

What is Strategy?

Strategy	Use of military force to achieve political objectives
	When choosing between multiple ways of acting, strategy is choosing the best way to act
Grand Strategy	Use and organisation of all natural resources to achieve political objectives
Security	Freedom from threats to core values

Strategic Theory

Strategic theory	Different methods for winning wars
Clausewitz - War and 4 contexts (essence of war)	Killing and dying
	contest between armies, generals and states (competition mental and physical)
	War= Instrument of policy
	War= Social activity
Clausewitz - The Trinity (who controls war)	People - passion
	Military - chance
	Government - reason (determines aims and means)
Clausewitz - Nature of War (understanding enemy)	Centre of gravity - i. Enemy's army ii. Enemy's capital city iii. Principal ally iv. Leader vi. Public opinion

Strategic Theory (cont)

Clausewitz - Limited War	Limited - territory or leverage for bargaining
vs Unlimited War	
	Unlimited - overthrow and be prepared with new government
Clausewitz - Calculus	Ends justify means
Clausewitz - Friction	i. Danger posed by enemy ii. Efforts required by own forces iii. Difficult environment. vi. intelligence
Sun Tzu - Strategic preference	War without blood
	Enemy's 1) strategy 2) alliances 3) army
Sun Tzu - Intelligence	Matters only compared to enemy (think Ukraine vs Russia territory knowledge)
	Quality > quantity
Mao - Three step plan	Revolution and strategic defence
	Guerilla and strategic stalemate
	Strategic counter-offensive and defeat

Modern Warfare

Napoleon	Europe from limited Warfare, to full mobilisation (conscription)
Industrialisation	Railways, steamships, telegraph - big armies
	New weapons
	Heavy casualties

Modern Warfare (cont)

	Naval - steamships, transport
Total War vs Absolute War	Total - Drawing on all resources, conscription, economy towards war effort. Absolute war- fighting without restrictions
Nuclear weapons	Ended total war era

Law and use of force

Perception-Reality gap	International law is ignored vs international law usually obeyed
	Military conflict usual vs exception
	International law regulates force vs regulates all inter-state aspects
	Law is prohibiting vs facilitating
Why follow International Law?	Legitimacy
	Fear of coercion and consequences, self-interests
Ad Bellum - before war	Limit resort to military forces
	UN Articles 2(3-4) Settle disputes by peaceful means and dont use force
	Chapter 7 UN - Right to self-defence



Law and use of force (cont)

UN Security council decides if it is legal or not, allows force. Strategically needed if you are a leader, so does not backfire (Tony Blair)

In Bello - in war

Governs war Conduct

Geneva Convention 1949 - Victims of war

Hague Convention 1899 and 1907 - Conduct of warfare

Technology and War

Technology and War

Reflects the priorities of that country, environment. Speed or defence?

Quantity vs quality

Increase in speed, protection, mobility= quality

Increase in amounts of the weapons = quantity

New era of warfare

Prioritised quality

Specialisation of military equipment

Commercial technology importance

Asymmetrical Warfare

Better technology vs guerilla

Motivation very important

Challenges today

News coverage

Hard for military to find new people - possibilities outside military

Conventional Power and Contemporary Warfare

Geopolitics and Grand Strategy

Causes of War

Human beings as causes

Inclined towards violence

Social psychologists

aggression= results of frustration

Wars from misconceptions

Group thinking

Democratic Peace theory

Democracies go to war, but not against each other

Bargaining theory

Indivisible stakes

Nuclear Weapons

Nuclear deterrence

Soviets would not attack NATO, if convinced that they would retaliate with nuclear

Just because high probability that something wont happen doesnt mean that it wont (take North Korea using Nuclear Weapons, or Russia using Nuclear)

Nuclear ages

First Nuclear age 1945-1991, Second Nuclear Age now

Now more states have nuclear, less nuclear weapons overall

Deterrence

Preventing another state from doing something - making them keep their passive stance

Nuclear Weapons (cont)

Denial - Ability to win battle, being strong enough and therefore deterring. Like having a fortress around a castle

Trip Wire - Being credible in "punishing" as a response

Sometimes it is not obvious whether you are stronger than opponent (SK, Taiwan)

NATO - trip wire. Will US risk for us? All about blowing up the conflict. If small conflict in Finland how make pay attention

Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty (NPT)

Officially NPT acknowledges Russia, US, China, UK, France

Cyber Conflict and Great Powers

