

**TEST BANK**



**HOW THE  
WORLD  
WORKS**



A BRIEF SURVEY OF  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

RUSSELL BOVA

**Instructor's Manual /**  
**Test Bank**  
*to accompany*

**Russell Bova's**

**How the World Works:**  
**A Brief Survey of International Relations**  
*First Edition*

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**Longman**

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*Instructor's Manual/ Test Bank to accompany Bova's How the World Works: A Brief Survey of International Relations, First Edition*

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# CHAPTER 1: How to Think About World Politics: Realism and its Critics

## Learning Objectives

After reading this chapter, students should understand:

- the meaning and utility of paradigms
- the difference between classical realism and neo-realism
- the concepts of anarchy and sovereignty and their impact on state behavior
- the concepts of self help and balance of power
- the place assigned to considerations of interests and power vs. ethics and justice in the realist paradigm
- the liberal paradigm, its various subtypes, and the concept of the Kantian triangle
- the constructivist challenge to both realism and liberalism
- the feminist paradigm of international relations
- the neo-Marxist paradigm
- the central differences between realists and their various critics

## Chapter Summary

This chapter introduces the general concept of paradigms and discusses their utility in helping students and scholars to understand how the world of international relations works. The central goal is to show students that there are competing perspectives from which to describe and explain how the world works. Starting with the realist paradigm, there is a brief comparison of classical realism (human nature realism) and neo-realism (structural realism), followed by an extended discussion of the latter. The core neo-realist assumptions of international anarchy, state sovereignty, and states as rational unitary actors are examined in detail and followed by discussion of their implications for state behavior. The chapter explains why neo-realists see anarchy leading to self-help, the security dilemma, war, balance of power, and an emphasis on power over justice in the conduct of international relations. The discussion of realism is then followed by an explanation of the liberal paradigm, its various subtypes, and the concept of the Kantian triangle that serves to bring the various subtypes of liberalism together. That is followed by a discussion of constructivism, with an emphasis on points of agreement with and divergence from both realism and liberalism. Finally, the chapter then examines the feminist and neo-Marxist paradigms of international relations. The chapter concludes with a summary of the five major paradigms, and it explains to students that the material in the chapters that follow will help them to evaluate the utility of these contending ways of thinking about how the world works.

## Lecture Outline

### I. All Politics is Global

- 1). Individuals' lives are affected by world politics.
  - a). The economy
  - b). The environment
  - c). Physical security
  - d). Globalization intensifies these effects

### II. Studying International Relations and World Politics

- 1). Used interchangeably, though distinct
  - a). International Relations
  - b). World Politics
- 2). Different from journalism/punditry
  - a). Journalists: Describe & analyze
  - b). Scholars: Look for generalizations, patterns, and causality to create theories
- 3). Paradigm
  - a). Broad framework for theory development
  - b). Puzzles
  - c). Paradigms in the natural sciences
  - d). In the social sciences
  - e). Cautionary points
  - f). Ideal types

### III. The Realist Paradigm

- 1). Realism
  - a). Pursuit of power
  - b). Competition
  - c). Military/material capabilities
  - d). Violence
- 2). Human nature realists (classical realists)
  - a). Human nature
- 3). Structural realists (neo-realists)
  - a). Anarchy
  - b). Sovereignty
  - c). Rational unitary actors
  - d). Self help
  - e). Security dilemma
  - f). War is inevitable
  - g). Balance of power
    - g1). Balancing versus bandwagoning
  - h). Power triumphs justice
    - h1). Melian dialogue
  - i). Politics is *not* about good versus evil
  - j). Cooperation is fleeting

#### IV. Alternatives to Realism

- 1). Realism has critics
  - a). Changes in world politics threatened realism's dominance

#### V. Liberalism

- 1). Idealism versus realism
- 2). Liberalism
  - a). Cooperation is possible
  - b). Absolute gains instead of relative gains
- 3). Kant's Perpetual Peace
  - a). Federation of free states
  - b). spirit of commerce
  - c). Republicanism
- 4). Liberal Institutionalism
  - a). International institutions mitigate realist anarchy
  - b). International Organizations
- 5). Liberal Commercialism
  - a). "Spirit of commerce"
  - b). capitalist peace
  - c). War is bad for business
  - d). Economic globalization
- 6). Liberal Internationalism
  - a). "Republicanism"
  - b). Expanding democracies around the world
  - c). Democratic Peace Theory
- 7). The Kantian Triangle
  - a). Security dilemma replaced with "virtuous circle"

