General Paper

Instructions

Please summarize the 914-word text below by reducing it to approximately one third of its original length; the summary should have around 300 words in English.

- While drafting your summary, use your best judgment in deciding what the main ideas of the given text are and which points should be stressed while respecting the balance of the given text.
- Your summary will be evaluated against the clarity and quality of organisation criteria.
- Your summary must be written in your own words and not copied directly from the text. Failure to meet these guidelines will result in loss of points.
- Your summary should not include any information that would enable graders to identify you (e.g., your name). Failure to comply with this instruction will result in immediate disqualification.

Text

Pastoralism is a subsistence pattern in which people make their living by tending herds of large animals. Pastoralism is practiced in over 100 countries by an estimated 100-200 million people on 25 per cent of the world’s land area. Pastoralist systems vary considerably across the many countries concerned. However, they do share some common characteristics, most notably their mobility. Whether transhumant or nomadic, the practice allows pastoralists to overcome the ecologically diverse and difficult conditions they encounter over the course of the year. Their movements may be linked to seeking resources (e.g. seasonally available resources), to escaping from seasonal diseases, conflicts or natural disasters, to taking advantage of periodic opportunities such as markets or political events or to managing uncertainty about the availability of pasture. Pastoralists are often marginalized by society and their rights and interests are consequently not always reflected in policies and legislation, although they make a significant contribution to the national economy. They are often in a politically and legally weak position due to their limited visibility and lack of information about their rights. The uncertain and irregular availability of resources for pastoralists has led them to develop complex systems of resource management, regulated by customary norms that reflect this complexity.
Pastoralists’ land rights are often interpenetrated with the rights of sedentary farmers, adding to this complexity. But, in fact, on land where pastoralists have rights of use and/or access, the land tenure is often characterized by a juxtaposition of various rights. In some places in Africa – around lakes in particular – there are customary land tenure rights for farmers, access rights for pastoralists (on a seasonal basis) and rights related to the tenure of fisheries. Then, the complexity is at several levels: in space, in time and in social aspects. The areas of rangeland that pastoralists need to access are generally areas where different rights coexist and sometimes overlap: sedentary farming but also phenomenon of urbanization, tourism, nature conservation and investments over land may have coexisting, mutual but very often competing interests over the same piece of land and its resources. Pastoralists and the other actors, including states, may therefore contend rights on access to land – grazing land and rights of ways (livestock corridors/routes) – and on access to reliable resources of water. The mobility of pastoralists over large tracts of land is fundamental for pastoral production and their livelihoods, in particular, in arid and semi-arid areas – where mobility is also an adaptation strategy vis-à-vis climate change and its increasing related constraints. When the rights to ways are not regulated and/or guaranteed, a situation of conflict may arise between nomadic and sedentary groups. In Burkina Faso and India, the creation and delimitation of forest reservations show how state interventions have limited access to traditional livestock pathways. Competing interests over land may also be linked to industrial uses, such as mining and irrigated agriculture, as in the case of India and Burkina Faso. Additional tensions often occur when water resources are scarce and access to them is limited. Drought-time pastures also require specific attention. Particularly worrying is the tendency to identify these pastures as “no man’s land”. During normal periods, they are usually unsuitable for livestock use, such as the Tana Delta, because of tse-tse flies infestation; however, in case of drought, they become suitable for their use due to the lower insect load and as they are the only areas where green pasture is left. Given that their use is occasional, no right is perceived for pastoralists to use it. However, their conversion into land uses incompatible with pastoralism has usually the most dramatic consequences both for biodiversity (as marginal lands are usually more biodiverse) and for food security, as these refuges are fundamental for the survival of pastoralist livelihoods. The complexity of such situations is usually present on land where flexible boundaries – needed to allow the fluidity of the pastoralist customary system – allow any group in difficult situations during times of hardship to access it. Increasing land tenure insecurity also leads to weakening of the pastoralist customary institutions that have traditionally managed natural resources: increasing competition over resources and weakening of traditional pastoralist institutions lowered the capacity of pastoralists to manage their resources and “defend” their rights. Within the pastoral society not all groups enjoy the same rights and possibilities. In particular, women do not often have the same land rights as men: in fact, although pastoral societies may significantly differ among them, it can be generally said that women do not hold land rights and have less economic independence than men. Women and men have different types of assets at their disposal for meeting their different needs. Women’s needs tend to be neglected within customary institutions as these institutions are normally male-dominated. Women’s rights over resources are channeled through their male relatives (husband, father, brother, etc.) limiting their actions and decision-making power. There are cases where women enjoy an equal position and are well
integrated in the decision-making process, as is the case in Nepal and the Plurinational State of Bolivia. In the Langtang community of Nepal, women make decisions over pasture land practices, as men are away most of the year. The same is true for the Plurinational State of Bolivia, where women shepherds in the Andes have a leading role in pasture management. However, decision-making power does not necessarily mean access to and/or control over resources. The weak position of women hampers their capacity to manage in a sustainable way the resources that are nominally under their control.
Specialised Paper Part I: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

Suggested time: 60 minutes

Maximum score: 150 points

- This test part consists of 25 MCQs relevant to the POLNET job network you have applied for.
- The suggested time allocation for you to complete this test part is 60 minutes.
- The possible maximum score you may obtain in this part is 150 points.
- There is only one best answer for each question.
- No points are deducted for a wrong answer.

1) Read each passage and answer the question that follows.

Concerns about Funding in South Sudan

The extent to which a lack of funding was a severe obstacle to carrying out the conflict management requirements of the Civilian Affairs Division in South Sudan was a somewhat contested issue among staff who were interviewed. Some staff argued that this restriction merely necessitated taking a more creative approach to fulfilling their mandate. Others said that having a budgetary cap served to ensure that the proposed response initiatives of the Division were in line with donors’ or United Nations Development Programme funding initiatives. Most interviewees agreed, however, that having some form of budget within the Division, such as a petty cash allowance that would pay for refreshments during meetings, would definitely be helpful.

What conclusion can be drawn from this passage? Choose the best answer below.

Select one:

a) Attitudes on access to funding varied largely according to where staff work.
b) A lack of petty cash limited the number of meetings that could be held.
c) Funding requests that were more imaginative were more likely to be accepted.
d) A shortage of funds sometimes led to a more appropriate use of resources.
2) Read each passage and answer the question that follows.

