

Foreign Policy: War, Peace, and Everything In-between

Time Needed: One Class Period

Materials Needed:

Student worksheets

Projector

Copy Instructions:

Notes (1 page; class set)

Response Card (1 page; class set)

Activity (2 pages; class set)

Learning Objectives. Students will be able to:

- Define the terms “foreign” and “domestic.”
- Distinguish between foreign and domestic policy.
- Identify the three main tools the executive branch uses for foreign policy.
- Determine how the executive and legislative branches share foreign policy powers.
- Categorize current and historical examples of foreign policy in action.

STEP BY STEP

- ANTICIPATE** by writing the words “foreign” and “domestic” on the board. Ask students where they have heard these words before, and ask them to give any examples they can think of. Help students arrive at a definition of these words.
- DISTRIBUTE** one Notes page to each student
- PROJECT** the projection masters. Use them to discuss the concepts, emphasizing the role of the president and executive branch in developing and carrying out foreign policy.
- GUIDE** students through filling out the notes page as you discuss the projection masters.
- CHECK** for understanding using the Military/Treaty/Foreign Aid informal assessment.
- DISTRIBUTE** the activity pages to the class.
- ASSIGN** students to complete the activity pages. Review the answers if you wish.
- DISCUSS** part D of the activity pages with the class.
- CLOSE** by asking student to choose *either* Military, Treaty, or Foreign aid and think of one fictional situation when the action they chose might be appropriate. Have students share the situation with a partner.

INFORMAL ASSESSMENT: Treaty/Military/Foreign Aid

Directions: Distribute one M/T/A folding response card to each student. Have students fold the card into a tent-triangle shape. Read each situation below. After each situation, ask students to show you the side of their response card that most closely describes the action described.

1	More than 100 U.S. citizens died when the Germans sunk a passenger ship called the <i>Lusitania</i> in 1915, but President Wilson did not want to enter World War I. He convinced Germany to agree to stop the attacks.	Treaty
2	In 1917, Germany re-started its submarine attacks against unarmed ships even though it had pledged to stop. U.S. President Woodrow Wilson asked the U.S. Congress for a declaration of war, and the U.S. entered World War I.	Military
3	In 1940, Germany, Italy, and Japan signed an agreement forming an alliance. They hoped to keep the U.S. out of World War II. President Franklin Roosevelt asked Congress for aid to help Great Britain fight these powers.	Foreign aid [military]
4	On December 7, 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The next day, U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt asked the U.S. Congress for a declaration of war against Japan. Congress acted quickly, and the U.S. officially entered World War II.	Military
5	In order to defeat Germany in World War II, President Franklin Roosevelt worked with Great Britain to plan a major invasion of western Europe. In 1943, he appointed General Dwight Eisenhower to lead the attack.	Military
6	In 1949, after World War II, the United States and other democratic western countries formed NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. It said that if any country was attacked by an outside nation, they would help defend each other.	Treaty
7	After World War II, the United States gave more than \$13 billion to help rebuild countries and support their democratic governments.	Foreign aid
8	During the Cold War, the United States was determined to stop communism from spreading. When communist North Korea invaded South Korea in 1950, President Truman sent U.S. troops to help stop the North Koreans.	Military
9	In 1968, the major countries of the world agreed to the "Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty" in order to limit the spread of nuclear weapons.	Treaty
10	In 1990, Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein invaded and took over neighboring Kuwait. In January 1991, Congress authorized President George H. W. Bush to lead U.S. troops into Kuwait and force the Iraqi troops to leave.	Military
11	In 1993, the United States, Canada, and Mexico agreed to the North American Free Trade Agreement (called "NAFTA"), in order to make trade easier among the three countries.	Treaty
12	On September 11, 2001, al-Qaeda terrorists attacked the United States. President George W. Bush asked Congress for authority to use military force against those responsible. U.S. troops were sent to Afghanistan, where al-Qaeda leaders were based.	Military
13	In January 2010, a terrible earthquake devastated Haiti. The United States sent food, water, and medical care to help those affected.	Foreign aid
14	In 2013, the U.S. Agency for International Development's "Water Supply, Sanitation & Hygiene" program in West Africa helped over 28,000 people get access to a better source for drinking water.	Foreign aid

