

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

Time Needed: One Class Period

Materials Needed:

Student worksheets

Transparencies

Copy Instructions:

Voting Cards (single-sided, class set)

Student worksheets (double-sided, 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

- DISTRIBUTE** one “War & Peace and Everything In-between” packet to each student.
- ANTICIPATE** by having students complete the sentences and review the difference between the terms “foreign” and “domestic” using worksheet p1.
- INSTRUCT** students to answer questions 1-10 on worksheet p1 of the packet distinguishing between foreign and domestic policy and review the answers as a class.
- PROVIDE** notes to students for worksheet p2 of their packets regarding foreign policy and its primary tools (foreign aid, the military, and treaties), using the overhead transparencies.
- EMPHASIZE** the leading role the President and executive branch have in developing and carrying out foreign policy.
- DISTRIBUTE** the voting cards to the class.
- READ** each of the scenarios listed on the Active Participation Activity guide. After each, have students fold their voting card and hold it up, casting their vote for *military*, *treaty*, or *foreign aid*. After the class has determined which tool the scenario exemplifies, have them write the number of the scenario in the top corner of the box on their guided note sheet.
- TRANSITION** to worksheet p3 of the packet and how the Constitution divides power among the executive and legislative branches.
- ENCOURAGE** students to reread their notes and match each power with the correct topic and branch of government to complete the chart.
- REVIEW** the correct answers and have students answer the final questions.
- CLOSE** with student responses to the final question on the page regarding why the Framers gave Congress a voice in most foreign policy decisions when they wrote the Constitution.

After students have completed taking notes using the transparencies, complete this active participation activity. Read each statement below, having students fold their card to the appropriate letter and hold it up to vote. Then ask students to write the number of the statement in the corner of the box they fit into on their notes page (worksheet p.2).

- 1) Upon President Wilson's request on April 6, 1917, Congress declared War on Germany and gave the President the power to lead the army and navy to fight Germany in World War I. **(military)**
- 2) In 2003, President George W. Bush decided to focus support on a worldwide initiative to help countries prevent and treat HIV/AIDS. **(foreign aid)**
- 3) 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)**
- 4) The United States government provides advice and help for countries wanting to start new democracies by showing them how to run fair elections. **(foreign aid)**
- 5) In 1968, the major countries of the world agreed to the "Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty," which is aimed at limiting the spread of nuclear weapons. As of 2010, over 180 countries have joined. **(treaty)**
- 6) 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)**
- 7) In response to the January 2010 earthquake that devastated Haiti, the United States has given the country significant aid in the form of food, water, and medical care. **(foreign aid)**
- 8) The United States has a program aimed at helping people in developing countries have access to safe drinking water. **(foreign aid)**
- 9) On December 7, 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. This act would bring the U.S. into World War II. The next day, Congress passed a war declaration giving President Roosevelt the power to lead the entire U.S. military against Japan. **(military)**
- 10) In June 1950, during the Cold War, communist North Korea invaded South Korea. The United States had been supporting South Korea. As a result of the invasion, President Truman sent U.S. troops as part of a United Nations mission to fight on behalf of South Korea. **(military)**
- 11) President Wilson wanted the United States to agree to the Treaty of Versailles, the overall peace treaty ending the war in Europe, and to join the League of Nations. The U.S. Senate rejected these actions, so the U.S. did not agree to them. **(treaty)**
- 12) After World War II, the United States gave more than \$13 billion to help rebuild countries and support their democratic governments. **(foreign aid)**
- 13) The United States, Canada, and Mexico agreed to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), whose goal is to make it easier to trade among the three countries. **(treaty)**
- 14) On September 11, 2001, al-Qaeda terrorists attacked the United States. President George W. Bush asked Congress for a resolution asking to use military force against those responsible; this led to U.S. troops fighting in Afghanistan, where Al-Qaeda leaders were based. **(military)**
- 15) The United States was the first country to approve of the document that created the United Nations, an international organization created after World War II, that tries to keep world peace. **(treaty)**

M



Military

iCIVICS

T



Treaty

FA



Foreign

Aid

Voting Card

U.S. Foreign Policy...



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

The main goals of our foreign policy is 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.

Foreign Policy

Name: _____

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

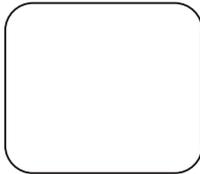
2. A language that is not English and comes from a country outside the United States is called a _____ language.

- domestic
- foreign

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

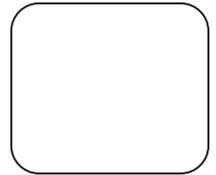
- domestic
- foreign

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.



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.



U.S. Foreign Policy



Definition:

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

Key Players:

Foreign Aid



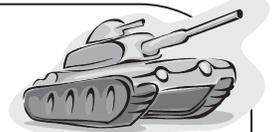
Definition:

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: _____

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			

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)



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.

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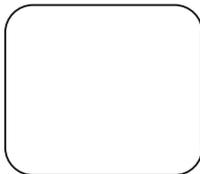
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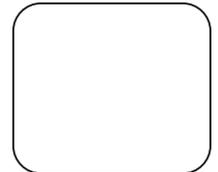
- domestic
 foreign

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 outside of the United States.

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



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."

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

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.

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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



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

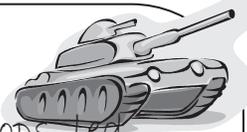
Main Goals

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

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.

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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	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

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

1)

2)