Disaster Risk Reduction

The costs of the damage and losses caused by disasters have been estimated at an average $100 billion a year since the turn of the century. While a large share of the economic losses has been recorded in developed countries, 93 per cent of the deaths caused by disasters have occurred in developing countries. Despite the toll of disasters in human and economic terms, the growth in development assistance for disaster risk reduction (DRR) has been, at best, moderate. While spending on DRR between 1991 and 2010 totalled $13.6 billion, spending on reconstruction and rehabilitation was almost twice as large and that on emergency responses was five times greater.

What conclusion can be drawn from this passage? Choose the best answer below.

Select one:

a) Funds dedicated to DRR account for a small proportion of development assistance.
b) Spending on DRR is far smaller than the spending on risk management in any other area.
c) Development assistance is allocated based on the potential economic impact of disasters.
d) The economic costs stemming from loss of life make disaster risk expenditure worthwhile.
3) Read each passage and answer the question that follows.

Administrative Overload in South Sudan

Some Civilian Affairs Division (CAD) staff who took part in a 2010 survey complained of being faced with a daily barrage of special flight requests, funding requests and any number of logistical requests, such as flying the body of a government official to a funeral. CAD officers expressed considerable frustration at the time spent dealing with purely administrative functions such as special flight requests. Often, the first casualty of this tended to be the time to assess, review and report on conflict management work - meaning that deeper analysis and assessment of the situation simply did not happen.

What conclusion can be drawn from this passage?

Select one:

a) CAD officers had to deal mostly with special flight requests.
b) CAD staff ran from one community crisis to another.
c) CAD officers had to assume a mainly clerical role.
d) Understaffing had an impact on the ability of CAD to carry out its mandate.
Children’s Voices

The voices of many of the world’s young citizens remain unheard, their interests forgotten or ignored. By inviting children to testify before committees, consulting children in their communities or bringing children’s perspectives to bear on the political process, States can ensure that children’s opinions have an impact on the direction of policies, the implementation of laws and the design of budgets. Listening to children and allowing them to contribute to decision-making processes can lead to better decisions. It leads to policies that are actually – not just theoretically – in children’s interests. It also offers children an opportunity to experience democratic decision-making and learn about their rights and powers as citizens, with long-term benefits for society as a whole.

What conclusion can be drawn from this passage? Choose the best answer below.

Select one:

a) Children should take the lead in addressing issues that affect them.
b) Children’s participation reflects the voices of the most marginalized.
c) Opportunities for the participation of children are limited by legal restraints.
d) The inclusion of children can help to address inequities that afflict them.
Missing Persons

Not knowing about the fate of friends and relatives is the harsh reality facing families affected by armed conflict or internal violence. However, the subject of missing persons is not generally among the main concerns of States, international organizations and non-governmental bodies. The priority given to missing persons and the needs of their friends and relatives is subordinated to the immediate needs of survivors for food, housing, medical care and protection. In some cases, learning the circumstances in which people have disappeared would mean uncovering painful truths about their disappearance. Yet as long as individual members remain unaccounted for, these families and their communities cannot resist retribution and cannot move on to reconciliation and rehabilitation.

What conclusion can be drawn from this passage? Choose the best answer below.

The phenomenon of missing persons___________________________.

Select one:

a) can make conflict resolution more difficult.
b) needs to be the core focus of conflict resolution.
c) underlines the need to seek justice for what has happened, and why.
d) needs to be the primary responsibility of humanitarian actors.
Official Development Assistance

Countries emerging from conflict require significant financing over extended periods. However, a decade of focus on peacebuilding notwithstanding, financing remains scarce and inconsistent. Although per capita official development assistance (ODA) to what the World Bank classifies as “fragile and conflict-affected States” has almost doubled since 2000 (and now constitutes about half of all ODA), almost a quarter of that went to just two countries: Afghanistan and Iraq. Assistance to the key peacebuilding sectors identified by the Group of Seven Plus countries remains tiny. As recently as 2012, only 6 per cent of foreign direct investment in developing country contexts went to fragile and conflict-affected States, and the bulk of that to just a small number of resource-rich States.

What conclusion can be drawn from this passage? Choose the best answer below.

Select one:

a) There is a misalignment between peacebuilding priorities and financial flows.
b) The scarcity of funding can distort priority setting by the Group of Seven Plus and recipients alike.
c) Greater efforts at sustaining peace would reduce the need for ODA.
d) Donor behaviour is seldom driven by a need to access scarce resources.
7) Shani is looking into the impacts of leadership on peace operations for a policy document that she is working on. She would like to include a summary from this report of the Secretary-General:

Repeated Cycles of Conflict

Many subnational areas, countries and regions now face cycles of repeated violence, weak governance and instability. These conflicts are not one-off events but are evolving and repeated: 90 per cent of the civil wars in the past decade occurred in countries that had already had a civil war in the past 30 years. These cycles of conflict and violence pose a serious threat to stability and prosperity. Many of the countries that have successfully negotiated political and peace agreements after violent political conflicts now face new forms of violent crime that constrain both economic and political development. Criminal gangs, for example, use their illicit proceeds to finance political movements and supply political violence during electoral periods.

Based on this extract, which represents the best summary for Shani to include in her policy document?

Select one:

a) Post-conflict countries face serious, emergent and chronic forms of violence.
b) Repeated cycles of conflict have regional and global repercussions.
c) Cycles of violence are found where political conflicts remain unresolved.
d) Criminal violence reduces the chances of reaching successful peace agreements.
8) Trevor is looking into security sector reform for a policy document that he is working on. He would like to include a summary from this report.

Security Sector Reform

In the early years of United Nations support to national authorities, security sector reform efforts were aimed primarily at the component level, for example, those in the area of police and defence forces, and took into account a few cross-cutting issues, such as human rights and gender. Many of these activities were ad hoc and disjointed, with little strategic or programmatic coherence. In recent years, requests and mandates relating to security sector reform have become more integrated to include a number of other core security providers and strategic sector-wide issues in which the United Nations can provide value added. Consequently, this change in emphasis has meant that security sector reform has become more transformative and sustainable.

Based on this extract, which represents the best summary for Trevor to include in his policy document?

Security sector reform mandates have ______________.

Select one:

a) become more focused on specific outcomes
b) increased accountability to stakeholders
c) demanded more resources as they have transformed
d) evolved from being unfocused to more coherent
The Effects of Conflict

Estimates suggest that countries lose 0.7 per cent of their annual gross domestic product (GDP) for each neighbour involved in civil war, and a doubling of the number of terrorist incidents in a country is estimated to reduce bilateral trade with each trading partner by some 4 per cent. Even for parts of the world that are fairly immune to insecurity thanks to their wealth and geographical distance from zones of conflict, the costs of global insecurity are both psychological (due to concern about the threats of gangs, trafficking and terrorism) and very practical, through the increased costs of security measures. A study of 18 Western European countries from 1971 to 2004 revealed that each additional transnational terrorist incident per million people reduced economic growth by 0.4 percentage points and that each additional domestic terrorist incident reduced it by 0.2 percentage points.