M



Military

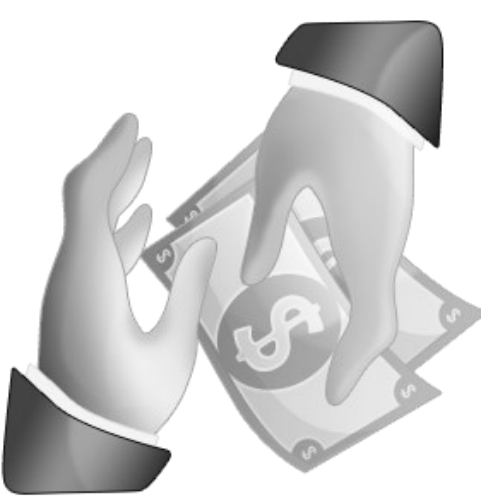
iCIVICS

T



Treaty

FA



Foreign
Aid

Aid

Response Card

U.S. Foreign Policy...



... is this country's actions, words, and beliefs towards other countries.

The main goals of our foreign policy are to:

- protect America and Americans
- support economic growth and human rights around the world
- increase support for American values like democracy and freedom

Most often, the President and executive branch initiate our foreign policy responses to world events and work with the legislative branch to carry out those responses.

Foreign Aid...

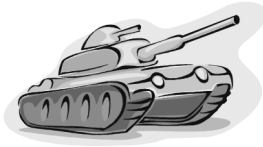


... is the help or assistance that we give to other countries, usually through our Department of State.

The main goal of our foreign aid is to create friendships abroad and foster future trading partners.

Foreign aid comes in many forms. The most common are

- economic, like money
- military, like soldiers helping after a disaster
- advice, like how to create a democracy



Military...

... is this country's troops, led by our President who is called the Commander-in-Chief.

The main goal of our military is to prevent war and protect the United States.

The Department of Defense is made up of the following branches:

- Army
- Navy
- Air Force
- Marines

Treaties...



... are a formal agreement between countries that, like laws, must be followed.

The President is responsible for negotiating and signing treaties. All treaties must be approved by 2/3rds of the Senate.

An example:

Countries form an alliance through signing a treaty. This treaty says that if one of the countries is attacked, the others will step in to protect each other.

U.S. Foreign Policy



Definition:

- Main Goals
- 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)

Key Players:

Foreign Aid



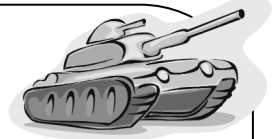
Definition:

Main Goals

Forms

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Military



Definition:

Main Goals

Active Groups

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

Treaties



Definition:

Who is involved?

Example:

Foreign Policy

Name: _____

A. Foreign vs. Domestic. Read each example and select the correct word to fill in the blank.



1. Americans often refer to a country that is not the United States as a _____ country

- domestic
- foreign

3. Someone who is really good at chores and maintaining a home might be described as a _____ person.

- domestic
- foreign

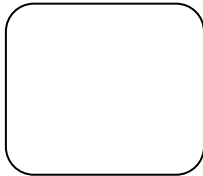
2. A language that is not English and comes from a country outside the United States is called a _____ language.

- domestic
- foreign

4. If you get on an airplane and take a flight that doesn't leave the country it is called a _____ flight.

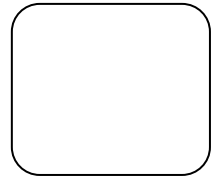
- domestic
- foreign

Looking at the examples you answered above, *complete* the following definitions and *draw* a symbol that represents the term to you in each box.



"Foreign" refers to things that happen _____ of the United States.

"Domestic" refers to things that happen _____ of the United States.