#### VI. Constructivism

- 1). The "Constructivist turn"
  - a). Inability of realism and liberalism to explain the end of the Cold War
- 2). Constructivist perspective
  - a). Structure is not all determining
    - a1). Anarchy is what states make of it
    - a2). Role of human agency
  - b). Norms and ideas
  - c). Individuals/non-state actors
    - c1). Social movements, TANS

#### VII. Feminism

- 1). A male dominated perspective of the world
- 2). Women with political authority would change the conduct of international relations
- 3). Feminism's place in IR theory
- 4). Realism as a gendered perspective
  - a). IR theorists and gender
- 5) Foreign policy-making as a male perspective

- a). Men dominate the conduct of international relations
- 6) Feminism and other theories of IR

#### VIII. Neo-Marxism

- 1). Rise of communism in 20<sup>th</sup> century
- 2). An alternative view of world politics
- 3). Shares many assumptions of realism
  - a). Structural determinism
  - b). Pessimism
- 4). Diverges from realism
  - a). states versus classes (workers against capitalists)
  - b). Economics drives politics, not the other way around

<h3>Key Terms</h3>
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- Absolute gains
- Anarchy
- Balance of Power
- Balancing
- Bandwagoning
- Capitalism
- Class interests
- Cold War
- Constructivism
- Democratic Peace Theory
- Feminism
- Gender
- Globalization
- Ideal type
- International Organizations (IO)
- International Relations
- Interdependence
- Journalism
- Liberalism
- Neo-Marxism
- Non Governmental Organization (NGO)
- Non-state actors
- Norms
- Paradigm
- Peace of Westphalia
- Political movement
- Political Scientist
- Power



- Realism
- Relative gains
- Security dilemma
- Self help
- Social science
- Structure
- Sovereignty
- State of nature
- Theory
- Transnational Advocacy Networks (TAN)
- World politics

## Connecting to the Text

### Using “IR at the Movies” and “Theory and Practice”

#### IR at the Movies

##### The Godfather Trilogy

- Initiate class discussion of the IR theories from the chapter by asking the following questions: What factors contribute to the security dilemma among the “five families” in the movie *The Godfather*? How does the character Virgil “The Turk” Sollozzo attempt to realign the balance of power among the “five families”? How might feminist scholars analyze, *The Godfather*? What might be different from how the “family” conducts business if it was operated by women? In the film, *A Beautiful Mind*, actor Russell Crowe plays Nobel laureate John Nash. In the film, Nash first realizes his famous equilibrium in a bar and tells his friends that, “Adam Smith is wrong.” How does Nash’s Equilibrium, as explained to his friends in the bar, relate to the absolute gains argument espoused by Liberal IR theory?

#### Theory and Practice

##### 1.1 Youth Gangs: Theory and Practice

- Divide the class into small working groups. First, ask each group to generate a list of characteristics that represent the behavior of street gangs. Secondly, ask the group to make comparisons between the characteristics of street gangs to what they recently learned about the realist perception of the international system.

## Connecting to the Sources

The below articles are found in Bova, *Readings on How the World Works*

John J. Mearsheimer, “The Tragedy of Great Power Politics”

*In his book, Mearsheimer articulates that the competition among states to become the system’s hegemon is transhistorical.*

- What reasons does Mearsheimer provide for his pessimistic outlook regarding the possibility of sustained world peace?
- How does Mearsheimer characterize the differences between offensive and defensive realism?

Bruce Russett and John Oneal, “International Systems: Vicious Circles and Virtuous Circles”

*The authors argue that the competition for power can be overcome through cooperation and a sustained peace among states is possible.*

- According to Russett and Oneal, what predictions about the nature of world politics do realists get wrong?

Alexander Wendt, “Constructing International Politics”

*Wendt tells us that the character of international politics depends on the perceptions states have of one another. If states are suspicious of other states, then we should expect realist outcomes. However, if states trust each other, then we should expect liberal outcomes.*

- How does Wendt challenge the theoretical assumptions made by realism and liberalism?