Based on this extract, which represents the best summary for Brigitte to include in her policy document?

Select one:

a) The negative impact of a civil war in a country is felt most by its neighbouring States.

b) Countries with multiple neighbours become more insecure when conflict arises.

c) Western European countries are disproportionately affected by transnational terrorism.

d) The spillover effects of conflict manifest themselves regionally and globally.
10) Igor wants to include a summary from a Security Council briefing on peacekeeping partnerships in a report he is working on. In particular, he would like to include a summary on what makes peacekeeping partnerships more effective.

**Peacekeeping Partnerships**

The engagement of regional partners in peacekeeping alongside United Nations operations has become the norm rather than the exception. Peacekeeping partnerships depend on the successful alignment of strategic and political objectives between different peacekeeping actors, from the early planning and pre-mandate stages of their operations to their transition or exit. This in turn is dependent on good cooperation between their decision-making organs. In some challenging cases, it may be difficult to achieve a clear strategic direction within one organization, let alone among a number of organizations with different memberships and viewpoints whose relationships are only loosely defined, which poses a wide number of political challenges.

Based on this extract, which option represents the best summary?

Peacekeeping partnerships benefit from ____________.

Select one:

- a) actors taking their roles and responsibilities seriously.
- b) having a wide variety of political perspectives to draw on.
- c) undertaking effective coordination and consultations.
- d) actors operating on the basis of comparative advantage.
11) Read each passage and answer the question that follows.

Nukhet is a civil affairs officer for a large international organization and is organizing a workshop for local women in which they will discuss ways to promote social justice within their communities.

Background information

Nukhet knows that the women who will attend the workshop will come from two different regions that are located quite far from each other. The first item on the workshop’s programme is Nukhet’s introductory speech, in which she aims to build trust between the two women’s groups, who will be meeting for the first time. She does some research on trust building and locates the study below.

Extract from the study

Researchers found that perceptions of morality (i.e., the perceived integrity and sincerity of others) have a significant impact on initial feelings of trust when individuals meet for the first time. Morality evaluations refer to general inferences about other people’s social values. Participants in the study were more likely to trust a new acquaintance when positive perceptions of morality were accompanied by perceptions of competence (i.e., the ability of an individual to act upon his or her good intentions). In fact, prior to meeting a new acquaintance, even the smallest amount of information provided on an individual’s good social values significantly increased trust. The study also found that uncertainty about a new acquaintance’s social values ultimately had a negative impact on trust.

Assuming that the results of the study have been thoroughly replicated and are in fact true, what would be the most reasonable item for Nukhet to include in her introductory speech based on the study’s findings?

Nukhet should include _____________________.

Select one:

a) a summary of the numerous religious, educational and political institutions within each community
b) brief highlights of what women from both groups have done to improve social justice in their communities
c) a description of social justice values and the ways in which they will be explored during the workshop
d) case studies of social justice projects within the women’s communities with a focus on their progress
12) Lucas is looking into the impacts of interventions on conflict for a presentation he is working on. He would like to include a summary from the following scholarly article:

Effects of Interventions

Recovery from conflict and complex emergencies is recognized as a dynamic process that greatly benefits from the incorporation of peacebuilding tools into well-made programmes. Successful interventions have included rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes, support for good governance and civil society organizations, military accountability and, above all, the protection of human rights. Yet it is also the case that international humanitarian aid has sometimes inadvertently contributed to the continuation of conflicts by, for example, helping to perpetuate structures of dominance. Interventions have also reinforced conflicts by increasing competition for resources or by introducing new institutions that challenge existing ones.

Based on this extract, which represents the best summary for him to include on this topic?

International interventions may _________________.

Select one:

a) enhance or exacerbate the situation they are dealing with.
b) start out with the wrong or the right objectives.
c) fail to, or manage to, understand local politics.
d) face valid or invalid criticisms.
13) Read the question below and select the best answer.

Understanding the delivery of justice

Building and strengthening the rule of law in countries emerging from a period of armed conflict is a central focus of the work of the United Nations. The need to understand the fundamental characteristics of criminal justice institutions in conflict and post-conflict situations and to assess their performance has become an important aspect of that task. As a result, a number of evidence-based approaches to measuring the strengths and effectiveness of law enforcement, judicial and correctional institutions have emerged. The aim of these measurement tools has been to highlight apparent successes and shortcomings within institutions and to monitor changes over time within countries.

What conclusion can be drawn from this passage?

Select one:

a) Empirical tools help countries to check their progress in establishing the rule of law.
b) Development partners need to be able to monitor the impact of their efforts.
c) Analytical tools can support direct comparisons between countries.
d) Instruments need to be able to assess compliance with international norms.
14) Read the question below and select the best answer.

After the announcement of the Ruritania national election results, Eli’s manager has asked him to evaluate the results and draw some conclusions regarding the nature of the election.

Which of the following conclusions would be the most accurate given the election data presented in the table?

Select one:

a) Low voter turnout in Districts 2 and 3 had a significant impact on overall turnout.

b) The candidate with the majority of votes in district 1 would also most likely have the majority of national votes.

c) Low voter turnout in District 2 was most likely due to voter intimidation.

d) The results of District 1 will have the most impact on the national election results.
15) Read the question below and select the best answer.

Your manager has asked you to study a report about early childhood education attendance. The report contains the figure below.

She would like to know what conclusion could be drawn from this data regarding the impact of wealth and residence on early childhood education attendance.

Select one:

a) Residence location (i.e., rural vs. urban) has the same impact as wealth.
b) Residence location (i.e., rural vs. urban) has more of an impact than wealth.
c) Early childhood education attendance does not significantly vary by wealth and residence.
d) Early childhood education attendance varies by wealth and residence.
16) Read the question below and select the best answer.

Da read research concerning factors influencing the risk of civil war. The research contained the figures below.

Which of the following would be a valid conclusion that Da can draw?

______ have a lower risk of civil war.

Select one:

a) Low-income countries that have more dependence on natural resources
b) Countries with a larger per cent of military expenditures as a proportion of GDP
c) Low-income countries with ethnic dominance
d) Countries with increased ethnic fractionalization
17) Read the question below and select the best answer.

Rani is responsible for monitoring the security situation in Emeria. There have been a number of unconfirmed reports of a major terrorist bomb attack. Her manager asks her to review incoming field reports to find out where the attack took place, which rebel group was responsible and who the intended targets were.

