
THINKING SKILLS

9694/41

Paper 4 Applied Reasoning

May/June 2014

1 hour 30 minutes

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

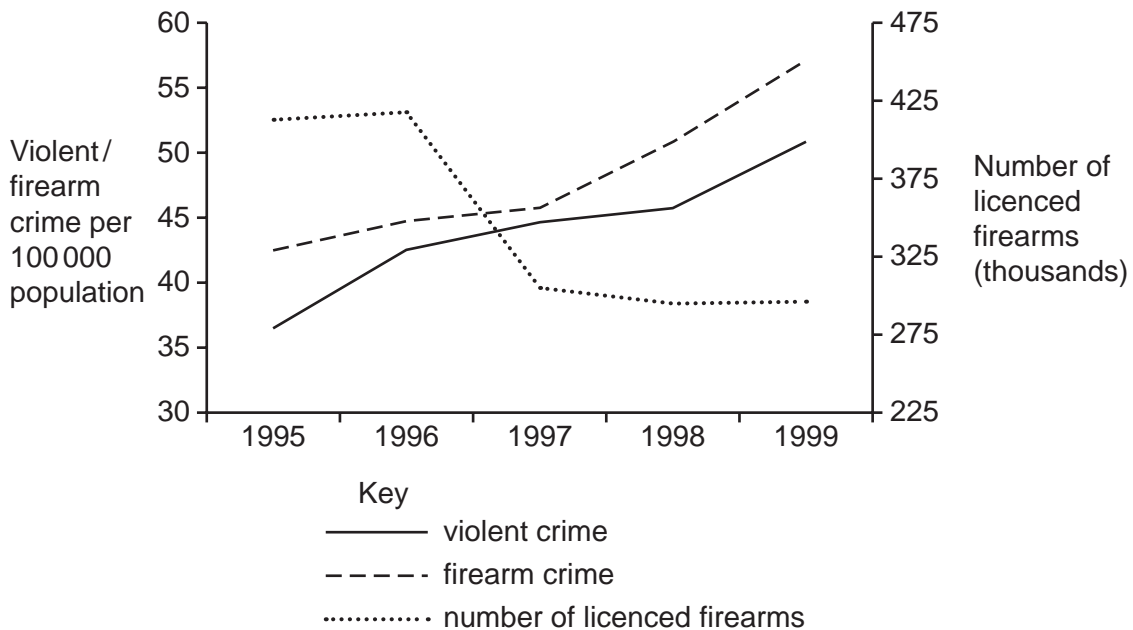
Answer **all** the questions.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question.

This document consists of **7** printed pages, **1** blank page and **1** insert.

1 Study the information and answer the questions that follow.

In 1997 the Bolandian government introduced tighter restrictions on firearm licensing. The following graph shows data from the five-year period around this event.



Study the table below. For **each** of the inferences A–E, write down whether it is true or false that the inference can reliably be drawn from the graph.

A	The number of licensed firearms is inversely proportional to firearm crime
B	A decrease in the number of licensed firearms has no effect on the rate of firearm crime
C	Some firearm crimes do not involve violence
D	Legally held firearms are not responsible for firearm crime
E	The government restriction on firearm ownership has failed to reverse the trend in firearm crime

[5]

Questions 2, 3 and 4 refer to Documents 1 to 5.

- 2 Briefly analyse U-Top's argument in Document 1: *New World Order*, by identifying its main conclusion and main reasons, as well as any intermediate conclusions and counter-arguments. [6]
- 3 Give a critical evaluation of the strength of U-Top's argument in Document 1: *New World Order*, by identifying and explaining any flaws, implicit assumptions and other weaknesses. [9]
- 4 'The UN should be abolished.'

To what extent do you agree with this statement? Construct a well-reasoned argument in support of your view, commenting critically on some or all of Documents 1 to 5, and introducing ideas of your own. [30]

DOCUMENT 1

New World Order

Any thinking person would agree with me that the UN's permanent member system, which was adopted 60 years ago, is out of date. On what grounds today should those five nations which make up the permanent members of the Security Council have veto power? Sixty years ago, the US, China, the UK, France and Russia were called the five world powers, and that was the reason why they were given such a privilege.

These five permanent members can never agree among themselves and are a detriment to world peace, which is necessary for the survival of our race. They also uncaringly hog most of the world's resources. Either they give up their privileges or other UN members should quit the organisation immediately, and invent a new global community adapted to their requirements. These days, economically powerful nations who bear the brunt of globalisation are the real world powers. These nations should replace the Security Council and be given non-permanent rotational memberships in a world government council. What this means is that no country could have veto power because every decision would be made by a majority vote; and the principle of decision by majority, the fundamental idea of democracy, would be followed mandatorily.