## Connecting to the Web

The below resources are available at [www.MyPoliSciKit.com](http://www.MyPoliSciKit.com)

- *Simulation*: Complete and submit answers to the review questions for:
  - Why Study International Relations.
- *Videos*. Watch and submit answers to the review questions for one of the following:
  - Al Qaeda and the Taliban in Pakistan
  - Nuclear Disarmament Under the INF Treaty
  - Chamberlain’s Appeasement.
- *Mapping Exercises*: Review your knowledge of the world’s geography in this online quiz.
- *Practice Test*: Check your comprehension of the concepts presented in the text by taking the practice test for Chapter 1. The online flashcards can also be used to test your vocabulary.
- *Current Events Quiz*: Complete this week’s current events quiz to test your knowledge of major international events.

## Assessment

### Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which of the following is NOT true about “virtuous circles” of mutual interests and cooperation?
  - a. International institutions play an important role in their creation.
  - b. Overly extensive economic interactions between states harm them. (p. 23-4, comprehension)
  - c. They can be created through policy action.
  - d. Vicious circles can be turned into virtuous circles.
  
2. A situation where one state makes its neighbors less secure through pursuit of its own security is known as:
  - a. Pursuit of power.
  - b. Bandwagoning.
  - c. State of nature.
  - d. Security dilemma. (p. 11; comprehension)
  
3. Which of the following is NOT an element of the Kantian triangle?
  - a. Institutions
  - b. Virtuous circle (p. 24; knowledge)
  - c. Democracy
  - d. Economic interdependence
  
4. Which of the following international relations paradigms gained its popularity at the end of the Cold War?
  - a. Realism
  - b. Constructivism (p. 24; knowledge)
  - c. Liberalism
  - d. Neo-Marxism
  
5. Wendt and constructivists disagree with realists on which of the following points?
  - a. States wish to survive.
  - b. In many cases, states seek power in international relations.
  - c. Anarchy is unavoidable. (p. 25; application)
  - d. States are important players in contemporary international relations.

6. Which paradigm is the most likely to agree with the statement, “might makes right”?
  - a. Constructivism
  - b. Liberalism
  - c. Feminism
  - d. Realism (p. 15; application)
  
7. According to constructivists, what two forces shape and construct the system in which states operate?
  - a. State power and human beings.
  - b. Structure and human beings. (p. 25; -comprehension)
  - c. State power and desire to survive.
  - d. The logic of anarchy and norms.
  
8. Which of the following is NOT one of the ways in which international organizations reduce anarchy?
  - a. They regulate and constrain the behavior of states.
  - b. They promote cooperation.
  - c. They help to create a balance of power. (p. 21; comprehension)
  - d. They promote international law.
  
9. Which of the following is NOT one of the tenets of liberalism?
  - a. Democracies tend to act differently than non-democracies.
  - b. Economic calculations matter greatly in determining state action.
  - c. Mutually beneficial cooperation is possible.
  - d. Zero-sum game considerations matter greatly in determining state action. (p. 22; comprehension)
  
10. What is anarchy?
  - a. A situation where one state makes all the rules
  - b. Absence of world government (p. 7; knowledge)
  - c. A goal of international politics
  - d. A situation where a group of states make all the rules
  
11. Feminists claim that having more women in power would:
  - a. Make international relations more peaceful. (p. 30; knowledge)
  - b. Not have a significant impact on political conduct.
  - c. Make international relations more interesting.
  - d. Make international relations more just.

12. What is the main problem that feminist scholars have with international relations?
- Women still do not have the right to vote in most parts of the world.
  - Scholars pay too much attention to the study of international relations at the expense of other, more important fields, such as economics.
  - Men dominate the conduct of international relations. (p. 28; comprehension)
  - Anarchy is what states make out of it.
13. According to realists, order in international relations can be achieved through:
- Bandwagoning.
  - Joining of international institutions.
  - Class struggle.
  - Balance of power. (p. 14; knowledge)
14. According to constructivists, which of the following does NOT have an unavoidable impact on the behavior of states?
- Anarchy (p. 25; comprehension)
  - Material resources
  - Shared knowledge
  - Ideas
15. Which one of the following is NOT a feature of the “structure of the international system” for realists?
- Absence of central authority
  - Possibility of threat presented by other states
  - Norms of behavior (p. 7; comprehension)
  - Uncertainty of other states’ intentions
16. According to liberals, what steps can be taken to promote peace and cooperation?
- Promote economic interdependence
  - Promote democracy
  - Pursue hegemony
  - A and B (p. 20-21; knowledge)
17. Which of the following scholars is associated with liberalism?
- Immanuel Kant (p. 20; knowledge)
  - Alexander Wendt
  - John Mearsheimer
  - Thomas Hobbes

