

Candidate's Name : _____

CT Group : _____

Index no. _____



PIONEER JUNIOR COLLEGE

JC 2 Preliminary Examination

International History, 1945-2000

H2 9731

H1 8814

Wednesday 10th Sept 2008

3 Hr

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

You **must** answer **Question 1** from Section A.

Answer **any three** questions from question B.

Write your answers on the separate answer paper provided.

If you use more than one sheet of paper, fasten the sheets together.

Attach the cover page of the paper with the answer scripts.

Information to candidates:

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

You are reminded of the need for grammatically correct English and clear presentation in your answers.

Question No.	Full Marks	Marks Obtained
(1)	/25	
(2)	/25	
(3)	/25	
(4)	/25	
	TOTAL: 100	

SECTION A: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS, 1945–1991

You **must** answer Question 1.

THE ROLES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND SECURITY COUNCIL

Read the Sources and then answer the question.

When answering **Question 1** candidates are advised to pay particular attention to the interpretation and evaluation of the Sources, both individually and as a group.

Source A

In this General Assembly the small powers will be able, year in, year out, to make their voices heard in a free and democratic atmosphere.

We must not, however, lose sight of the fact that the weight their voices will carry and the influence they will exert, will depend less on the UN Charter and on the functions of the Assembly, than on the wisdom and judgement by which it was inspired. Founded on reason its pronouncements will not fail to command the attention and respect of the Security Council.

Under Article 2 of the UN Charter the Organisation is based on the principle of equality of its members. This is not inconsistent with the fact that the chief responsibility for maintaining peace rests with the five Great Powers who are permanent members of the Security Council.

From a speech by the President of the UN General Assembly, March 1946.

Source B

The Security Council occupies a very important position in the UN. Under the terms of the Charter, it has the principal responsibility for maintaining international peace and security. Has the Security Council fulfilled the mission given to it?

At the San Francisco Conference, we criticised the veto rules allowed in the Security Council. But the Conference was prepared to apply the system loyally. Experience has justified our objections. We are ready to continue the experiment. We recognise that the nations are not yet sufficiently conscious of their interdependence and that all are not ready to accept the decision of the majority. If the members of the Security Council do not make prudent use of the veto power then it will be reduced to impotence, incapable of fulfilling its mission.

*From a speech by the head of the Belgian Delegation to the UN General Assembly,
24 October 1946.*

Source C

The General Assembly resolves that if the Security Council fails to exercise its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace, the General Assembly shall consider the matter immediately with the view to making appropriate recommendations to members for collective measures. These will include cases of a breach of peace or act of aggression. The General Assembly will support the use of armed force when necessary to maintain or restore international peace and security. If not in session at the time, the General Assembly may meet in emergency session within 24 hours of a request to meet by a majority of UN members or by the Security Council on the vote of any seven members.

‘Uniting for Peace Resolution’ of the UN General Assembly, November 1950.

Source D

Shortly after the start of the Korean War, following the USSR's veto in the Security Council, the USA proposed the 'Uniting for Peace Resolution', which was passed in 1950. The idea behind the resolution was that if the Security Council could not act because a member state, at that time the USSR, vetoed action that was important to maintaining peace, then the General Assembly should take over the task.

The 'Uniting for Peace Resolution' procedure has been used 10 times since 1950. After Egypt nationalised the Suez Canal, in 1956, Britain and France attacked and occupied part of the canal. Cease-fire resolutions in the Security Council were vetoed by Britain and France. The USA went to the General Assembly and called for a cease-fire and a withdrawal of forces. In the face of strong resolutions from the General Assembly it took less than a week for Britain and France to withdraw.

'Uniting for Peace' was again used by the USA to pressure the USSR to cease its intervention in Hungary, in 1956, after the USSR had used its veto against action in the Security Council. The General Assembly ordered the USSR to stop its intervention in Hungary and withdraw.

From an article by a lawyer, 2003.

Source E

For 30 years America's veto policy in the UN has been central to its foreign policy. More than 70 times the US has shamelessly used its veto at the UN. Most of America's vetoes have been to support its ally Israel. It has vetoed a resolution calling for the Israeli withdrawal from the Syrian Golan Heights (January 1982). It also vetoed a resolution condemning the killing of 11 Muslims by Israeli soldiers near the Al Aqsa mosque (April 1982). Finally it vetoed a resolution condemning the Israeli slaughter of Lebanese refugees at the UN camp at Qana (April 1986).

So here's an idea that just might make the US administration angry. It's a forgotten UN General Assembly resolution called Uniting for Peace, a relic of the Cold War. It was pushed through the General Assembly by the USA to prevent a Soviet veto at the time of the Korean War, and actually used in the Suez Crisis. It makes clear that the UN General Assembly can step in to restore peace if the Security Council is not unanimous. It has done so 10 times since 1950, most frequently on the initiative of the USA.

From an article by a British journalist, 2003.

Now answer the following question.

1) How far do Sources A-E support the view that the UN General Assembly was given a more powerful role than the UN Security Council in the maintenance of international peace?

Section B

Answer **any 3** questions from this section.

- 1) 'The USA and the USSR were equally aggressive towards each other and thus equally responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War.' How far do you agree with this view of the period 1945 to 1949?
- 2) 'The Soviet Union was to blame for the outbreak of the Cuban Missile Crisis.' Discuss.
- 3) To what extent can the 1973 oil crisis be regarded as a turning point in the development of the global economy?
- 4) Assess the view that agricultural reform was the most important reform accounting for China's phenomenal economic growth from 1979 to the 1990s.
- 5) Was the role of external forces more a source of stability than instability in the Middle East between 1945 and 2000?

The End