

COVENANT UNIVERSITY  
NIGERIA

*TUTORIAL KIT*  
*OMEGA SEMESTER*

PROGRAMME: POLICY AND  
STRATEGIC STUDIES

COURSE: STS 424

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# STS 424: INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

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## QUESTIONS

1. The lack of agreement on a definition of terrorism has been a major obstacle to meaningful international counter measures. Discuss.
2. Who is a terrorist?
3. Research literature on causational factors and diverse goals that drive people to resort to carry out terrorist acts is inclusive. Discuss.
4. Where does Terrorism come from?
5. Examine the characteristics of global and state terrorism of the past and present.
6. What do we fear about Terrorism?
7. Although, there is no generally acceptable typologies of terrorism that account for all forms of terrorism, write an explanatory note on what you considered to be the ideal typologies of terrorism.
8. What do you think can be done to combat the menace of terrorist activities?
9. Since the activities of terrorists are vicious and unwanted, suggest means of combating or curtailing this global menace.
10. How can we prevent Terrorism?

## MODEL ANSWERS IN ALTERNATE SEQUENCE (ODD NUMBERS)

### Question 1

The question of definite definition of terrorism has been a subject of debate amongst states for decades. A first attempt to arrive at an internationally acceptable definition was made under the League of Nations, but the convention drafted in 1937 never came into existence. The United Nations member states still have not agreed upon definition.

The lack of agreement on a definition of terrorism has been a major obstacle to meaningful international counter measures. Cynics have often commented that one state “**terrorist**” is another state “**freedom fighter**”.

4 marks for the reason why there is no generally accepted definition.

### **Proposed Definition of Terrorism**

League of Nations Convention (1937). 3 Mark

UN Resolution Language (1999). 3 Mark

Academic Consensus Definition. 3 Mark

### **Features of Terrorism**

From the above definitions, there are important features of terrorism that needs to be observed.

1. To create a state of terror in the mind of a person, group of persons or general public
2. It is always for political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic or religious reasons
3. Usually the direct target of violence is not the main target. The immediate human victims of violence are generally chosen randomly (targets of opportunity) or selectively (representative or symbolic targets) from a target population, and serve as message generators.
4. It is unjustifiable. It cannot be justified under any circumstances.

2 marks for each point mentioned and explained.

### Question 3

Social and political injustice.

The belief that violence or its threat will be effective, and usher in change

Ethnicity, nationalism/separatism

Poverty and economic disadvantage, globalization

(Non) democracy

Disaffected intelligentsia

Dehumanisation

Religion.

### Question 5

1793: The Origins of Modern Terrorism

1950s: The Rise of Non-State Terrorism

1970s: Terrorism Turns International

1990s: The Twenty first Century: Religious Terrorism and Beyond

### Question 7

Terrorism Classified by Place

Terrorism Classified by Personality Trait

Terrorism Classified by Purpose

Terrorism Classified by Target

Terrorism Classified by Issues

### Question 9

Negotiation

Counter terrorism

Anti-terrorism

International cooperation

Freezing of the terrorist accounts

Students are expected to fully explain these points to earn the maximum marks.