18. Which of the following statements is a tenet of the democratic peace theory?
- Democratic peace is possible if democracies integrate militarily.
  - Democracies typically do not fight other democracies. (p. 22; comprehension)
  - Democracies are militarily stronger than non-democracies.
  - Democracies will stop fighting when most of the countries of the world become democratic.
19. Which of the following is NOT an example of an international institution promoting liberal principles?
- United Nations
  - League of Nations
  - Warsaw Pact (p. 21; knowledge)
  - None of the above
20. What is the main lesson from the “Melian dialogue”?
- Justice can prevail only through struggle.
  - Alliances are not durable.
  - Survival depends on power. (p. 17; comprehension)
  - World politics is primarily about good and evil.
21. What do constructivists believe about state interests?
- They are externally determined and constant.
  - They do not matter.
  - They are socially constructed. (p. 25; comprehension)
  - They are determined based on state military and economic power.
22. Which important event encouraged many scientists to become more skeptical of realism?
- The end of American Civil War
  - The end of World War II
  - The end of the Cold War (p. 19; knowledge)
  - Decolonization
23. With which of the following statements are liberals most likely to agree?
- The goal of politics is the creation of a balance of power.
  - The goal of politics is the pursuit of power.
  - There are good and bad states. (p. 20-21; comprehension)
  - We need to question the foundational myths of international relations.

24. Which of the following statements is NOT true about Neo-Marxism?
- It shares several assumptions with realism.
  - It is a structural theory.
  - It believes that conflict drives world politics.
  - It has gained popularity since the end of the Cold War. (p. 33; knowledge)
25. What is the balance of power model?
- An instance when power of one state or alliance is balanced by another state or alliance. (p. 14; knowledge)
  - An instance when there is a similar number of liberal and illiberal states in the international system.
  - A system where there is a similar number of male and female representatives in foreign affairs.
  - A system where there is no serious conflict between the different class interests.
26. What has led to an increasing interconnectedness among people of the world in recent decades?
- Growth of the world population
  - Increases in wealth
  - Benevolent dominance of the U.S.
  - Developments in technology and telecommunications (p. 4; comprehension)
27. What is an ideal type?
- A world with a perfect balance of power
  - A paradigm stated in its pure and almost exaggerated form (p. 6; knowledge)
  - A world without wars and conflicts
  - None of the above
28. Which of the following variables do neo-Marxists emphasize in their explanations of world politics?
- Class interests (p. 34; knowledge)
  - Pursuit of national interest
  - Ideas and norms
  - Actions of international organizations

29. What do feminists think about the structure of the international system?
- It forces states to act in certain ways to ensure their survival.
  - It promotes struggle between the rich and poor.
  - It is the most important factor in determining state behavior, yet gender also influences decision-making.
  - It does not have as much influence on state actions as the gender of the decision-makers. (p. 30; comprehension)
30. In many aspects, what is the current dominant paradigm?
- Realism (p. 36, knowledge)
  - Liberalism
  - Constructivism
  - Feminism

### **True/False Questions**

- There are very few influential women international relations scholars. (T; p. 29; knowledge)
- For realists, anarchy is what a state makes out of it. (F; p. 7; knowledge)
- Paradigms simplify the reality and in their explanations reduce the complexity of the world. (T; p. 5; knowledge)
- According to constructivists, norms are rules of behavior imposed by the strongest state in the system. (F; p. 26-7; comprehension)
- In self-help systems, power and self interest determine state behavior. (T; p. 10; knowledge)
- Realists believe that cooperation can be achieved if states create international institutions. (F; p. 18; knowledge)
- Constructivists agree with realists that power-seeking, self-help, and war are contemporary facts of international life (T; p. 25; knowledge)
- Feminists think that most states have overly militaristic approach to foreign relations. (T; p. 30; knowledge)
- Neo-Marxism has increased in popularity since the end of the Cold War. (F; p. 33; knowledge)
- Vicious circles of war and mistrust can be replaced by virtuous circles of mutual interests and cooperation through punitive military operations against aggressors. (F; p. 19; knowledge, p. 20-1)



