

Citizenship in the World

1. Answer the following:

- a. What is citizenship? How does one become a citizen in the United States? How does one become a citizen in other countries?

Citizenship is a set of privileges and freedoms, duties and responsibilities of people living in a governed community. Government has obligations to its citizens and citizens have obligations to their government. The basic rules of citizenship lie in the balance between what the government does for the people and what it asks of them in return.

U.S. Citizenship: Based on equality, human rights, supremacy of the law. Right to vote, right to a fair trial, right to bear arms, freedom of religion, freedom of speech and of the press. Right to vote gives an obligation to vote.

Ways of becoming a U.S. Citizen:

Born in the U.S. or born to parents who are U.S. citizens.

Naturalized emigrants. Emigrants who are not yet citizens are aliens. Aliens enjoy the same freedoms, but not all of the rights of citizens.

- b. What rights, duties, and obligations does American citizenship entail? How are these similar to or different from the way citizenship is experienced in two other countries?

2. Do the following:

- a. Discuss the concept of national interest.

National Interest: Every nation-state operates according to its own national interest, which is different from all other nations' interest. The state works to preserve and protect its citizens, property, and boundaries against infringement by any other nation. There are three types of national interest:

Security interests

Economic interests

National values

- b. Explain how a country's security, economy, and values relate to its national interest.

Security Interests: Depends on how a country views other countries. South Korea maintains a large, well-equipped army because it believes North Korea may attack it. Switzerland is neutral and geographically protected by mountains, so it has no army. Other security interests are domestic and social order. Problems of terrorism and drug trafficking. Has led to the formation of organizations like NATO.

Economic Interests: Based on the health of a country's economy. Dependent on resources and industry. May commit military forces to protect needed resources in other countries such as the Persian Gulf War to protect our supply of petroleum.

National Values: Based on a country's traditional beliefs, culture, religion, and historical experiences. Belief in democracy. End of **Cold War** has led to some rethinking and adjustment in foreign policy. Thus we give foreign aid and humanitarian assistance to develop democratic forms of governments and help the former communist countries develop free-market economies (economy based on what people will buy).

3. Explain ONE of the following to your counselor:

- a. How communications and transportation have changed relationships between countries.

Instantaneous communication and rapid transportation and tourism have brought countries very close together.

- b. How changing national interests, democratic values, and global economic partnerships are affecting the relationships between countries.

No country is truly economically self-sufficient. Many nations now concentrate on producing what can most easily and cheaply be brought to other markets. The U.S., for example, is a major producer of machined tools, automobiles, electronic parts, timber, and motion pictures. Our trading partners are: Western Europe (24%), Asia other than Japan (22%), Canada (20%), Japan (16%), and Latin America (14%).

Problems:

Coal and oil reserves are running out.

Tropical rain forest and other environments are being destroyed.

Natural refuges and wilderness areas are ruined by tourist traffic.

4. Do the following:

a. Tell how the geography, natural resources, and climate of a country affect its economy.

Geography such as mountains or oceans may offer protection but barriers to transportation. Rivers allow trade. Access to the sea is critical to a country's development. Temperature and rainfall affect the growth and yields of crops. Natural resources are important to a country's development and income. Countries may protect their interests with tariffs.

b. Using a map of the world, select two countries. Describe how geography, natural resources, and climate are important in defining each country's national interest. Explain how these interests affect relations with at least two other countries.

5. Do the following:

a. Explain international law and how it differs from national law. What role does international law perform in the international system? Describe how international law can be used as a tool for conflict resolution.

International Law exists to combat the threat of issues such as nuclear war, destruction of the environment, terrorism, trade imbalances, and famine and disease control. Aside from solving world crises, international law helps countries coordinate orderly international trade, be treated fairly in relation to other countries, and take advantage of the political, economic, and technological benefits of participating in the community.

There are four main types of international law.

Treaty: Formal pledges or agreements either bilateral or multilateral. Normally, treaties create obligations only for those nations that have made the pledge. Usually, nations that are not members do not have to obey the regulations established by a treaty organization.

Customary: International rules that have been practiced for so long that courts and statesmen consider them binding. This kind of law is difficult to enforce, since some nations might not subscribe to a particular custom, or new customs might be created. For example, most customary law has been based on Western culture and ideas, Asian, Arabic, and other cultures and ideas have been left out.

General Principle: A nation's right to defend itself is an example of such a general principle. International courts can therefore base their rulings on something other than the provisions of a treaty or customary practices.