There are seven relevant report extracts for Rani to review:

1. Reports confirm that the attack occurred either in the west or the north of the country.
2. If the attack was not in the north, then military officers were the intended targets.
3. If civilians were the intended target, then Hyrula planned the attack.
4. The majority of attacks have occurred in the north of the country.
5. Farfel has, in the past, issued statements denouncing civilians in the west.
6. If the target was military officers, then Farfel was responsible.
7. It has been confirmed that the explosion was not in the north.

Based on the report extracts, what are the likely circumstances surrounding the attack?

Select one:

a) Hyrula rebels targeted military officers in the west.
b) Hyrula rebels targeted civilians in the north.
c) Farfel rebels targeted civilians in the north.
d) Farfel rebels targeted military officers in the west.
18) Read the question below and select the best answer.

Konika’s manager has asked him to assess whether there will be sufficient parliamentary support for a proposed legislation for judicial reform. Konika knows that the four political parties, the Blues, the Greens, the Reds and the Yellows, are waiting for the results of a recent public opinion poll on the judiciary before deciding how to vote. Konika has been asked to determine how many parties will vote for the legislation if the poll results are negative. He knows the following information:

The Yellows will vote against the legislation if the poll results are negative. If the results are neutral or positive, they will vote for it.

1. If the poll results are positive, the Blues will abstain. Otherwise, they will vote against the legislation.
2. The Reds will abstain if the poll results are negative. Otherwise, they will vote for it.
3. The Greens will vote against the legislation if the Yellows vote for it. Otherwise, they will vote the same way as the Blues.
4. From the information that Konika has, how many parties will vote for the legislation if the poll results are negative?

Select one:

a) None
b) Two
c) One
d) Three
Read each passage and answer the question that follows.

The four Supreme Court justices of Jublandia are about to vote to accept or reject three rule of law reform proposals on prison safety, legal aid, and child detention. Eric’s manager asked him to find out which of the four Supreme Court justices is least in favour of these three reform proposals. According to Eric’s sources:

- Justice Thomas will vote to accept the proposals on legal aid and prison safety. He completely disagrees with Justices Stydom and Nagomi about child detention.
- Justice Pfeiffer will vote to accept the proposals on prison safety and child detention but not on legal aid.
- Justice Stydom will vote to accept the proposals on prison safety and legal aid but, unlike Justice Thomas, thinks that child detention should be rejected.
- Justice Nagomi completely disagrees with Justice Stydom about legal aid and agrees with Justice Thomas about prison safety.

What should Eric tell his manager?

The justice least in favour of the three reform proposals is _____________.

Select one:

a) Justice Nagomi
b) Justice Stydom
c) Justice Pfeiffer
d) Justice Thomas
20) Read each passage and answer the question that follows.

Kazumi is the head of a field mission and wants to improve the effectiveness of an operation team that was deployed two months ago.

**Background information**

The operation team within the field mission consists of two groups: 50 military and 50 police personnel. Since the beginning of the operation, Kazumi has noticed that the two groups rarely interact with each other and each group tends to perceive the other as being lower in status. Kazumi is worried that these feelings could come to the surface and cause arguments between the two groups during meetings. He has therefore invited only senior military and police personnel to weekly meetings. Kazumi sees that the current situation is significantly undermining the mission’s effectiveness but is unsure how to proceed. Kazumi researches group performance and locates the following study.

**Extract from the study**

Researchers found that constructive conflict (i.e., open-minded discussion and debate) improves group performance by reducing the negative effects of subgroup divisions. Subgroup divisions emerge in groups based on perceptions of shared characteristics, such as attitudes, demographics or occupation. These divisions hinder group performance by creating feelings of competition, decreasing collaboration and reducing communication between subgroups. Participants in the study collaborated in small teams and were asked to incorporate ideas from other opposing subgroups into their discussions. Those who integrated opposing ideas produced more novel solutions and performed better on decision-making tasks than participants who discussed only the ideas of their own subgroup. The study surmised that constructive conflict bridges the gap between subgroups by activating more thoughtful information processing.

Assuming that the results of the study have been thoroughly replicated and are in fact true, which of the following would be the most reasonable way for Kazumi to improve the team’s performance based on the study’s conclusion?

Select one:

a) Arrange for an expert to interview each group and identify the root causes of their negative perceptions of each other.

b) Create diverse military and police working groups to discuss how to better meet mission objectives.

c) Invite all military and police personnel to the weekly meetings with senior staff members.

d) Remind both groups that they are on the same team working towards common mission objectives.
21) Read each passage and answer the question that follows.

Impunity and Transitional Justice

While the gravity of many conflicts calls for transitional justice, the timing of such processes can be polarizing and lead to unfavourable outcomes for establishing enduring non-violent relations. On the other hand, if unaddressed, impunity risks diminishing trust in and support for the peace process. Institutional and “apolitical” approaches to transitional justice are sometimes criticized as foreign or against the spirit of local ownership. Conversely, local approaches are sometimes criticized for not meeting emergent international norms. The country of Kagalia was heavily criticized by the international community for rejecting an international tribunal, instead setting up a “truth and friendship commission” with a bordering country. Yet this approach contributed significantly to building lasting peace, suggesting that local approaches to transitional justice can be just as effective as apolitical approaches.

Which of the following, if true, would cast the most doubt on the main argument of the passage that local approaches to transitional justice can be just as effective as institutional approaches?

Select one:

a) Transitional justice is established at multiple levels simultaneously, meaning that institutional and local approaches cannot be decoupled.

b) Local approaches to transitional justice are met with resistance from the international community, as they are relatively new in the context of peacebuilding.

c) When local approaches to transitional justice fail, regions emerging from conflict experience increased polarization and diminished trust in the peace process.

d) Apolitical approaches to transitional justice are depended on heavily by the international community in bringing about reconciliation in post-conflict communities.
22) Read the question below and select the best answer.

Gender representation in Malmal

The country of Malmal has recently emerged from a prolonged civil war and is rebuilding its rule of law institutions. Historically, the judicial system, the police and correctional services have been dominated by men. Less than 10 per cent of State employees attached to these institutions are women and this proportion declines as seniority increases. The newly formed unity Government and civil society actors have agreed that gender representation is of great importance, especially at senior levels. However, qualified women with State-level experience in these areas are difficult to find and recruit in Malmal. The ministerial task team charged with staffing these institutions has concluded that there are not enough sufficiently qualified women for these positions and therefore believes that the goal of improved gender representation is unattainable.

Which of the following is **an underlying assumption** of the above belief?

