

# Sample: PYQ Essay & Solution



APPSC Group - 1 Mains Strategic Revision 2024

Starting on 19th May 2024

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## SAMPLE

# **ESSAY PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTION & SOLUTION**

#### **Current Affairs**

1) Chinese Aggression and India: A Strategic Response (2020 Group 1)

**Please note :** Subheadings in the essay is for explanation purposes, essay written for exam purposes should not have these headings.

#### <u>ANECDOTE</u>

In June 2020, a deadly clash occurred between Indian and Chinese troops in the Galwan Valley, resulting in casualties on both sides. This incident underscored the longstanding tensions between the two nations along their disputed border and raised concerns about China's aggressive stance in the region.

This raises the question are we prepared for a full fledged response? How are we going to protect our boundaries and territorial integrity?

Or (you can choose to start essay in either way you like)

Amidst the serene landscapes of the Himalayas, a tumultuous clash of powers unfolds. China's assertive strides and India's steadfast resolve meet at the crossroads of geopolitics, shaping the destiny of nations and the future of a region. The recent surge in Chinese aggression along the Indo-China border has not only tested the limits of diplomatic tact but has also laid bare the strategic imperatives that define India's response.

#### BODY Historical Background:

India and China share a long history of cultural and economic exchanges. However, the border dispute, dating back to the 1962 Sino-Indian War, has remained unresolved, leading to periodic tensions. Both countries have also competed for influence in the region, with China's growing presence in South Asia and the Indian Ocean raising concerns for India.



The echoes of history resonate in the rugged terrains of Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh, where the shadows of past conflicts cast a long shadow over present-day confrontations. The Sino-Indian War of 1962, a scar that refuses to fade, serves as a stark reminder of the perils of complacency and the price of unpreparedness. Today, as China flexes its military muscle and asserts its dominance in the region, India stands at a critical juncture, compelled to craft a strategic response that safeguards its sovereignty and secures its interests.

#### **CAUSES FOR CHINESE AGGRESSION**

The strategic calculus of Chinese aggression extends far beyond mere territorial ambitions. It encompasses a complex interplay of political, economic, and security dynamics, each demanding a nuanced and proactive approach. From the corridors of power in Beijing to the rugged outposts along the Line of Actual Control, every move is laden with strategic intent, every decision reverberating across the geopolitical landscape.

**Political Factors**: China's desire to assert its dominance in the region and challenge India's influence.

**Economic Factors**: Economic competition, particularly in sectors like technology and infrastructure, where China has made significant inroads in India.

**Social Factors:** Nationalistic sentiments in both countries, fueled by historical grievances and territorial disputes.

**<u>Technological Factors</u>**: China's advancements in military technology and cyber capabilities, which pose a threat to India's security.

**Legal Factors**: The lack of a clear border agreement between the two countries, leading to frequent border incursions and disputes.

**Environmental Factors**: The impact of Chinese infrastructure projects, such as dams and mining, on the environment in border areas.

#### TYPES:

Chinese aggression towards India can be categorized into military, economic, and geopolitical aspects. Militarily, China has increased its presence along the border, leading to frequent standoffs. Economically, China has sought to expand its influence in India through investments and trade. Geopolitically, China has pursued a strategy of encirclement, seeking to limit India's influence in the region.



#### **IMPACT**

The impact of Chinese aggression on India reverberates far beyond the rugged terrain of the Himalayas; it strikes at the very core of India's sovereignty, security, and strategic interests. The recent surge in Chinese assertiveness along the border has not only heightened tensions between the two nations but has also cast a shadow of uncertainty over the stability of the region.

At a strategic level, Chinese aggression has forced India to reassess its security posture and realign its strategic priorities. The border standoff in Galwan Valley in 2020, which resulted in casualties on both sides, served as a wake-up call for India, underscoring the need for enhanced military preparedness and border infrastructure. It has also compelled India to deepen its strategic partnerships with like-minded countries and strengthen its alliances in the region.

**Economically**, Chinese aggression has exposed India's vulnerabilities in its dependence on Chinese imports and investments. The dominance of Chinese products in the Indian market and the significant Chinese investments in critical sectors like technology and infrastructure have raised concerns about India's economic resilience and sovereignty.

**Socially**, Chinese aggression has fueled nationalist sentiments in India, leading to calls for a more assertive stance against China. The border clashes and the subsequent anti-China sentiment have also strained people-to-people ties between the two countries, impacting cultural exchanges and tourism.

**Technologically**, Chinese aggression has highlighted the need for India to reduce its dependence on Chinese technology and strengthen its indigenous capabilities. The banning of Chinese apps and restrictions on Chinese investments in critical sectors are part of India's efforts to enhance its technological sovereignty and reduce its vulnerability to Chinese influence.

Environmentally, Chinese aggression has raised concerns about the impact of Chinese infrastructure projects, such as dams and mining, on the fragile ecosystem of the Himalayan region. The environmental consequences of these projects could have far-reaching effects on the region's biodiversity and water security.

#### Challenges Regarding Handling Chinese Aggression

Handling Chinese aggression presents several challenges for India, stemming from the complex nature of the bilateral relationship and the evolving geopolitical dynamics in the region. These challenges include



**Asymmetric Power Dynamics**: China's economic and military power far exceeds that of India, creating an asymmetric power dynamic. This power disparity limits India's ability to effectively deter Chinese aggression and respond to provocations, increasing its vulnerability to Chinese pressure tactics.

**Economic Interdependence**: India's economic interdependence with China, particularly in sectors like technology and manufacturing, complicates its ability to take strong measures against Chinese aggression. Disrupting economic ties could have adverse effects on India's economy, making it challenging to adopt a confrontational approach.

**Regional and Global Alliances**: China's growing influence in the region and its strategic partnerships with countries like Pakistan pose challenges for India. China's ability to leverage these alliances to encircle India and limit its strategic options complicates India's efforts to counter Chinese aggression effectively.

**Diplomatic Sensitivities**: Managing the diplomatic fallout of a confrontational approach towards China requires careful navigation. India needs to balance its strategic interests with the need to maintain diplomatic relations with China, as a complete breakdown in relations could have far-reaching consequences.

**Domestic Considerations**: Managing domestic expectations and perceptions regarding Chinese aggression is another challenge. Public opinion and political pressure can influence India's response to Chinese provocations, making it challenging to adopt a consistent and long-term strategy.

**Information Warfare**: China's use of information warfare and propaganda to shape narratives and influence public opinion presents a challenge for India. Countering Chinese disinformation and ensuring that accurate information is disseminated to the public is essential but challenging in the age of digital media.

<u>Military Preparedness</u>: Enhancing military preparedness to effectively deter Chinese aggression requires significant investments in defense capabilities. However, competing priorities and resource constraints make it challenging for India to rapidly modernize its military and infrastructure along the border.

#### Way Forward:

To effectively respond to Chinese aggression, India should adopt a multi-faceted approach. This includes diplomatic efforts to resolve border disputes, economic measures to reduce dependence on Chinese imports, and military preparedness to deter any potential aggression.



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