International Relations

Examine the significance of the India–US strategic partnership for India's economic and security interests in the Indo-Pacific. Discuss the challenges in sustaining this partnership.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 20/10/2026	—	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Defence cooperation, trade, critical technologies, maritime security, Quad, strategic autonomy, divergent interests, China, energy security, diplomatic engagement.

Model Answer

Introduction

India–US relations have expanded from limited engagement to a broad strategic partnership encompassing trade, defence, technology and regional security. Their cooperation is particularly significant in the Indo-Pacific, a major centre of global commerce and geopolitical competition.

Significance

1. **Defence and maritime security:** Military exercises, defence technology cooperation and information sharing can strengthen India's preparedness and maritime capabilities.

2. **Economic cooperation:** Trade, investment and technology partnerships can support manufacturing, innovation and employment.

3. **Regional stability:** Cooperation through the Quad promotes maritime awareness, resilient supply chains and practical regional initiatives.

Challenges

Differences over trade policies, tariffs, energy relationships and global conflicts can create friction. India also seeks strategic autonomy and maintains partnerships with multiple countries, while the two sides may differ in their priorities.

Way Forward

Regular diplomatic dialogue, mutually beneficial trade arrangements, defence-technology collaboration and respect for each other's strategic concerns can strengthen the partnership.

Conclusion

India–US cooperation offers important economic and strategic opportunities, but its durability depends on managing differences through sustained engagement while protecting India's independent foreign-policy choices.

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