11. Liberals see interaction in international relations as a zero-sum game. (F; p. 20; application)
12. Constructivists believe that due to globalization, nongovernmental organizations are the most important contemporary actors in the world politics. (F; p. 25; comprehension)
13. Contemporary feminist perspectives took hold in the 1950s following the end of World War II. (F; p. 29; knowledge)
14. Liberals believe that state internal differences influence different behavioral patterns. (T, p. 22; knowledge)
15. For realists, calculation about economic gains is an important variable influencing state decision-making. (F; p.7, 20; comprehension)
16. The European Union is an example of a security dilemma. (F; p. 11; application)
17. Neo-Marxism shares a few important assumptions with realism. (T; p. 33; knowledge)
18. Neo-Marxists apply power and an ideas-based framework to a wide range of economic events. (F; p. 34; knowledge)
19. Transnational advocacy networks are composed of state officials and nonstate actors. (F; p. 27; knowledge)
20. Feminists argue that women have less of a “realist” world view. (T; p. 31; knowledge)

### **Short Answer Questions**

1. Why would it be hard to sell realism to American or European people?
2. Why do realists think wars are inevitable?
3. What are the main differences between how realists and constructivists view the “structure”?
4. Why do liberals insist that economic interdependence lessens the possibility of conflict?
5. According to liberals, how do international institutions mitigate anarchy?
6. How does constructivism explain the end of the Cold War?
7. What is the security dilemma?
8. How could feminists respond to critics that argue that some women in power are as inclined to use violence as men?
9. What is the difference between balancing and bandwagoning?
10. What is the difference between human nature realists (classical realists) and structural realists (neo-realists)?

## Essay Questions

1. What is the nature of world politics according to each of the major paradigms discussed?
2. How is the security dilemma replaced with “virtuous circle” in the “Kantian Triangle”? Define and explain your concepts.
3. What is constructivist critique of realism?
4. What do realists, liberals, and constructivists think about anarchy?
5. Describe a realist critique of constructivist emphasis on ideas and norms, and provide examples.
6. What actions and changes to the study and practice of international relations would feminist scholars suggest to ensure that the field is more gender-sensitive?
7. Which theory (realism, liberalism, constructivism, feminism, or neo-Marxism) explains international relations the best and why? Provide examples in your answer.
8. In what ways, according to feminists, is the field of international relations dominated by men and men’s perspectives?
9. Why do liberals believe cooperation is possible? Explain and define various terms and concepts discussed in the book and in class, and provide examples.
10. What, according to constructivists, is the role of ideas and norms in state conduct in international relations? How do states acquire their identities?

## **CHAPTER 2: Historical Perspectives: Continuity and Change in World Politics**

### **Learning Objectives**

After reading this chapter, students should understand:

- the concepts of nation, state, and nation-state
- the difference between the classical and concert models of balance of power
- the 19<sup>th</sup> century “Concert of Europe” system of order
- the difference between balance of power and collective security systems
- the factors that led to the failure of the League of Nations system
- the options for a system of order that were considered after World War II
- the characteristics of multipolar, bipolar, and unipolar systems and periods in international relations history characterized by each
- the emergence, nature, and end of the US-Soviet Cold War
- trends in world politics since the end of the Cold War era
- the pattern of war, creation of a system of order, and breakdown of that system that has repeated over the past four centuries
- how and why realists and their critics see the question of continuity and change in international relations differently

### **Chapter Summary**

This chapter looks at six eras in the history of international relations from 1648 to the present. The central goal is to get students to assess elements of continuity (stressed by realists) versus change (stressed by many critics of realism) in how the world has worked since 1648. A theme of the chapter is the pattern of war, leading to post-war efforts to design a new system of order, which eventually breaks down and leads to another war or major crisis. We see this first in the Thirty Years War, leading to the Peace of Westphalia, and eventually the emergence of the classical balance-of-power system based on the sovereign state. The Napoleonic Wars bring this first era to an end and are followed by a new effort at order based on the concert model of balance of power (the Concert of Europe). World War I leads US President Wilson to look for an entirely new approach to order based on the concept of collective security as manifested in the League of Nations, but that experiment is ended by the outbreak of World War II. The 1945 Yalta Conference and other meetings among the victors of that war eventually lead to a new era of Cold War bipolarity that lasts until the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and the collapse of the USSR in 1991. The Post-Cold War Era, marked by globalization, democratization, and US hegemony, is brought to a symbolic end by the terror attacks of September 11, 2001. The contours of “Post-Post-Cold War Era” are still unfolding. The chapter concludes by asking students to consider whether they are more impressed by the elements of change or continuity in world politics over the past four centuries.