR liberalism.

A-Head: The Liberal Peace Seekers

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

11. Which of the following theories argues that subjective understandings rather than objective reality are what influence policy?

- a. constructivism**
- b. realism
- c. liberalism
- d. Marxism
- e. Christian theory

Page Reference: 30

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.4 Explain the difficulties of putting IR constructivism into practice.

A-Head: The Newest: Constructivism

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

12. A good realist would tend to encourage _____.
- a. trade above all else
 - b. leaders to make decisions that are moral and just
 - c. leaders to pursue installing democracies abroad
 - d. **leaders to make decisions without concern for what is moral and just**
 - e. respect for human rights because it is the right thing to do

Page Reference: 25

Bloom's Level: Application

Learning Objective: 2.2 Review the main points of IR realism.

A-Head: The Oldest Theory: Realism

Difficulty Level: 3—Difficult

13. Which theory urges that the government keep its hands off the market?
- a. **classic liberalism**
 - b. Christian theory
 - c. realism
 - d. constructivism
 - e. Marxism

Page Reference: 27

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.3 Evaluate the utility of IR liberalism.

A-Head: The Liberal Peace Seekers

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

14. Followers of which theory are easily influenced by the phenomenon of groupthink?

- a. Marxism
- b. Christian theory
- c. realism
- d. constructivism**
- e. liberalism

Page Reference: 31

Bloom's Level: Comprehension

Learning Objective: 2.4 Explain the difficulties of putting IR constructivism into practice.

A-Head: The Newest: Constructivism

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

15. Marxism claims that all motivations in IR are for the _____ advantage of the ruling classes.

- a. moral
- b. religious
- c. economic**
- d. psychological
- e. social

Page Reference: 33

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.5 Critique Marxism and its variations as IR theories.

A-Head: Marxist Theories of IR

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

16. Which of the following is a Marxist principle?
- a. This is not a material world.
 - b. Capitalist countries are on the wane in much of the globe.
 - c. **Capitalist countries try to remake the world in their image.**
 - d. The world economy is stable.
 - e. Governments serve the proletariat.

Page Reference: 34

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.5 Critique Marxism and its variations as IR theories.

A-Head: Marxist Theories of IR

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

17. Liberal internationalists believe _____.
- a. that human rights should be handled quietly
 - b. in the power of voluntary trade negotiations
 - c. that democracy doesn't lead to peace
 - d. **that war is sometimes necessary to install democracy**
 - e. that the international environment is dangerous

Page Reference: 30

Bloom's Level: Comprehension

Learning Objective: 2.3 Evaluate the utility of IR liberalism.

A-Head: The Liberal Peace Seekers

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

18. Liberals argue that international organizations promote cooperation and peace while realists argue that international organizations _____.

- a. **serve only the interests of the major powers**
- b. need more support from international law
- c. disproportionately aid developing countries
- d. generate resentment over unfair trade
- e. cause more war than peace

Page Reference: 29

Bloom's Level: Comprehension

Learning Objective: 2.3 Evaluate the utility of IR liberalism.

A-Head: The Liberal Peace Seekers

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

19. Marxism argues that all societies are divided into which two groups?

- a. the bourgeoisie and revolutionaries
- b. the middle class and the bourgeoisie
- c. the proletariat and the middle class
- d. the proletariat and revolutionaries
- e. **the bourgeoisie and the proletariat**

Page Reference: 33

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.5 Critique Marxism and its variations as IR theories.

A-Head: Marxist Theories of IR

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

20. What according to Lenin was the cause of World War I?

- a. **imperialism**
- b. socialism
- c. poverty
- d. overproduction
- e. ideology

Page Reference: 34

Bloom's Level: Knowledge

Learning Objective: 2.5 Critique Marxism and its variations as IR theories.

A-Head: Marxist Theories of IR

Difficulty Level: 1—Easy

Short Answer/Essay Questions

1. What is the difference between a theory and a paradigm? How are they related? How does theory explain the dynamics of power in IR?

Page Reference: 22–23

Bloom's Level: Analysis

Learning Objective: 2.1 Explain why theories are necessary in IR.

A-Head: The Importance of Theories

Difficulty Level: 3—Difficult

2. What are the four major theories of international relations? What general assumptions do each of these theories make about the international system? On what issues are these theories in disagreement?

Page Reference: 22–36

Bloom's Level: Synthesis

Learning Objective: 2.1 Explain why theories are necessary in IR; 2.2 Review the main points of IR realism; 2.3 Evaluate the utility of IR liberalism; 2.4 Explain the difficulties of putting IR constructivism into practice; 2.5 Critique Marxism and its variations as IR theories.

A-Head: The Importance of Theories

Difficulty Level: 3—Difficult

3. Which of the four major theories of international relations do you find most convincing given contemporary international relations? Do you think that this theory applies to all periods of American history just as well as it does today? Reference the specific assumptions and tenets of realism in your answers and provide and explain relevant examples to support your arguments.

Page Reference: 22–36

Bloom's Level: Evaluation

Learning Objective: 2.1 Explain why theories are necessary in IR; 2.2 Review the main points of IR realism; 2.3 Evaluate the utility of IR liberalism; 2.4 Explain the difficulties of putting IR constructivism into practice; 2.5 Critique Marxism and its variations as IR theories.

A-Head: The Importance of Theories

Difficulty Level: 3—Difficult

4. Do you think that Marxism is *completely* wrong as a theory of IR? Explain the primary tenets of Marxism and support your answer with examples from history and/or the contemporary period.

Page Reference: 33–36

Bloom's Level: Evaluation

Learning Objective: 2.5 Critique Marxism and its variations as IR theories.

A-Head: Marxist Theories of IR

Difficulty Level: 3—Difficult

5. Do you think the theories you have learned are satisfactory? What alternatives do you suggest to the theories you have in your text? Evaluate the possibilities of a Christian theory or a feminist theory.

Page Reference: 36–37

Bloom's Level: Evaluation

Learning Objective: 2.6 Evaluate the possibility of a Christian theory of IR.

A-Head: IR Theories: An Evaluation

Difficulty Level: 3—Difficult