Some nations argue that international courts should not be allowed to "create" law by ruling on general principles, but should follow law as it is established by nations.

Unlike national law, international law is difficult to enforce. In international law, there is no police force or prison system to carry out punishment. Nevertheless, international law can be enforced, using the following measures:

Retorsion: A lawful act used by a nation to pressure another nation into correcting a wrongdoing. an embargo to cut of economic activity is an example of retorsion.

Reprisal: When an illegal act is committed against a country, that country might respond with a reprisal. The reprisal might be illegal under other circumstances, but under these circumstances would be considered legal. For example, if a country refuses to repay a loan, the lending nation could legally seize its property.

War: War is a final sanction or coercive action.

- b. Select TWO of the following global issues and explain how they have been affected by international agreements and treaties.
1. Environmentalism: To protect our fragile ecosystem for wildlife, air, water, forests, energy, soil and minerals. Agreements on acid rain and ozone layer.
 2. Terrorism: Calculated act, usually violent, designed to serve certain goals, often political ones, by creating fear in a population or specific group. Terrorist try to get the attention of the world so that they can make their ideas known. Has increased over the past 30 years. Using fear tactics such as airline hijacking, bombing, hostage-taking, and assassination, terrorist groups strike across international borders to attack their targets.
 3. International trade: International trade agreements provide special treatment to the participating countries. GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) Signed by almost 100 nations. Reduces tariffs and gets rid of other barriers to trade. NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) provides for free trade in North America.
 4. Communications: The International Telecommunications Union plans, coordinates, and make and enforces rules for international telecommunication. It also allocates international radio frequencies. The Universal Postal Union helps nations exchange correspondence and advises them on how to improve their own postal services.
 5. Transportation: The International Civil Aviation Authority improves standards for navigation, aircraft, and pilot licensing.. The International Maritime Organization promotes cooperation on navigation, safety, and preventing pollution.
 6. Famine Control:
 7. Disease control: The World Health Organization promotes health throughout the world. It sets drug and vaccine standards and health and research guidelines.
 8. International sports: The best-known sports activities governed by international agreement are the summer and winter Olympic Games. Organized through the International Olympic Committee.
- c. Select TWO of the following organizations and describe their role in the international system.
1. The United Nations: A multinational organization established after World War II. Its goals are to promote international peace and security, and to achieve cooperation in solving international economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian problems. Represents 178 member nations (in 1992). The Security Council has ten 2-year members and five permanent members. There is a General Assembly, an International Court of Justice (15 elected judges. Based at the Hague, Holland. Rules on international disputes.) a Secretariat (administrative), and and Economic and

Social Council (Members elected by the General Assembly to supervise the agencies and commissions and study social and economic issues.).

2. The World Court:
 3. World Organization of the Scout Movement: World Scout Conference (like General Assembly), World Scout Committee (executive body), and the World Scout Bureau (Carries out the instructions of the World Scout Conference and the World Scout Committee. 118 members.)
 4. Amnesty International: Works to gain freedom for people who have been imprisoned for their beliefs, color, ethnic origin, sex, religion, or language, provided they have not used or advocated violence. Dedicated to protecting human rights. Opposes torture and the death penalty and advocates fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners.
 5. The International Red Cross: Founded in Switzerland. Provides care for the wounded, sick, and homeless in wartime and also during and after natural disasters.
 6. Americas Watch: National committee of the U.S. to the organization Human Rights Watch International. Seeks to promote human rights and to monitor and report on human rights practices and violations. Pays especial attention to Latin America and the Caribbean.
 7. CARE: (Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere) International relief and development organization. Provides food, self-help development, disaster aid, and health care
6. Do the following:
- a. Explain to your counselor what is meant by:
 1. International trade agreement: Because the world's resources are limited, societies must decide: which goods and services to produce and in what quantities; how goods and services are to be produced; and who will receive the goods and services that are allocated out of the total amount produced. Since no nation's economy can produce all the goods and services demanded by its citizens, it must exchange with other countries. The exchange of goods and services among nations is known as international trade, world trade, or foreign trade. International trade agreements are treaties to promote and develop trade among nations. Regional economic trade agreements may: reduce barriers to the free flow of goods and services among countries; create common trade barriers to outside nations; and coordinate policies on tax and business activities. A free trade area is a group of countries goods produced within the area. Each country however, can keep its own separate barriers to trade outside the territory. A customs union is the next step of economic integration. Trade barriers are removed for goods produced within the region and the countries adjust their own tariffs and quotas to establish a common set of barriers to goods produced outside the territory. A common market is the final step of regional economic integration. Common markets have free trade in goods and services within the region; a common set of barriers against imports from outside the region; and free movement of the means of production (capital and labor) within the region. There is free movement of labor from one country to another and any citizen or companies of one member country can build plants or buy companies in another member country without restrictions.