The structure of this world government council would guarantee the conditions of democracy by the elimination of all privileges that benefit only a few states. It would enforce the requirements of law by making the world council more competent. It would ensure a just world by making the international law mandatory. Thus we would be able to create a sustainable, peaceful and secure world.

There are however those who resist any proposal for change. They say that any world government could become tyrannical and be taken over by a few who would exploit the rest of the people of Earth for their own greed and profit. We should not heed such scaremongers and pessimists. It is this fear that has prevented the human race from achieving the great and enduring civilisation that is its true potential.

The main challenge of the new world set-up would be to define and defend mankind's common resources. So, we have to create new institutions with enforcement powers way beyond the current mandate of the UN. It is only by making agreements and enforceable laws between people that mankind is able to survive at all. To be effective, a new set of institutions, resourced by the economic giants, would have to be equipped with heavy-handed, transnational enforcement powers. Peacekeeping, which is a useless stopgap, would then be unnecessary.

All people around the globe should rally to the call to set up a new world government on Earth capable of bringing in world peace! The ordinary people of Earth desire a world without war, hunger, and slavery; with adequate shelter, clean air, drinking water for everyone and open access to the Internet. These basic human rights are necessary for survival, and we should demand them from those who want to govern us.

U-Top

DOCUMENT 2

World without UN

The United Nations is the butt of too many jokes and criticisms to even begin to count. It is said to be an ineffective, overly bureaucratized, irresponsible money-spender, and a safe haven for tyrannical dictators. So let's imagine a world with no UN, and think about what would happen. Would democracy and human rights more easily triumph abroad? Would international hostilities subside long enough for warring neighbours to finally make peace with one another? And what about famine, disease, poverty, development, and the list of related issues that continue to plague this planet? Wouldn't exactly disappear now, would they?

Just ask yourself what you could change within the UN. If your answer requires that states surrender their sovereignty, that's unrealistic. If you think self-interest can no longer motivate human behaviour, then think twice. If you think that inherently evil forces like capitalism, nationalism and imperialism must all be abolished in order for the UN to function properly – good luck!

How did the UN come about? Most people know that the UN was established after World War II, because the League of Nations was abandoned as a fiasco of epic proportions. Membership of the General Assembly was granted to every independent country. A Security Council composed of the Second World War's surviving great powers was inaugurated, that wielded powers to act authoritatively and resolve international disputes. While this UN system has its own disadvantages, and reforms are urgently needed after nearly 70 years of existence, it is nonetheless an improvement over the League.

But is the United Nations only better than nothing? Think of the many positive contributions of the UN to the international system today. First of all, it promoted the spread of democracy and human rights. Then there is the indisputable reduction in the number of international conflicts worldwide, thanks to the UN's peace-keeping and peace-building activities. Add to that all of the developmental work and technological assistance that the UN gives to still-developing countries through its programmes, such as the World Health Organization.

Having said all that, the United Nations does actually cost a lot. As in any bureaucracy, some waste and some inefficiency is inevitable, but this does not discount the benefits mentioned. It is true that issues are far too easily politicised, especially in the Security Council. Russia and China often refuse to intervene in friendly dictatorships where human rights are violated and democratic uprisings ruthlessly suppressed. Admittedly the UN is a tool of its biggest, richest and most powerful member-states, but that is a necessary condition for an organisation funded by and dependent on these countries for its existence.

The UN is the most visible manifestation of the liberal democratic international order that we have today, and, despite the many problems of today, it is doing one hell of a job.

Uri Marantz

US academic, researcher and writer

February 2012

DOCUMENT 3**Should India be a permanent member of the UN Security Council?**

India, with its large population and vibrant democracy, should be the strongest candidate for a Security Council membership. But is there a political will, particularly in the USA, to honour the largest democracy with what should rightfully be theirs, in light of the fact that India would not be a mere pushover or a “Yes Sir” kind of a nation?

Dr S Panikkar, India

If the Security Council is to be made more representative, the way to do so is not by simply including another country. The only way forward is to have countries representing blocs in the council, such as the EU being represented by the country currently holding its presidency.

RoRM, Netherlands

The Security Council wasn't meant to be truly representative, it was meant to comprise the countries with the ability to maintain international order. India is a long way from having that kind of power.

