

**COVENANT UNIVERSITY  
NIGERIA**

*TUTORIAL KIT  
OMEGA SEMESTER*

**PROGRAMME:  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**COURSE: IRL 424**

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# IRL 424: FOREIGN POLICIES OF THE POWERS

Lecturers: Dr. S. Folarin and Mrs. Ajayi

## QUESTIONS

1. Who is a super power? Does the international system have any super power today?
2. The majors powers are said to have emerged immediately after World war two. Examine the validity of this statement.
3. Consider the argument that the nature of foreign policy in contemporary international system is shaped by the foresight of the major powers.
4. "Foreign policy is likened to a wedding ring with which the domestic context of a nation solemnizes its union with the international community".....Sheriff Folarin. How valid is this statement?
5. Do a critic of the United States foreign policy.
6. Discuss in detail the transitions in the United States foreign policy.
7. Compare and contrast the imperialist policies of Britain and the United States.
8. Examine the history of Britain foreign policy
9. Examine the features of the French Foreign Policy
10. Discuss the history of French foreign policy
11. Consider the view that Russia as a nation in contemporary international system still constitutes a nightmare for the Western Hemisphere.
12. What impact did the Korean War have on the United States foreign policy?
13. As a student of politics, write a letter to the President of the United States on how the U.S. should manage its future relations with China.
14. Discuss the relevance of the principles of China's foreign policy in contemporary politics.
15. Examine the factors that hastened the decline of Great Britain as a global power in the 19th Century.
16. Examine the evolution and trend of the relationships between China and other major actors in regional and global politics.
17. Discuss the impacts of the two world wars on traditional principles of British foreign policy
18. Using United States of America as an example, explain how the structure of Government plays a role in shaping a country's foreign policy.
19. Critically evaluate the Foreign Policy of France under President Charles de Gaulle.
20. Examine the issues of conflicts in Sino-American relationship

## MODEL ANSWERS IN ALTERNATE SEQUENCE (ODD NUMBERS)

1. Definition of a super power. Begin from the 17th Century through to powers that emerged after WW11.i.e Britain, United States, china, Russia,, France traced through to Cold war where two major powers emerged the United States and Soviet Union  
-Give concrete reasons why the United States amongst others is being referred to as the world's power in contemporary politics.
3. Definitions of Foreign policy by at least 3 renowned scholars  
-Discuss extensively using the determinants of foreign policy (internal and external) to argue the fact that the nature of foreign policy is shaped by the foresight of major powers
5. -A brief history of the United States foreign policy  
-Principles of American foreign policy (maintenance and restoration of international balance of power, support for western values, protection the United States national security and autonomy, geo-political considerations, non-entanglement of Europe. etc)

-Discuss the transitions in the United States foreign policy (isolationism, culture of internationalism, nuclear arms race between the US and SU, policy of containment, war on terror)

-Critique of the United States foreign policy (presidential imperialism, arrogance, lack of empathy, double standards)

7. Conceptualize imperialism

-Comparism

-Contrast

9. A detailed history of French foreign policy

-Features of the French foreign policy (multilaterism, global perspective, its involvement in the European Union, francophony, world security, religion and the state etc)

11. Discuss extensively the Russia-Ukrainian crises tracing it from WW1 when it was still referred to as the Soviet Union,

13. Consider in your answer the possibility that China's economy will continue its rapid growth and China's GNP will eventually rival America's. Use relevant history and relevant theories (if any) to support your arguments.

15. The impacts of WW1, the loss of empire, The Rise of Soviet Union and the United States of America, the European integration.

17. The traditional principles (Geography and the Sea, Maintenance of the Peace in Europe, Maintenance of the Balance of Power in Europe, Cautious Containment of France, A Policy of Cautious Colonial Expansion, A Conscious Naval Policy, a conscious Promotion of Constitutional States in Europe) Discuss these impacts on WW1 and WW2.

19. Do a detailed historical overview of French foreign policy under President Charles De Gaulle.