2. Foreign exchange: This is a way of adjusting the different currencies so that countries can pay their debts to each other.
A rate of exchange is the price in local currency of one unit of foreign currency. The rate of exchange is determined by the supply and demand of the currency in the foreign exchange markets. Since 1973, the major industrial nations have used a system of “floating” rates that exchange can change from day to day. Foreign currencies can be bought or sold now and delivered in the future. This is done by purchasing a buy or sell contract for a specific currency on an international exchange market.
 3. Balance of payments: This is the difference between a country’s exports to and imports from another country.
 4. Tariffs: A tax placed on goods from another country to regulate trade for a certain item.
 5. Free trade: Eliminates all trade barriers.
- b. Explain how world trade and global competition affect the economy of your state and your community.
- The goods and services produced in your community might well be destined for international markets. Some of the companies in your community and state might have international interest or could even be subsidiaries of foreign firms. Many of the parts from automobiles produced in the U.S. are imported from a variety of countries even though the finished product is assembled in this country. If there is less foreign demand for American products, American manufacturers might start producing less, which means production slowdowns and even production shutdowns. These in turn might cause layoffs or firing of employees. The free-market economy in which Americans operate is based on giving consumers *wherever they are --- in the U.S. or overseas) the goods they demand. This generally means providing the highest-quality goods at the lowest price. Because the price of a finished product depends on the cost of its materials, manufacturing, and transportation, producers must pay close attention to the conditions of market competition. Generally, competition is over:
- price: The lowest cost and highest value to the consumer
speed: The ability to respond quickly to market demands, and
quality: Achieving the highest quality of product and providing good service to the customer.

If America is to grow economically, American products must remain competitive in world markets. The economic activities of your state and community are the foundation of this process.

As economic development is increasingly affected by advances in science and technology, there will be a growing demand for a highly skilled labor force. American workers will need two main things to compete with workers in international markets:

A high-quality education

Relevant, specialized job skills.

- c. 1. Locate the listing of foreign currency exchange rates in the financial section of a newspaper. Select three major foreign currencies and explain the rates of exchange between these currencies and the American dollar.
2. Select a foreign currency and price a product in that currency. Explain how fluctuations in currency exchange rates affect the price of that product if you are exporting it from the United States. Explain how fluctuations in currency exchange rates affect the price of that product if you are importing it into the United States.

7. Do the following:
a. Discuss the differences between constitutional and nonconstitutional governments.

There are three basic forms of government:

Rule by one person (dictatorship)

Rule by a few persons

Rule by many persons (democracy)

There are three basic economic systems:

Capitalism

Communism

Mixed

Constitutional Governments are democratic governments that represent the interests of the majority. The U.S. government is a federal republic, ruled on the principle of representative democracy. In a federal system, there are levels of government beyond the central government. In the U.S., the national government has certain powers and the state governments have other powers. In a republic, citizens who are allowed to vote directly elect representatives to create and enforce laws benefiting citizens, and to safeguard citizens' interests. Such representatives are responsible to the people who elected them. The Constitution of the United States, the supreme law of the land, established the structure and basic organization of American government.

A constitution is a set of basic:

Customs

Traditions

Rules

Laws (written and unwritten)

Ethical principles, and

Values

Besides having a constitution, a government must:

Be limited in its power

Follow a higher law (Individual rights and limitations on power. Checks and balances.)

Have constitutional stability (Cannot be changed without the consent of citizens)

Kinds of Constitutional Government:

Presidential

Parliamentary

Mixed Presidential/Parliamentary

Nonconstitutional Governments have no effective means for the public to limit the power of their rulers, or how long those rulers stay in office. The government can rule arbitrarily instead of within limitations. Few, if any individual rights can be enforced against the rulers. Most nonconstitutional governments are either authoritarian or totalitarian. These are a dictatorship.

Many countries that were at one time governed by absolute monarchs have since chosen democratic forms of government that allow their citizens to have more say in the running of the country. Some of these countries have kept their monarchs as ceremonial heads of state. Such countries are called constitutional monarchies. Examples are Great Britain, Japan, Sweden, and Spain.