SE, USA

Countries like India should be allowed on the Security Council while European votes should be merged, and the veto powers should either be removed or it should be possible to overturn a veto with a 2/3 majority. At the moment the ‘western world’ is overrepresented while the rest is underrepresented.

SC, Belgium/Sweden

A country which is or has been, in the recent past, involved not just in conflicts, but wars with nearly all its neighbours (China, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh) should never be allowed a seat in the UN. If India is ever given a permanent seat that may well be the end of the UN Security Council.

MM, UK/Pakistan

The Security Council may not be the most representative body in the world but changing its framework would destroy the UN. India may be a logical candidate but try asking Pakistan or China that question. Eliminating the veto power would be nice but what happens when the nations with the resources disagree on a decision?

Dan, USA

India is the right candidate at this point in time when religion is the cause of most troubles across the globe. The country has had its share of religious turmoil but has emerged a winner and the world needs to recognise that and learn from it.

DS, Ireland

The United Nations is a complete waste of time. As long as countries ignore the UN resolutions, the question to ask is whether or not it is a viable body and representative of world opinion. Israel, Pakistan, N. Korea, Nigeria and Iraq, to name but a few, have all rejected UN resolutions in one way or another. The US itself is in violation of many world security issues. In fact isn't the UN really a talking shop for the US? Move the UN away from the US and perhaps people might take it seriously.

AP, England

BBC News Channel

Online debate, February 2003

DOCUMENT 4

Who knows?

It was an unusual move for one of the world's most eminent scientists. Having built a career shedding light on the secrets of the universe, from the essence of space–time to the complexity of black holes, Professor Stephen Hawking turned to the Internet for answers to the latest conundrum occupying his planet-sized brain.

Introducing himself to the online community as a theoretical physicist and Lucasian Professor of mathematics at the University of Cambridge, the 64-year-old scientist posed an open question: "In a world that is in chaos politically, socially and environmentally, how can the human race sustain another 100 years?"

The question appeared on the website Yahoo Answers last month, stirring up an Internet storm that saw more than 25 000 people give their views. Some said we should just learn to get along, others predicted technology would see us through, and more still invoked the powers of God, love and peace.

But what the world wanted most of all was to hear the great scientist answer his own question – an intervention, most were convinced, that would amount to nothing less than a definitive treatise for human survival. Last week the Professor's response finally arrived. In a video clip submission, the familiar electronic voice pronounced: "I don't know the answer. That is why I asked the question." He then laid out a beginner's guide to the changing face of threats to mankind, from devastating asteroid impact to climate change.

Professor Hawking's message cut the online community into broad camps, populated by optimists, religious groups, climate change deniers and fellow doom-mongers. One poster, Rabbit, believed that despite war, climate change and a breathtaking acceleration of technology, humankind was not about to annihilate itself.

The scientist's personal favourite came from another poster, the Semi-Mad Scientist. "Without the belief that we will continue to grow and overcome the pains of social chaos as we mature as a species, we might as well not have any faith at all. I'm not talking religion, but simply the same belief that we will survive just as much as the sun will rise tomorrow", he said.

Ian Sample

Guardian Weekly

DOCUMENT 5**1000+ deaths per year**

Conflicts in the following list are currently causing at least 1000 violent deaths per year.
(Last update August 2012)

<i>Start of conflict</i>	<i>War/conflict</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Fatalities</i>	
			<i>2011</i>	<i>2012 (up to Aug)</i>
1964	Colombian armed conflict (1964–present)	Colombia	5667+	
1978	War in Afghanistan (1978–present)	Afghanistan	8938+	3000+
1991	Somali Civil War	Somalia (Somaliland)	1400+	
2004	War in North-West Pakistan	Pakistan	6142	
2006	Mexican Drug War	Mexico	19 396	3800+
2009	Sudanese nomadic conflicts	South Sudan and Sudan	3141+	
2011	Sudan internal conflict (2011–present)	South Sudan and Sudan	1500+	
2011	Syrian civil war	Syria	10 000+	13 000
2011	Iraqi insurgency (post U.S. withdrawal)	Iraq	337	2100+

Wikipedia

BLANK PAGE

Copyright Acknowledgements:

- Document 2 © Uri Marantz; <http://www.freedomwriters.ca/category/international-affairs/>; 6 February 2012.
Document 3 © http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/talking_point/2788763.stm; February 2001.
Document 4 © Ian Sample; Guardian Weekly Science and Technology; <http://www.guardian.co.uk/guardianweekly/story/0,,1840576,00.html>.
Document 5 © http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_ongoing_military_conflicts.

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

Cambridge International Examinations is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.