Select one:

a) Private sector experience is generally not transferable to the public sector.
b) State-level experience is a prerequisite for success in senior positions.
c) Women will have more difficulty acquiring new on-the-job skills or knowledge at senior levels.
d) Men are generally more likely to express interest in senior-level positions than women.
23) Read the question below and select the best answer.

**Mobile weapon shredders**

Since the introduction of mobile weapon shredders, the rate of disarmament in targeted conflict zones has improved significantly. More firearms than ever have been destroyed using these transparent shredders, which allow combatants to witness the instant and permanent destruction of small arms, such as handguns and automatic assault rifles. However, there has been little change in the reported number of violent deaths and injuries caused by munitions in the targeted conflict zones since the introduction of the shredders. One can therefore reasonably conclude that the introduction of the shredders has had little impact on the availability of small arms.

Which of the following is an underlying faulty assumption of the above argument?

Select one:

- a) Combatants have not surrendered all their small arms.
- b) The arms that were recently destroyed were among the oldest.
- c) Small arms are still readily available on the local arms market.
- d) The reported violent deaths and injuries were mostly caused by small arms.
Read the question below and select the best answer.

Gender in peace negotiations

A recent series of peace talks were criticized for their lack of gender representation at the negotiating table. The parties to the conflict have responded to the criticisms by stating that traditionally women in their country have held no positions of political significance and therefore lack the experience necessary to be party to the negotiations. They cited examples of several other post-conflict nations that demonstrate the importance of the link between the experience of the parties to the negotiation and the lasting nature of the peace agreements.

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument concerning the lack of gender representation?

Select one:

a) Women accounted for at least one third of the negotiating parties in all the cited examples.

b) There are a sufficient number of women with years of private sector experience.

c) The lack of gender representation is a result of the lack of opportunities for women.

d) As a percentage of the national population, there are more women than men.
25) Read each passage and answer the question that follows.

Sezuna works in a field mission in Cicilona, a post-conflict country which is holding a national election among four political parties: A, B, C and D. Ballots from each of the districts take many hours to be counted and delivered to the capital. Sezuna’s manager asks for a briefing on the election results based on information coming in by the hour. Sezuna just received the following information from her sources:

1. Party C received more votes than party D.
2. Party B received the same number of votes as party A.
3. The party with the highest number of votes will form a coalition Government with the party that receives the second-highest number of votes.
4. Party A will not be in the majority coalition Government.

Based on the information available, which party can Sezuna tell her manager has the most votes?

Select one:

a) Party A
b) Party B
c) Party C
d) Party D
Answer Key for the Multiple Choice Items

1. D
2. A
3. C
4. D
5. A
6. A
7. A
8. D
9. D
10. C
11. B
12. A
13. C
14. D
15. D
16. D
17. D
18. A
19. A
20. B
21. A
22. B
23. D
24. A
25. C
You are a POLNET Officer working as a member of the team responsible for the United Nations Mission in Aponia (UNMA). You have been informed that the Secretary General of the United Nations, Ms. Alex Peacemore will soon visit Adonia. You have been asked by your supervisor to prepare an analytical note for the Head of Mission about the situation in Aponia along with recommendations based on the recent developments.

The background information and the annexed document below provide an overview of the situation in Aponia and the recent developments. Use only the information you are provided below and prepare an analytical note to the Head of Mission in which you:

• identify three key issues that need to be addressed and provide three recommendations on how each issue can be effectively addressed (150 points) and

• list two possible questions that could be asked to the Head of Mission in a media Question and Answer session and provide a potential response to each question listed (50 points).

Your response will also be evaluated for the quality of writing and structure (100 points).

Information Available to Date on Aponia

The newly-independent country of Aponia is bordered to the east by the country of Mammutia, from which it seceded, and to the west by the country of Kanuku, from which it received support during its war of independence. All three States are in the
continent of Westopia. The climate in Aponia is extremely hot in its northern jungle regions, very dry in the eastern deserts that comprise 60 per cent of its territory, and temperate in its southern territory, where its most fertile land is located. It is linked to Mammutia by river, and to Kanuku by road. Its closest access to the sea is via Kanuku, with which Aponia maintains close diplomatic and trade relations.

Aponia has a population of 35 million, with a GDP per capita of US$1,300; over 70 per cent of the population lives below the poverty line. The population’s literacy rate is 34 per cent, with only a fraction of women (15 per cent) being literate. The unemployment rate is at 42 per cent, with youth unemployment estimated at 65 per cent. The health situation is exacerbated by a lack of facilities in both urban and rural areas. National health expenditure is only at 2 per cent of the overall GDP. A lack of clean water resources and sanitation facilities has led to an increase of communicable diseases such as cholera, dengue, Zika and Chikungunya.

Aponia’s economy is based on agriculture in the south, very light manufacturing in the centre, and natural resource extraction. Governing elites are heavily reliant on cash generated from the exploitation of timber, copper, and diamonds. There are reports of oil deposits in central Aponia, but no technical exploration activities have been possible. Aponia is divided along three main ethnic groups, the Bama (45 per cent of the population), the Cene (35 per cent) and the Dipi (20 per cent), each speaking their own languages. The Cene have traditionally inhabited the fertile lands in the south, while the Bama control most of the regions rich in natural resources, some of which are also located in the south. The Dipi are largely urban, and control the manufacturing sector.

The Bama, Cene and Dipi joined forces during their ten-year independence struggle from Mammutia, receiving clandestine support from Kanuku in the process. Five years ago, a partial ceasefire was negotiated by Mr. Earnest Fallow, an emissary of the regional organisation – the Association of Westopian States (AWS). The Security Council then established a peacekeeping operation – the United Nations Mission in Aponia (UNMA) – to monitor the ceasefire and to stabilise the situation sufficiently to allow for AWS-mediated peace negotiations to succeed.

In accordance with the terms of the peace agreement, the region of Aponia became an independent country in December 2016, and the Transitional Government of Aponia (TGA) was established pending elections to be held within one year. The Bama were assigned two thirds of TGA ministries as well as the interim Presidency, held by Mr. Bertrand Basta, leader of the Bama Fighting Forces (BFF) and the umbrella group Aponian Liberation Front (ALF). The ALF included the BFF as well as the Cene Freedom Movement (CFM), led by Mr. Charles Canto, and the Dipi Defense Coalition (DDC) formerly-led by current Interior Minister Ms. Daniela Dolmen.

