American Foreign Policy:

1. American Foreign Policy
   a. Domestic Policy - any government policy that concerns affairs “at home”
      i. Such as tax rates or regulating safety in factories
   b. Foreign Policy - government policy that concerns foreign countries and events taking place outside the United States
      i. Making an alliance with a foreign country, fighting a war over seas, trade agreement
   c. Object of foreign policy is to protect the United States

2. Who Makes Foreign Policy
   a. President
      i. Appoints and receives ambassadors
      ii. Negotiates treaties
   b. Congress
      i. Senate confirms the President’s appointments
      ii. Senate ratifies treaties by a 2/3 vote
      iii. Congress can declare war
   c. Secretary of State (Cabinet member)
      i. Sec. of State entrusted with the day-to-day running of our nation’s foreign policy
      ii. Diplomats - officials who act as representatives between nations
      iii. Diplomacy - the skill of handling relations between countries

3. The Objective of U.S. Foreign Policy
   a. Protect the security of the United States
   b. Encourage trade
   c. Spread democracy
   d. Promote international Peace and stability
   e. Help to prevent armed conflict and genocide around the world
   f. Help improve health education, and living conditions around the world

4. The Instruments of U.S. Foreign Policy
   a. Military Force - both as a intervention and deterrent
   b. Economic Sanctions - boycott or ban trade with any country
   c. Economic Aid - provide money to develop economies
   d. Alliances - NATO
   e. Membership in International Organizations:
      i. United Nations
      ii. NAFTA
      iii. World Trade Organization (WTO)
      iv. World Health Organization (WHO)
      v. Red Cross or Red Crescent
5. A Capsule History of American Foreign Policy
   a. World War I
      i. Germany announced unrestricted submarine warfare (sunk American ships)
      ii. President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress for declaration of war
          1. Sent troops to Europe to help
      iii. 14 points- helped redefine and reorganize central and eastern Europe
          1. Created the League of Nations- Senate never confirmed/ U.S. didn’t join
   b. World War II
      i. U.S. tried to stay out of war (Neutrality Acts)
          1. Pearl Harbor spurred U.S. into war
      ii. April 1945 Germany surrenders (Hitler commits suicide)
          1. U.S. drops two atomic bombs on Japan (surrenders)
      iii. United Nations is created to replace the unsuccessful League of Nations
   c. Cold War
      i. “Iron Curtain”- communist satellites
      ii. Truman Doctrine- President Truman sent economic and military aid to Turkey and Greece
      iii. Containment of Communism- avoid it spreading any further
      iv. Soviet Union dissolved in 1991 ending the Cold War
   d. Korean War
      i. Policy of containment
          1. To stop the spread of Communism from North Korea, U.S. sent troops to aid South Korea
   e. Cuba
      i. Fidel Castro came into power and created a communist state
          1. Nationalized U.S. businesses -> U.S. boycotted
      ii. Bay of Pigs
          1. Cuban exiles landed in Cuba, no air support
             a. Exiles easily defeated by Castro and his forces
          2. Castro strengthens ties with Communist Soviet Union
      iii. Cuban Missile Crisis
          1. Closest the world has come to a nuclear launch
          2. Cuba was building bases to store Soviet Union nuclear missiles
          3. U.S. sent a naval blockade
   f. Vietnam War
      i. In relation to the spread of Communism
      ii. “Domino Theory”- one country falls, then another, and another
      iii. Unpopular war in public opinion
      iv. War Powers Act- limited President’s power to commit troops w/o Congress
   g. The Iran Hostage Crisis
      i. U.S. agreed to allow overthrown Iranian leader to seek medical attention with U.S. boarders
      ii. New Iranian government allowed angry protests
          1. Stormed U.S. embassy and held hostages for over a year
   h. Gulf Wars
      i. Gulf War I
          1. Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, a U.S. led coalition defeated Iraqi forces
2. Did not topple Saddam Hussein
   ii. Gulf War II
      1. In response to intelligence that Saddam was hiding weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), U.S. sent in troops
         a. Overthrew Saddam quickly
         b. Continued when Obama sent in a SEAL team to capture and kill Osama bin Laden- terrorist leader responsible for 9/11
   i. Terrorism
      i. After 9/11 the U.S. committed to a global war on Terrorism
         1. Sought to destroy radical Islamic terrorists groups like al-Qaeda and the Taliban

6. U.S. Participation in International Organizations
   a. Intergovernmental Organizations (Organizations between governments)
      i. The United Nations (UN)
         1. peace keeping organization
            a. The World Court (located in the Netherlands) settles legal disputes
            b. UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Fund)- provide food and healthcare
      ii. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
         1. Formed to defend Western Europe from possible Soviet attack
         2. Reassured Western Europe that U.S. come to the defense
      iii. North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
         1. Trade zone consisting of the U.S., Canada, and Mexico
         2. Promoted lower tariffs on other members’ goods
      iv. World Trade Organization (WTO)
         1. 153 member countries
         2. Set rules for world trade and settle disputes
         3. Reduce tariffs and eliminate other trade obstacles
   b. Nongovernmental Organizations (Private entities not affiliated with a government)
      i. International Red Cross/ Red Crescent
         1. Most known for humanitarian aid
      ii. Peace Corps
         1. Original goal was to help Americans and people of other nations understand one another
         2. Today deal with public health issues, technology, and business

**Trade and Economic Systems:**

1. Trade between nations
   a. Nations do not always have the resources to produce what their people need or want
   b. Solve the problem of scarcity nations trade with one another
   c. Import (bring into the country) goods another country produces
   d. Export (sell/ship out of the country) goods that we produce
   e. Comparative Advantage- the ability to produce a product at a lower opportunity cost
2. Trade Barriers
   a. Tariff- tax on imports
      i. Goal is to make imported goods more expensive than domestic goods
   b. Quota- limit on goods imported into the country
   c. Subsidies- payment or benefit given by the government to help domestic producer

3. Balance of Trade
   a. Trade Surplus
      i. Export/Imports= trade surplus
      ii. Country exports more than it imports
   b. Trade Deficit
      i. Imports/Exports= trade deficit
      ii. Country imports more than it exports
      iii. U.S. is continually in a trade deficit

4. Market Economies
   a. Private individuals/organizations work in their own self-interest
   b. Answer 3 basic questions:
      i. What to produce
      ii. How to produce
      iii. Whom to produce
   c. Supply and demand drive price
      i. Supply goes up, demand will go down (less demand for product)
      ii. Supply goes down, demand will go up (high demand for product)
   d. Periods of growth and decline

5. Command Economies
   a. Government owns factors of production
   b. Government answers 3 basic questions (same as above)
   c. In times of emergency government can direct resources to where needed most
   d. Poor quality of products and often shortages of products
   e. Slow growth in the economy

6. Mixed Economies
   a. Most countries are a mix between market and command economies
      i. United States is a mixed economy (more market oriented)
         1. Free enterprise underlying principle of our economy
   b. Government’s Role
      i. Works to make sure markets are competitive
      ii. Regulates some businesses
      iii. Establishes a minimum wage
      iv. Provides services (such as roads, bridges, and schools)