

SAMPLE

**Global Politics**  
**Teach Yourself Series**  
**Topic 3: Power in the Asia-Pacific: Australia**

# Contents

Power in the Asia Pacific .....	3
Australia .....	3
Glossary .....	3
As it appears in Unit 3 .....	3
Glossary .....	5
As it appears in Unit 3 .....	5
National Interest .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
As it appears in Unit 3 .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
Power .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
As it appears in Unit 3 .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
As it appears in Unit 3 .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
Solutions to Review Questions .....	6

SAMPLE

# Power in the Asia Pacific

## Australia

In this area of study

- one of the following five states must be used as the focus for responses: *Australia*, China, Indonesia, Japan or the United States of America
- the types and forms of power used by a specific Asia-Pacific state must be within the region.

NB This paper will focus on Australia as the selected case study

## Glossary

### As it appears in Unit 3

The following is a glossary of key terms you will be expected to know for Area of Study 2 – Power in the Asia-Pacific as outlined in the Study Design. The terms are also relevant to each of the four areas of study across unit 3 and 4. You should consider defining key terms using examples.

#### **Idealism**

(U3 AOS2) School of thought in which foreign policy is influenced above all else by moral principle, as opposed to practical and pragmatic considerations. (Australia's troop commitments to tackle third agenda issues such as global terrorism)

#### **Nation**

(U3 AOS1

U3 AOS2) Groups of people claiming common bonds based on culture, language and history. (Some nations have their own state, such as the Japanese, whilst others want their own state such as the Tibetans and Kurds.)

#### **Nation-state**

(U3 AOS2) Political social grouping in which people within territorial boundaries, with recognised sovereignty, have common bonds based on culture, language and history. (Japan: as over 95% of the pop. is ethnically Japanese)

#### **National interest**

(U3 AOS2

U4 AOS1) Used as an all-embracing concept to justify policy preferences and actions, and includes the goals or objectives of foreign policy. (ALP and Liberal party bipartisanship on national security and 'the survival of the nation-state' as a core principal of its national interest)

#### **Power**

(U3 AOS1

U3 AOS2) The ability of one global actor to influence the actions of another global actor. Power can be exercised in a range of types and forms. (the 'power of veto' of the 'P5' in the UNSC)

**Pragmatism**

(U3 AOS2) School of thought in which foreign policy is influenced above all else by practical and pragmatic considerations, as opposed to moral principles. (Australian engagement in the AP region in foreign and trade policy with ASEAN countries)

**Security**

(U3 AOS2) Traditionally refers to protection of a state's borders from intruders and the maintenance of sovereignty, most commonly achieved through the use of military power. Has evolved to include other forms of security, such as, access to resources (economic security) and protection of ecosystems (environmental security). (ADF operations in the region for e.g. RAMSI in 2003)

**Sovereignty**

(U3 AOS1

U3 AOS2) Legitimate or widely recognised ability to exercise effective control of a territory within recognised borders. Primary organising principle of global politics which provides states with the authority to represent their territorial entity within the international community. State sovereignty can be challenged internally. (for eg, secessionist groups) or externally (for eg, one state invades another)

**State**

(U3 AOS1

U3 AOS2) Traditionally the central actor in international relations, states possess a permanent population, defined territory and recognised sovereignty. States are not necessarily culturally homogenous. (for eg, Australia)

# Glossary

## As it appears in Unit 3

The wider list of terms that apply to the study of Unit 3 Area of Study 2 can be found in the Study Design. This wider list of terms such as *hard power* and *soft power* relate to the Key Knowledge framework as follows:

- types and forms of power: hard, soft, military, economic, political, diplomatic and cultural
- the main foreign policy instruments

### Types of power, forms of power and policy instruments

Type of power:

- Military

Military forms of power and instruments:

- nuclear tests
- troop deployments
- establishment of bases
- militarisation

Type of power:

- Economic

Economic forms of power and instruments:

- Trade
- Aid
- Economic sanctions
- Bilateral trade deals
- Multilateral trade groups (eg ASEAN)

Type of power:

- Political

Political forms of power and instruments:

- Political brinkmanship and bargaining
- Propaganda
- Political rhetoric
- Defence and foreign policy white papers

Type of power:

- Diplomacy

Diplomatic forms of power and instruments

- Talks and negotiations
- New multilateral arrangements
- Forums and conferences
- Diplomatic visits

Type of power:

- Cultural

Cultural forms of power and instruments

- Cultural events
- Sporting events
- Language and culture school abroad
- Cultural broadcasts abroad

## Solutions to Review Questions

1.

	Term
1.	Security
2.	National interest
3.	Power
4.	Nation
5.	Nation-state
6.	Sovereignty
7.	Pragmatism
8.	State
9.	Idealism

2. Practical and pragmatic considerations, as opposed to moral principles can influence a government in its foreign policy pursuits. For example, the Australian government's engagement in the Asia Pacific region is largely about its pragmatic approach to foreign and trade policy with ASEAN countries. On the other hand idealism, where moral principle, rather than pragmatism has influenced Australia's commitment to East Timor in support of its fight for independence against Indonesian control.
3. 5 key points on national interest
- Objectivists argue that national interest is about "sustain[ing] the existing state".
  - Subjectivists argue that the "nature of the national interest is a matter of interpretation".
  - Pragmatic pursuit of the national interest refers to taking action that is motivated by practical experience and observation to gain the result desired.
  - Idealistic pursuit of the national interest refers to taking action based on a code of morals and ethics or action based on ideological purpose
  - Three major focus areas of Australia's national interests: Maintenance of sovereignty and security; Economic growth and prosperity; Concern for internationalism
4. Labor and Liberal governments have differed in their pursuit of direct border security measures in the area of immigration and refugee policy. The Liberal government under Howard (1996-2007) sought to prevent an influx of 'asylum seekers' to Australia through the implementation of a policy of mandatory detention and the 'Pacific Solution' (2001-2007). The Labor Rudd government put an end to the Pacific Solution in Dec 2007 and opened the Christmas Island detention facility in late 2008. The major parties have both sought deterrence measures to stop asylum seekers from coming to Australia by boat but differed on who is being 'tougher' on asylum seekers and therefore whose policy is most effective in stopping the boats and protecting Australia's security.
5. A key element of Australia's national interest is the pursuit of its relationship with the US shaped by its historical and national security interests (ANZUS 1951; 'War on Terror' 2001). In November 2011 it was announced that 2,500 US marines would be stationed in Darwin by 2017. The first 200 marines arrived in April 2012 and are a reflection of Australia's strategic relationship with the US.

6. The Abbott government's interpretation of Australian climate change environmental security differs markedly from that of the Labor Party. Whilst recognising the threat of climate change, the Liberal Party believes environmental security is best achieved through a 'Real and Direct Action plan', which includes funding for the creation of a \$2.55 billion Emissions Reduction Fund as opposed to a Carbon Tax or Emissions Trading Scheme.
7. Membership of the G20 gives Australia the diplomatic capacity to influence key policies relating to the global economy. Australia's engagement with the G20 includes support for the G20's commitment to reduce trade protectionism. During the Global Financial Crisis world trade fell by 12.2% (over 2009, WTO). The free flow of goods and services within a rules-based trading environment is key to Australia's economic prosperity. Australia chaired the G20 in 2014. The focus of the summit was global economic growth, job creation, increasing trade and reducing poverty.
- 8.

SAMPLE