B. Which is which? Read each example below and decide if it is a *domestic policy*—addresses issues at home—or a *foreign policy*—addresses issues around the world. Label each with a "D" or an "F."

_____ 1. The government wants to make sure students are learning what they should be, so it requires standardized testing in certain grades.

_____ 2. The government operates national parks in different parts of the country.

_____ 3. The United States is allied with countries around the world, which means they are partners and look out for each other's interests.

_____ 4. The United States provides help to other countries when natural disasters, like earthquakes, occur.

_____ 5. The countries of the world meet to decide how to handle climate change, and the United States plays a role in the talks.

_____ 6. The United States is attacked, and the President, in his role as Commander-in-Chief, calls on the U.S. military to defend the U.S. by attacking the other country.

_____ 7. The government decides how much money Americans must pay in federal taxes.

_____ 8. The government makes an agreement with specific countries that none of them will attack each other.

_____ 9. The government cleans up land and water areas that are severely polluted.

_____ 10. The government enforces federal laws and sends convicted criminals to jail.



Foreign Policy

Name: _____

C. Who does what? The Constitution, the rulebook for the government, says who has which foreign policy powers. Using your notes, see if you can figure out who is responsible for which power and write them in the correct places in the chart bellows.

Negotiates and signs




2/3's of the Senate must approve

Makes recommendations on and signs or vetoes bills into law.

As Commander-in-Chief, can send troops around the world

Writes and passes bills

Declares war

	 Foreign Aid	 Military	 Treaties
President			
Congress			

D. What do you think? Read the questions below carefully and check the answer that best reflects your opinion.

- Who do you think has the most difficult job when it comes to foreign policy?
 - President
 - Congress
- Why do you think the writers of the Constitution gave Congress a voice in most foreign policy decisions?
 - so the President can make decisions on his own and not listen to Congress
 - to make it really difficult for our country to respond in a war
 - to make sure that not just one person had all the power in making these important decisions, like whether or not to go to war



Why? List two reasons that you think that branch has the hardest job when it comes to foreign policy.

1)

2)

U.S. Foreign Policy



Definition:

country's actions, words, beliefs toward/about other countries

Main Goals

- 1) protect US & Americans
- 2) support economic growth & human rights
- 3) increase support of values like Dem. and freedom

Key Players:

- President and Executive branch initiate policy
- Legislative branch carry out policy

Foreign Aid



Definition: help or assistance, through Dept of States

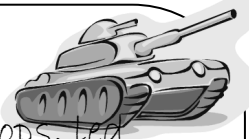
Main Goals

Create friendship abroad and foster future partners

Forms

- 1) economics
- 2) military
- 3) advice

Military



Definition: country's troops, led by Pres

Main Goals

Prevent war and protect the United States

Active Groups

- 1) Army
- 2) Navy
- 3) Air Force
- 4) Marines

Treaties



Definition: formal agreement between countries

Who is involved?

President—negotiates/signs
Senate—approves by 2/3's vote

Example:

Alliance to protect each other

Foreign Policy

Name: **** TEACHER GUIDE ****

A. Foreign vs. Domestic. Read each example and select the correct word to fill in the blank.



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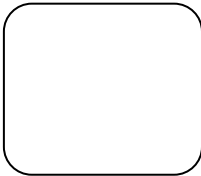
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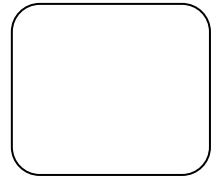
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F 6. The United States is attacked, and the President, in his role as Commander-in-Chief, calls on the U.S. military to defend the U.S. by attacking the other country.

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F 3. The United States is allied with countries around the world, which means they are partners and look out for each other's interests.

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Foreign Policy

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Declares war

	 Foreign Aid	 Military	 Treaties
President	Makes recommendations on and signs or vetoes.	As Commander-in-Chief, can send troops around the world	Negotiates and signs
Congress	Writes and passes bills	Declares War	2/3's must approve

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