The junta is a common form of dictatorship in developing nations. In this system, a military leader comes to power backed by the country's armed forces.

Capitalist countries often have market economies.

Communist countries often use non market allocation of resources.

However, some communist societies depend upon markets as much as capitalist societies do. In communist countries the government is more likely to set prices so they can determine the market results. Markets are more open in capitalist countries. Buyers can usually buy and sellers can usually sell whatever they want, whenever they want, and wherever they want. In a free market, price is determined by these buyers and sellers alone.

The U.S. has a capitalist economic system, also known as a private, or free, enterprise.

Almost all goods and services are owned and produced by individuals and private companies. (U.S., Germany, Japan, Taiwan, and Australia)

Communism is an economic system and a political system. In communist countries, political power rests in the hands of relatively few people. It is very difficult, and sometimes dangerous for the people to oppose their government. Individuals have few rights. Only members of the Communist Party have a voice in the government. The Communist Party establishes education, health, housing, social, and cultural programs for society. Under a communist economic system the government

Directs the production of goods and services, and

Owens the means of production --- factories, mines, farms, etc.

The main feature of communism is central planning, not competition. Among the communist countries of the world are China, North Korea, and Cuba.

Many democratic nations also have mixed economies. For example, the governments of Great Britain and Sweden own and operate many of the basic industries in their countries.

The citizens of these nations generally pay high taxes and get social welfare benefits, such as health care, in return. This particular kind of mixed economy is often called democratic socialism.

- b. Name at least five different types of governments currently in power in the world.
 - c. Show on a world map countries that use each of these five different forms of government.
8. Do the following:
- a. Explain how a government is represented abroad. How is the United States government accredited to international organizations?

Diplomats are people skilled in handling international affairs without conflict. They serve as a two-way communication between countries. Diplomats have four basic responsibilities to the nations they represent:

Representation

Reporting

Negotiating

Protecting

- b. Describe the roles of the following in the conduct of foreign relations:
 1. Ambassador: A personal representative of the president. Heads an embassy. Directs all U.S. programs and personnel.
 2. Consul: Heads a consulate. Especially concerned with promoting their country's business and commercial interests.
 3. United States Information Agency: An independent foreign affairs agency within the executive branch of the U.S. government. Explains and supports U.S. foreign policy and national security interests abroad through a wide range of information systems.
 4. Agency for International Development: Manages U.S. economic and humanitarian assistance in more than a hundred countries in most regions of the world. They support economic and political changes that will create employment, help economic growth without hurting the environment, invest in developing human resources, support family-

planning programs, respond to natural and man made disasters, help to expand the production of goods and services, and train thousands of foreign students each year at American colleges.

5. Foreign Commercial Service: Assists American businesses abroad.
 - c. Explain the purpose of a passport and visa for international travel. Permits a citizen to travel abroad.
9. Do ONE of the following:
- a. Attend a world jamboree.
 - b. Take part in an international event in your area.
 - c. Visit with a foreign exchange student and discuss his or her country and customs.
 - d. Study a foreign language for a year.
 - e. Write an embassy or consulate for material about its country and discuss the material with your counselor.
 - f. Examine a particular international issue and give a brief oral presentation and a written report to your counselor.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 236

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How does one become a citizen in other countries?

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 - b. Explain how a country's security, economy, and values relate to its national interest.

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What role does international law perform in the international system?

Describe how international law can be used as a tool for conflict resolution.

- b. Select TWO of the following global issues and explain how they have been affected by international agreements and treaties.

- 1. Environmentalism:

- 2. Terrorism:

- 3. International trade:

- 4. Communications:

- 5. Transportation:

- 6. Famine Control:

- 7. Disease control:

8. International sports:

c. Select TWO of the following organizations and describe their role in the international system.

1. The United Nations:

2. The World Court:

3. World Organization of the Scout Movement:

4. Amnesty International:

5. The International Red Cross:

6. Americas Watch:

7. CARE:

6. Do the following:

a. Explain to your counselor what is meant by:

1. International trade agreement:

2. Foreign exchange:

3. Balance of payments:

4. Tariffs:

5. Free trade:

b. Explain how world trade and global competition affect the economy of your state and your community.

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Country

Type of Government

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- b. Describe the roles of the following in the conduct of foreign relations:
 1. Ambassador:

 2. Consul:

 3. United States Information Agency:

 4. Agency for International Development:

 5. Foreign Commercial Service:
- c. Explain the purpose of a passport and visa for international travel.

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