**Directions: Write these notes out by hand. Remember, only handwritten notes can be used on the test.**

Domestic policy are policies that deal with issues that happen in the U.S. Domestic affairs are issues or concerns in one’s own country. Policies are the rules or laws that have to be followed. The main goal of domestic policy is to maintain and improve the quality of life for U.S. citizens.

Foreign policy is the overall plan for dealing with other nations. Foreign affairs are issues or concerns about other countries around the world.

Foreign policy focuses on . . . the nation’s international relations (dealings between nations around the world). Diplomacy, the work of keeping up relations between the governments of different countries. To accomplish this, the government relies on diplomats, people skilled in diplomacy, to maintain relationships with other countries. The 4 main goals of U.S. Foreign policy are national security, international trade, world peace, & democracy. The basic goal of this policy is to provide national security, or the ability to keep the country safe from attack or harm. International trade is a key goal of the president’s foreign policy. It helps create new markets for American goods & provides jobs for American workers. Promoting world peace helps keep the United States safe & our vital trade flowing. The desire to promote democracy around the world also helps protect the peace & security of the U.S.

The main bureaucracies that were created to assist the president with foreign policy are the U.S. State Department which is the federal department in the U.S. that sets & maintains foreign policies; part of the executive branch. The Secretary of State is the head of the State Department and is a member of the president’s cabinet. The other three that deal with foreign policy are the defense department, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and National Security Council (NSC). Treaties, or formal agreements between nations, are vital tools to keep foreign policy. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is perhaps our most important treaty (military pact). It is an alliance, a union between nations for assistance and protection, between the U.S. and our allies, nations united with another for a common purpose. While Congress must approve all treaties, the president can issue an executive agreement with other leaders in the world.

Ambassadors, people sent as the chief representative of their own government in another country, are very important in foreign policy. The U.S. currently has over 150 ambassadors stationed in embassies, residences or offices of ambassadors, around the world. Foreign aid to nations in need of money, food, supplies, or military assistance also helps our foreign policy. Our most famous example of foreign aid came after World War II in Western Europe with the Marshall Plan. International trade allows the president to make agreements with other nations concerning trade and trade rules. The U.S. can place trade sanctions (or efforts to punish another nation by imposing trade barriers) on nations if necessary. It can also set up an embargo, or agreement among a group of nations that prohibit them all from trading with a target nation. Finally, the president can use military force to carry out some foreign policy decisions. It can be used to protect nations or punish other nations. This option has been used numerous times over our history. Doctrine – the principles in a system of belief.

**Foreign Policy Scenario Activity: determine if the scenario below deals with a foreign policy issue related to the military, a treaty, or foreign aid. In your notes, write the scenario number and either an “M” if its military, a “T” if it’s a treaty, or “F” if it’s foreign aid.**

1. Upon President Wilson’s request on April 6th, 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.
2. In 2003, President George W. Bush decided to focus support on a worldwide initiative to help countries prevent and treat HIV/AIDS.
3. In 1949, after World War II, the U.S. and other democratic 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.
4. The U.S. gov’t provides advice & help for countries wanting to start new democracies by showing them how to run fair elections
5. In 1968, the major countries of the world agreed to the “Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty,” which is aimed at lifting the spread of nuclear weapons. As of 2010, over 180 countries have joined.
6. In 1990, Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein led Iraqi troops to invade & take over neighboring Kuwait. In January 1991, Congress authorized President George H.W. Bush to lead U.S. troops into Kuwait & force the Iraqi troops to leave.
7. In response to the January 2010 earthquake that devastated Haiti, the U.S. has given the country significant aid in the form of food, water, and medical care.
8. The U.S. has a program aimed at helping people in developing countries have access to safe drinking water.
9. On December 7, 1941, Japan attacked a U.S. navy base on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, a U.S. territory at the time. 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.
10. In June 1950, communist North Korea invaded South Korea. The U.S. was supporting South Korea at the time. 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.
11. In 1919, President Wilson wanted the U.S. to agree to the Treaty of Versailles, the overall peace treaty ending the war in Europe. To join the League of Nations. The U.S. Senate rejected these actions, so the U.S. did not ratify the treaty or join the League of Nations.
12. After World War II ended in 1945, the U.S. gave more than $13 billion to help rebuild countries & support their democratic governments.
13. In 1993, the U.S., 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.
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.
15. In 1945, the U.S. 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.

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Global interdependence means that people and nations rely on one another for goods and services. If Americans want bananas, or other tropical fruit, they must trade with other nations to get them.

People around the world exchange what they have or make for things they do not have. Developed nations usually buy raw and local products, such as bananas, from developing nations. Developing nations buy things like technology and medicine from developed countries.

There are many causes of deforestation. Land is cleared for agriculture or urban development. Large areas of forests are cut for fuel and for lumber markets. Fewer trees means that less of Earth’s carbon dioxide is absorbed and less oxygen is produced. This can increase global warming. Deforestation also dries the land and causes erosion, which can raise the risk of mudslides in elevated areas. Deforestation contributes to poor agriculture, climate change, and loss of animal and plant life. Rising sea levels can also result from global warming and climate change, causing widespread flooding of coastal areas. Deforestation requires countries to work together, because its effects reach beyond the borders of any single nation.

Terrorism – the use of violence or the threat of violence to make people afraid and to force people – or governments – to behave in a certain way.

Refugees – have been driven from their homes by famine, conflicts, or natural disasters.

Diplomats – officials who represent their country’s government, meet and try to work out ways to address common concerns

Cultures – the ideas, customs, art, behaviors, and beliefs of a people or group of people

Human right – basic freedoms that all people should have simply because they are human – adequate food, safety, and shelter.

Repression – means to prevent people from expressing themselves or from freely engaging in normal life.

Genocide – the attempt to kill all members of a particular ethnic group

Governmental Organizations: Created by nations, made up of member nations, & funded by governments

Examples: United Nations (UN), World Trade Organization (WTO), World Health Organization (WHO), European Union (EU), North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

Nongovernmental Organizations (NGOs): Created by individuals, made up of individuals, funded by private donations

Examples: International Red Cross, Doctors without Borders, Nature Conservancy

While UN delegates come together in the general assembly to debate and vote on issues, the real work of the UN, not unlike the U.S. Congress, is conducted by committees & councils working behind the scenes to handle specific areas and problems.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) began as a military alliance during the Cold War (1945-1991). NATO’s member nations agreed to defend one another in the event of conflict with the USSR and its Warsaw Pact allies (Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Romania). As the Cold War drew to an end, NATO’s role shifted to include diplomacy, trade, and combating international terrorism.

Representative democracy/republic: In this type of government, the peoples’ elected representatives, not the people themselves, vote on most legislation.

Dictatorship/Authoritarian/Military Regime: In this type of government, a single ruler or a small group of rulers holds absolute power and is not subject to election by or the approval of the people.

Constitutional Monarchy: In this type of government, rule is by heredity right, which means the power is handed down from generation to generation, usually within one family. Although leaders are not elected, there is often a constitution that limits the monarch’s authority

What makes a country free?

Open political debate, more than one political party, fair and free elections, freedom of the press, freedom of speech, freedom of association, freedom of religion, and respect for the rule of law