Upon independence, the TGA requested the extension of UNMA, and the Security Council amended its mandate to include: monitoring Aponia and Mammutia’s compliance with the terms of the peace agreement, including border demarcations; supporting free and fair national and regional elections; implementing a disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) process; playing a good offices role to promote intercommunal agreements; supporting
human rights protection and promotion; and support post-conflict reconstruction to promote socio-economic development.

Annex 1 - Note to File - Meeting for preparation to trip to Aponia.

Meeting in preparation of the visit to Aponia by
United Nations Secretary-General Alex Peacemore
16 August 2017

UNMA and United Nations Country Team Participants:
- Head of Mission, UNMA Ms. Claudine Politicus (Chair)
- Chief of Civil Affairs Office, UNMA, Ms. Tsedaye Yam
- Senior Political Affairs Officer, UNMA, Mr. Jorge Dutch
- Head of the Human Rights Component, UNMA, Mr. Charles Right
- Head of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Aponia, Ms. Huma Humateen
- Country Director of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Aponia, Mr. Musty Devlop

Summary:
The Head of Mission called a meeting in advance of the visit of SG Alex Peacemore. Participants agreed that this is a potentially dangerous breaking point for Aponia. The visit is an opportunity for the United Nations (UN) to express serious concern to the transitional government about the situation, and reiterate that the UN can provide support to overcome the crisis, by addressing a number of priority areas through concrete initiatives.

Discussion:
The Senior Political Affairs Officer briefed about recent political and security developments. Since the declaration of independence, relations between former allies BFF and CFM have deteriorated significantly. The head of the CFM, Mr. Canto, has publicly accused the transitional leadership of not having allowed proper representation of CFM leaders in the transitional Government and of having excluded former CFM fighters from integration in the newly established army and police, leaving only demobilisation as an option to them. He also accuses President Basta of having seized sole control of Aponia’s resources.

Mr. Dutch noted that the transitional government had not yet provided a date for the delayed elections, while the Cene were complaining about their continued lack of representation and about irregularities and intimidation in the run-up to the elections. Violent clashes between the police and Cene demonstrators have erupted and intensified over recent weeks and have seen arbitrary arrest and detention of protesters and activists including journalists and human rights defenders over protracted periods.

Mr. Dutch also informed participants that the UN-supported DDR process was stalled. A large number of former BFF fighters were recruited into the army, which they now dominate, while significant portions of the CFM and some factions of the DDG have refused to participate in the DDR process. Mr. Canto signalled his readiness to
partake in the DDR process but insists that that participation is contingent on the inclusion of all former ALF fighters in the same process, equal distribution and access to natural resources for all ethnic groups and the immediate announcement of elections. He also demands justice and accountability for crimes against civilians committed by the police.

The continued flow of weapons into the country is further destabilising matters. The illicit cross-border flow of small arms and light weapons (SALW) continues to reach the CFM. Moreover, large-scale licit arms transfers, primarily by Kanuku (elected to the Security Council for 2017-18), are complicating matters. Finally, he mentioned the promising efforts by the Minister of Interior, Ms. Dolmen, to offer to mediate between the Bama and Cene leaders, through the launch of a National Dialogue process.

In her briefing, the Chief of Civil Affairs reported about a coalition of local civil society organisations across ethnic groups, and a number of national and large international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have appealed directly to the UN to intervene and prevent a further spread of violence. She noted excellent efforts for mediation between ethnic groups by certain national civil society groups, such as the ‘Aponia Freedom-Mongers’, the ‘Mothers for Aponia’ and the ‘University Youth Coalition of Aponia’.

The Head of the Human Rights Component expressed concern about the human rights situation and stated that Human Rights Officers are currently denied access to some villages and detention centres despite repeated efforts to visit and monitor locations. The Head of the Human Rights Component also informed of reports of intimidation and harassment of ethnic minority groups, in particular by the Bama-dominated security forces, including sexual violence and abuse directed against ethnic minority women and girls. Mr. Right reiterated the need for independent investigations and prosecution of alleged crimes and human rights violations committed by law enforcement officers.

The Head of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) provided an update on the humanitarian situation. There are 1 million people in the south and east in urgent need of primary healthcare, and 800,000 in need of WASH support. In recent months, there has been a significant upsurge in the cases of cholera, dengue, Zika and Chikungunya in the northern region. There is a high risk of famine outbreak in the eastern desert region, where periodic insecurity has presented significant challenges for humanitarian responders. With a low level of government expenditure on healthcare (2 per cent of overall GDP) there are a significant amount of national NGOs working in the health and WASH sectors in the south; as well as on food distributions in the east. However, their capacity to access UN managed pooled funds is low, and they have requested urgent training in these modalities.

The Head of Mission highlighted that the visit by the Secretary-General provided an opportunity to raise some key issues with the transitional government leadership, and to highlight some concrete initiatives to ease the situation by UNMA.
The Head of Mission noted that President Basta told him in a recent meeting that the DDR programme was running out of money, and there was a risk that demobilised soldiers would turn to violence and armed criminality. He recognised there were a lack of economic opportunities and a lack of trust in the state’s ability to provide for their security if they lay down arms. The Head of Mission said it would be important to work with the leaders of all armed groups to identify meaningful incentives for former combatants to reintegrate.

President Basta criticised Cene leader Charles Canto, calling him a delinquent and claiming that the CFM were denying government officials access to southern states to conduct a population census and complete the electoral voter registration process, necessary for elections (Comment: international news outlets later corroborated the President’s claims). He suspected this was to artificially inflate their numbers. It was well known, in his view, that the Bama outnumbered the Cene significantly, but the Cene had always been keen to advance the view that they were the largest group in Aponia. The country would, in any case, need heavy international assistance with elections in view of the dire economic situation and the lack of facilities and technical know-how in the country.

President Basta emphasised the importance of dialogue between the Bama and the Cene, both at the leadership and at the community level, to prevent deepening interethnic tensions and agree on the way forward through peaceful means. The Cene needed to understand, however, that they would need to be ready to face justice for their acts of insurrection against the state, and Charles Canto could not hope to avoid jail time for his unacceptable behaviour.

The President was dismissive of civil society organisations, saying they were “too disorganised to be of any value” and since they “didn’t have guns anyway, nobody would listen to them, and certainly not me”.
There are three short CRIs below. Please select and answer only one of them. Answering more than one question will result in automatic disqualification. You must write your answer in one of the following languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian or Spanish.

**Short CRI 1**

**Suggested time: 60 minutes**  
**Maximum score: 200 points**

For this question, a recommended number of words is provided. You can answer with less words. If you want to answer with a higher number of words, you should not exceed the maximum number of words provided. Note that the part of your response that will exceed this maximum number of words will not be read nor marked.

