



HWA CHONG INSTITUTION
JC2 Preliminary Examination
Higher 2

CANDIDATE
NAME

CT GROUP

INDEX
NUMBER

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HISTORY

9731/01

International History, c. 1945 – 2000

September 2014

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

3 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your **name** and **CT class** clearly in the spaces at the top of this page.

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Attempt both Section A and Section B.

Attempt one question from Section A and only three questions from Section B.

Please start every question on a *fresh* sheet of paper and label each question clearly.

If you did not manage to complete a question, please hand in a piece of **blank** paper with your name and CT on it.

At the end of the examination, fasten your responses with the string provided **together**.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

Section A

You **must** answer Question 1.

The United Nations General Assembly

1. Read the sources and then answer the question.

Source A

Article 12

1. While the Security Council is exercising in respect of any dispute or situation the functions assigned to it in the present Charter, the General Assembly shall not make any recommendation with regard to that dispute or situation unless the Security Council so requests.
2. The Secretary-General, with the consent of the Security Council, shall notify the General Assembly at each session of any matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security which are being dealt with by the Security Council and shall similarly notify the General Assembly, or the Members of the United Nations if the General Assembly is not in session, immediately the Security Council ceases to deal with such matters.

Extract of Chapter 4 from the UN Charter

Source B

What are the reasons for the disappointments and shortcomings of the United Nations?

Why Mr President do we hear cynical assertions that the United Nations —has ceased to be relevant —that all it does is pass resolutions —that disputes brought before it are prolonged not resolved —that collective action by such a disparate body of nations will of necessity always be weak and ineffective.

The answer is two-fold.

Wishful thinking has led some people to believe that the United Nations was intended to be a kind of World Government! It may be a kind of Parliament of the world but it is not, and never can be, a Government of the world. Its structure limits what it can do.

Secondly, when we ask about shortcomings we should start by looking at ourselves. The United Nations is only a mirror held up to our own uneven, untidy and divided world. If we do not like what we see there's no point in cursing the mirror, we had better start by reforming ourselves.

Margaret Thatcher in a speech at the UN General Assembly, 1985

Source C

The main executive organ of the United Nations, in the maintenance of international peace and security, could act only if all the five big Powers permanently represented there agreed. But in the chilling atmosphere of the cold war the work of the Security Council came to be frozen and its authority as well as prestige declined. With the failure of the Security Council in its functions, the General Assembly, which was expected to be of a lesser political significance – not more than a “town meeting of tomorrow’s world” – became more and more bold. Through the Uniting for Peace Resolution, the increased power and active role of the General Assembly, even in the matters relating to peace and security, was regularised.

An academic in a book on the UN, 2003

Source D

The most important part of resolution 377 A (V) is section A which states that where the Security Council, because of lack of unanimity of the permanent members, fails to exercise its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, the General Assembly shall seize itself of the matter.

To date, ten emergency special sessions have been convened. The first one took place on the occasion of the 1956 war between Israel and Egypt and the British-French attack on the Suez Canal zone; the tenth emergency special session, dealing with the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory, started in 1997 and has not yet come to its end.

Excerpt from the UN website, 2013

Source E

The Third World majority’s willingness to let the Security Council take the lead is also related to differences in the assembly’s and the council’s authority vis-à-vis member states. Article 11 (2) does not limit the assembly’s activities but it does remind everyone that the assembly cannot invoke Chapter VII and order member states to take collective action. The assembly can produce a rough equivalent if enough member states take the actions it suggests, and this has happened when there were strong states in the majority. Examples include creation of UNEF I in 1956, and the continuation of collective action after an initial Security Council authorization was not renewed in Korea in 1950 and in the Congo in 1961. The trade embargoes against South Africa, Rhodesia, and Portugal had very uneven effect. These examples point out the important fact that an assembly majority’s suggestions have a significant impact on the course or resolution of a conflict only if they are implemented by states (disputants, others, or both) with sufficient economic or military capability to make a significant difference in the situation.

M.J. Peterson in a book titled The UN General Assembly, 2006

Now answer the following question.

How far do Sources A – E support the view that the General Assembly contributes little to international peace and security in the 20th century? [25 marks]

Section B

You must answer **three** questions from this section.

2 Assess the significance of the Korean War in the development of the Cold War. [25 marks]

3 How far would you agree that the end of the Cold War saw a resurgence of nationalism? [25 marks]

4 To what extent did the Cold War shape the development of the global economy in the 20th century? [25 marks]

5 How important was Japan's banking sector in explaining Japan's economic rise and decline in the period between 1945 and 2000? [25 marks]

6 "Religion is the least of obstacles." How valid is this statement with reference to the resolution of the India and Pakistan Conflict over Kashmir from 1945 to 2000? [25 marks]

END of PAPER

Acknowledgements:

Source A	United Nations. Chapter 5, UN Charter.
Source B	Thatcher, Margaret; Speech at 40 th Anniversary Session of the UN General Assembly. 1985.
Source C	Sharma, P.N.; Politics of Peace: U.N. General Assembly; 2003.
Source D	Tomuschat, Christian; Uniting for Peace: General Assembly Resolution 377 (V); 2013.
Source E	Peterson, M.J.; The UN General Assembly; 2006.