Chapter Fifteen: Foreign policy
1. Define foreign policy, and discuss moral idealism versus political realism in foreign policy.

2. Describe recent foreign policy challenges that involve the use of force, including terrorism and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.
3. Discuss the use of diplomacy in addressing such issues as nuclear proliferation, the rise of China, the economic crisis in Europe, and the confrontation between Israel and the Palestinians.

4. Explain the role of the president, executive agencies, and Congress in making U.S. foreign policy.

5. Cite the main themes in the history of U.S. foreign policy.
Facing the World: Foreign and Defense Policy

- Foreign policy: goals the government wants to achieve; techniques and strategies used to achieve them
  - Diplomacy
  - Economic aid
  - Technical assistance
  - Military intervention
National security policy works to protect nation’s independence and political integrity
- Defense policy directs armed forces

Diplomacy includes all of nation’s external relationships
- Settling disputes peacefully
- Negotiation techniques
Facing the World: Foreign and Defense Policy

Moral Idealism
- Views world as benign
- Assumes nations consider morality and cooperation
- League of Nations

Political Realism
- Views world as dangerous place
- Assumes nations striving for own survival and interests
- Need strong defense
Facing the World: Foreign and Defense Policy

- Morality versus reality in foreign policy
  - American foreign policy is mixture
  - Arab Spring 2011
    - Egypt and Tunisia
    - Libya and Syria
Terrorism and Warfare

- Emergence of terrorism
  - Foreign policy must deal with world conditions
  - September 11
  - Later Islamicist bombings
Terrorism and Warfare

- Post 9/11, U.S. implements stronger security measures
  - Bush Doctrine: preemptive war
  - Opposition to Bush Doctrine

- Wars in Iraq
  - First Gulf War
  - Second Gulf War—The Iraq War
  - Iraqi endgame
Terrorism and Warfare

- War in Afghanistan
  - Military effort targets al Qaeda and Taliban regime
  - Return of the Taliban
  - Obama and Afghanistan
  - Death of bin Laden
U.S. Diplomatic Efforts

- Diplomacy (not armed force) utilized for many international problems
  - Nuclear proliferation
  - Growing power in China
  - Israeli-Palestinian conflict
  - Economic crisis in Europe
  - Humanitarian assistance
U.S. Diplomatic Efforts

- Nuclear weapons: U.S. is first in 1945, other nations rapidly acquire
  - Nuclear stockpiles
  - Nuclear proliferation
    - Iran
    - North Korea
U.S. Diplomatic Efforts

- The new power: China
  - Gradual diplomatic and economic engagement since Nixon’s 1972 visit
  - Normal trade relations status (1998)
  - China’s explosive economic growth
  - Taiwan: peaceful reunification?
  - Chinese nationalism
U.S. Diplomatic Efforts

- Israel and the Palestinians
  - U.S. pressures both countries
  - Collapse of Israeli-Palestinian peace process
  - Israel and Obama administration
  - Blockade of Gaza
U.S. Diplomatic Efforts

- Economic crisis in Europe
  - The debt crisis
  - The German question
- Humanitarian efforts
  - AIDS assistance
  - Darfur
  - Natural disaster relief
Who Makes Foreign Policy?

- Constitutional powers of the president
  - Sworn to “preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States”
  - War powers (commander in chief)
  - Treaties and executive agreements
- Other constitutional powers
  - Appoint ambassadors
  - Recognize foreign governments
Who Makes Foreign Policy?

- Other sources of foreign policymaking
  - Department of State
  - National Security Council
  - Intelligence community
  - Department of Defense
Who Makes Foreign Policy?

- **Department of State**
  - Primary authority over foreign affairs
  - Supervises relations with countries and multinational groups
  - Staffs embassies and consulates
  - Negative constituents
Who Makes Foreign Policy?

- **National Security Council**
  - Advises president on matters relating to national security
  - Provides policy continuity between administrations
Who Makes Foreign Policy?

- Intelligence community
  - Over forty agencies (including CIA)
  - Covert actions and information gathering
  - Intelligence community and war on terrorism

- Department of Defense
  - Headed by civilian secretary
  - Creates unified military strategy
  - Largest federal department
Who Makes Foreign Policy?

- Congress balances the presidency
  - Interest in balance of power developed during Vietnam War
  - War Powers Resolution (1973)
  - Power of the purse
The Major Foreign Policy Themes

- The Formative Years: Avoiding Entanglements
  - U.S. generally stayed out of European conflicts and politics
  - Active expansionism
  - Monroe Doctrine
  - Spanish-American War and WW I
The Major Foreign Policy Themes

- Era of Internationalism
  - U.S. enters World War II
    - Isolationism ends
    - U.S. emerges as world superpower
  - The Cold War
  - Containment and Truman Doctrine
The Major Foreign Policy Themes

- Superpower relations
  - No direct military conflict between U.S. and Soviet Union
  - Other conflicts (Korean and Vietnam Wars, Cuban missile crisis)
- Détente
- Nuclear arms agreements with Soviets
  - Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT I)
The Major Foreign Policy Themes

- Superpower relations (continued)
  - Dissolution of the Soviet Union
  - Russia after the Soviet Union
    - Yeltsin
    - Putin
    - START
Europe after the Fall of the Soviet Union
The United States and its allies continue to use sanctions against countries as a punishment tactic. In your opinion, do sanctions do more harm than good? Who suffers more, citizens or government officials?
In your opinion, can some of the international hostility that exist towards the United States be blamed on the nation’s moral idealism when it comes to foreign policy?
Though the United States has reduced the amount of nuclear weapons in its reserve, why won’t the United States and countries with nuclear weapons get rid of them?
In your opinion, what did we accomplish in Iraq? Why were we there in the first place?

What should we accomplish in Afghanistan? How do you propose we implement your plan?
Questions for Critical Thinking

★ Will there ever be peace between the Israelis and Palestinians? What must happen in order for the two countries to set aside religious and cultural differences and start building unity?
★ What role, if any, should the U.S. play?
What is most important to the president when it comes to making foreign policy? Why?