Number of words recommended: 500 words / Maximum number of words: 750 words

If you answer in Chinese language:

Number of Chinese characters recommended: 750 / Maximum number of Chinese characters: 1125

You are a POLNET Officer in the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) based in the Republic of Syldavia. In the context of the Human Rights Up Front Action Plan and based on the information available to date, you have been asked by the Resident Coordinator to:

1. identify and analyze four major risks of human rights violations in the Republic of Syldavia (60 points)

2. provide three recommendations on possible human rights action for the UNCT on the ground (45 points) and

3. list three relevant UN human rights mechanisms that could be seized of the situation and explain three advantages and three disadvantages for each mechanism (45 points).

Your response will also be evaluated for the quality of writing and structure (50 points).
1. Human rights situation in the Republic of Syldavia

The Republic of Syldavia is in need of energy to support its development plans. The authorities initiated a large hydropower project in 2012, called the Gollum Dam.

The project includes a dam and a large reservoir and will be completed in mid-2019. Its construction, budgeted at around 1.2 billion US Dollars, is funded by the Regional Development Bank, several state banks and development agencies. The project is executed by three international private companies. The Dam Implementation Unit, reporting directly to the President, was created in 2013 to carry out this project.

The Gollum Dam is located over the Silver river, which is the main river of the country. Its banks are the home of around 200,000 persons. The region has a history of ethnic violence between Fili and Kilu communities related to ancestral disputes over farming land and access to the river basin for fishery. Tensions between the two communities still remain.

In order to implement the project, the Government has already relocated large numbers of residents. In early 2015, relocation of approximately 2,000 people (350 families) already took place in the south front. By the end of 2015, relocated families strongly complained about the quality of the land they were given and about the reduced access to markets to sell their products or purchase other foods. Limited access to fisheries was also a concern for the communities, including 800 women who had small businesses, primarily linked to the treatment and trade of fish.

Complains were also raised about lack of access to a hospital and schools, which they had in the previous location. For instance, members of the community living with HIV could not access facilities for periodic exams and the monthly supply of medicines for their treatment (anti-retroviral).

The relocated families also expressed concern that the compensation they received was not sufficient to sustain their life due to continuous increases in prices of food. In 2006, the Government announced that the project required further relocation. To this end, two relocation sites (Dori and Nori) were identified by the Dam Implementation Unit. This relocation affected 30,000 people belonging to 50 communities, 40 from the Fili ethnic group and ten from the Kilu ethnic minority.

Part of the land assigned to the relocated families in Dori is close to an archeological area considered sacred by the Bifur communities, which is an ethnic minority group of around 60,000 inhabitants living in the area for centuries. The Bifur communities were concerned that land exploitation of the relocated families could contaminate their sacred sites. While the Bifur people are a peaceful community, they are ready to fight to protect their cultural heritage.

The second site, Nori, is located at a distance of 50 km from Elrond, the main city in the Province and an active river-port. The area is not as fertile, transportation is a
major difficulty and services are also missing. Women, including girls and old women, are in charge of fetching water. Some spend over two hours per day in this task. Both ethnic groups have expressed their disagreement on the relocation and tensions have emerged over distribution and access to resources. As a result, the Government has increased its law enforcement forces in the area to ensure control over a possible outbreak of ethnic violence.

2. **Cooperation of the Republic of Syldavia with the UN Human Rights Mechanisms**

   - **Status of ratification of UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies**

     The Republic of Syldavia has ratified the following UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies: the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

   - **Reviews by the UN Universal Periodic Review (UPR)**

     The Republic of Syldavia went through its first cycle of the UPR in 2010 and through the second cycle in 2014. The Republic of Syldavia will go through its third cycle in April-May 2019. The deadline for the submission of the national report is tentatively scheduled for February 2019. The deadline for the submissions of the stakeholder reports is tentatively scheduled for September 2018.

   - **Visits of the UN Special Procedures**

     The Republic of Syldavia has no standing invitation and has not yet received any visits by the UN Special Procedures. Requests for visits have been put forward by the Special Rapporteur on minority issues (January 2017) and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation (August 2017). Responses are pending.

3. **Basic data**

   **Name of the Country:** Republic of Syldavia

   **Population:** 24 million (census of 2015)

   **Languages:** English, Fili and Kilu are official languages. Several dialects are spoken in the country.

   **Form of State:** Constitutional democracy, with an elected President in power for a period of five years, subject to re-election.
**Legal system:** A national Supreme Court and a Constitutional Court; provinces and municipal courts.

**Key ministers:** Agriculture; communications; energy; land and transport; education; economy and finance; health; interior; foreign affairs; justice; labour and equal opportunities; defence; culture, tourism and sport; environment, water and housing; social welfare.

**National Human Rights Institution:** The 2010 amendment to the national constitution established the National Human Rights Commission with a broad mandate in the area of human rights. The Commission has recently established regional offices in each of the seven provinces.

**Constitution:** The Constitution of Syldavia recognised, inter alia, the right to education, right to health, right to property, labour rights, the principle of non-discrimination and due process, access to livelihoods, freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of expression.
You are working for a large international humanitarian organisation which focuses on humanitarian response; located outside the capital of Kamalandiya. The mid-summer seasonal heavy rain caused flash floods affecting over 177,035 people across three states of Surena Region. The affected people had houses and latrines destroyed in addition to destruction of schools, health facilities, roads, bridges among other infrastructure.

Your supervisor has asked you to provide an immediate update on the status of the situation and recommendations for priority humanitarian response based on the information available to date, using the following headings:

1. Damage assessment (10 pts)
2. Analysis of needs (50 pts)
3. Analysis of constraints (20 pts)
4. Priority humanitarian response analysis (40 pts; Please conduct an analysis using only the information from the background note to recommend specific humanitarian response activities targeting the priority affected population).
5. Five key messages to the media (30 pts)

Your response will also be evaluated for **the quality of writing and structure** (50 points).
Kamalandiya is a low-income country with a weak central government and limited local government capacity, resources, and services. The floods hit the low-lying coastal region of Surena approximately 320 kilometers (200 miles) east from the inland capital city, Lasker. The coastal inhabitants are traditionally peaceful and dependent on agriculture and fishing. However, there are known conflicts between armed tribal opposition and the government in the state of Westerland and on the western border of The North, which inhibit travel between the inland capital and the coast. The affected coastal area is divided into three states and three distinct tribal areas.

According to the rapid assessment reports of the Kamalandiya Red Crescent Society (KRCS), the mid-summer seasonal heavy rains caused floods affecting over 177,035 people across the three states of The North, The Riverlands and Westerland. With an average family size of 5, more than 35,407 families are reported to have been affected across the region, 19,807 families reportedly in The Riverlands, 9,204 families in the North, and 3,696 families in Westerland, where armed opposition have a known presence and have set up check points on the main roads. The total population of women and children affected by the floods is calculated at 141,628 (approximately 35,402 children aged 0-5 and 70,806 children aged 6-15). The women in Surena are traditionally responsible for household duties, including fetching water, as well as tending to fields alongside their children. Men are traditionally fishermen.

At least 36 people are reported to have died (according to the National Council of civil defence) and 147 injured across the Region since the start of heavy rains two weeks ago. Over 35,407 houses are reported to have been destroyed, 10,574 farmer’s fields damaged, 2,161 latrines unusable, 12 transport bridges are damaged, and 516 public institutions, mostly clinics, schools, and government offices affected.

Based on forecasts from the National Meteorological Authority and the Ministry of Water Resources, more heavy rains are expected. As of today, water levels in The Riverlands have surpassed the water levels recorded during the great floods of 1981. There is extensive damage to water supply and distribution systems in several locations, which has forced communities to utilize unprotected and contaminated water sources. KRCS volunteers have extended their response in hygiene awareness, cleaning campaigns, draining of accumulated water and household water treatment. To date, 6,742 cases of children with acute diarrhea have been reported. Most of these cases have occurred in Westerland, where access to remote areas by road and on foot is hampered by road damage and civil strife.
A local non-governmental organization (NGO) has plans to conduct health-related awareness creation activities by radio, however, since yesterday, Surena has experienced severe interruptions in telephone services and electricity supplies.

Several international NGOs and agencies have been operating in Kamalandiya following a volcanic eruption in the highlands last year. These organizations are looking to deploy emergency teams to Surena but report a lack of supplies. National humanitarian actors in Lasker are also gearing up to provide emergency assistance in the affected states, however, as roads throughout the Surena Region are flooded and bridges have been damaged, all organizations are reporting difficulty accessing the area. A small airstrip in The Riverlands is functional yet organizations lack both air and sea transport.

Initial reports indicate that 6,020 people are reportedly gathering at local schools in The North where the KRCS and a number of local NGOs and civil society actors are providing water, blankets and fortified biscuits.

UNICEF and partners provided lifesaving water supplies to 29,605 people in flood affected locations in The Riverlands. According to the last count, the Kamalandiya Civil Protection Agency has a contingency stock of food to respond to 9,500 people for one week. However, the national government is unable to provide civil protection personnel to support the humanitarian operation.

Following increasing media coverage of the disaster and the national government’s request for international assistance, international and neighbouring countries as well as international organizations are requesting more information to determine their response in providing capacity, funds and in-kind donations. To date, donors have been slow to commit funds and organizations are not coordinating or consistently providing information.
Short CRI 3

Suggested time: 60 minutes

Maximum score: 200 points

For this question, a recommended number of words is provided. You can answer with less words. If you want to answer with a higher number of words, you should not exceed the maximum number of words provided. Note that the part of your response that will exceed this maximum number of words will not be read nor marked.

Number of words recommended: 500 words / Maximum number of words: 750 words

If you answer in Chinese language:

Number of Chinese characters recommended: 750 / Maximum number of Chinese characters: 1125

As a POLNET Officer working for a United Nations peace operation, you have been asked to draft an analytical note to the head of the operation, using the background note below which includes an excerpt from Security Council resolution containing the mandate of the peace operation.

In your analytical note, you have been asked to:

1. analyse the interplay of the objectives outlined in the mandate, including where they appear to be mutually reinforcing, complementary, or incompatible (50 points),

2. discuss the impact of any incompatibilities or differences in emphasis on the Mission’s ability to fully implement its mandate, and the broader lessons that can be drawn for other peace operations (50 points),

3. describe the relevance of one of the following documents (50 points):
   - the Global Study on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000),
   - the Report of the Advisory Group of Experts on the Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture,

Your response will be evaluated for the quality of writing and structure (50 points).
Background: Excerpt from Security Council resolution containing the mandate of the peace operation:

The Security Council,

1. Decides that the strategic priority of the operation is to support the implementation by the Government and other relevant national stakeholders, including non-State armed groups, of the Comprehensive Agreement on Peace and Reconstruction, in particular its political and security aspects, notably the gradual restoration and extension of State authority;

2. Decides that the operation’s mandate shall include the following priority tasks:

(a) Support to the implementation of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation

(i) To support the implementation of the political and institutional reforms provided by the Agreement, notably to support the Government’s efforts for the effective restoration and extension of State authority and rule of law throughout the territory;

(ii) To support the implementation of the defence and security measures of the Agreement, notably:

• to support, monitor and supervise the ceasefire, including by reporting violations to the Security Council,

• to support the deployment of joint security patrols where necessary and where possible,

• to support the redeployment of the reconstituted national security forces where possible,

• to support the cantonment, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of non-State armed groups, including through integration into the national security forces,

• to ensure coherence of international efforts, in close collaboration with other bilateral partners, donors and international organizations, engaged in these fields;

(iii) To support the implementation of the reconciliation and justice measures of the Agreement, including with respect to the establishment and operation of an international commission of inquiry;

(iv) To support, within its resources and areas of deployment, the conduct of inclusive, free, fair and transparent elections, including through the provision of appropriate technical assistance and security arrangements, consistent with the provisions of the Agreement;

(b) Good offices and reconciliation

To exercise good offices, confidence-building and facilitation at the national and local levels, in order to support dialogue with and among all stakeholders towards reconciliation and social cohesion, to support efforts to reduce intercommunal tensions, bearing in mind the primary responsibility of the Government;
(c) Protection of civilians and stabilization

(i) To protect, without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the Government, civilians under threat of physical violence;

(ii) To stabilize the key population centres and other areas where civilians are at risk and, in this regard, to enhance early warning, to anticipate, deter and counter threats, and to take robust and active steps to protect civilians, including through active and effective patrolling, and to prevent the return of armed elements to those areas;

(iii) To provide specific protection for women and children affected by armed conflict, including through Child Protection Advisors and Women Protection Advisors, and address the needs of victims of sexual and gender-based violence in armed conflict;

(d) Protection, safety and security of United Nations personnel

To protect United Nations personnel, installations and equipment and ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel;

3. Underlines that support to the national security forces under paragraph 2 (a) (ii) includes coordinated operations, operational and logistical support, mentoring and strengthened information sharing, medical evacuation, transportation and planning, within existing resources, without prejudice to the basic principles of peacekeeping.