

BASE: International Relations Game Reading Activities

PART 1: National Interest

1. Explain what national interest means, IN YOUR OWN WORDS.
2. Define, IN YOUR OWN WORDS, the three areas of national interest.
3. Rank the areas of national interest in order of importance and explain why you ranked them that way. Should have at least 3 sentences explaining each area.

PART 2: Tools of the Trade

For each scenario, explain at least two tools you would use in this situation and explain why you would use those tools.

1. You are Egypt and rely heavily on the Nile River for water. South Sudan wants to dam the river to increase the amount of water and electricity they have access to. The dam will affect Egypt's and Sudan's access to water and electricity.
2. You are Ukraine. Russia has come in and taken part of your territory to gain access to warm water ports on the Black Sea.
3. You are the United States. China has started jailing reporters who write negative stories about the Chinese government.
4. You are Canada. A valuable mineral deposit has been found. You are excited to develop the resource, but the deposit crosses the border into the United States as well.
5. You are Australia. Climate change is impacting you strongly, from loss of the Great Barrier Reef to extreme wildfires. You want to develop a global plan to address climate change.
6. You are the United States. There was a major earthquake in a heavily populated area of Mexico.
7. You are the United States. Hong Kong wants to become an independent country with a democratic government. China is not happy.
8. You are the United States. Your NATO ally, Estonia, is concerned about Russian military activity near their border.

9. You are the United States. North Korea has been testing missiles that would be able to deliver a nuclear weapon to the United States.

10. You are the Italy. Due to conflicts in Syria and other areas of the Middle East and North Africa, there has been a significant increase in the number of refugees arriving in your country.

PART 3: Actors in International Relations

Identify the type of actor each of the following examples would be. Be as specific as possible – you won't use the terms of "International" or "Supranational". Appropriate terms are IN ALL CAPS in the reading.

University of Colorado –

Ohio State Government –

OPEC (Oil & Petroleum Exporting Countries) –

OPEC meets to decide how much oil and petroleum will be exported from member countries.

World Bank –

World Bank has 188 country members; they offer loans and resources to developing countries.

National Geographic –

NatGeo is one of the largest non-profit scientific and educational institutions across the world

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) –

UNICEF is part of the UN that focuses on issues related to children

McDonald's Corporation –

Greenpeace –

An international non-profit group that uses peaceful protest to bring attention to environmental issues

Vietnam Veterans of America –

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) –

NATO is made up of the US and European nations to provide security and defense to its members

Bill Gates –

Founder of Microsoft and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Jimmy Carter –

Former US president who works with international groups on housing and voting rights

European Union –

The EU is an economic and political union of 27 European countries

International Red Cross –

Red Cross is an international relief organization that helps out in crisis

Habitat for Humanity –

International group that builds homes for those without

Nestle –

International makers of Quik, Kit Kat, Gerber, Toll House, Coffeemate, Friskies, Purina and other

The Arab League –

22 member countries from the Middle East and North Africa

League of Women Voters International –

Private international group that works to ensure the right of women to vote around the world

Amnesty International –

Group of activists and members who work to protect worldwide human rights

World Wildlife Fund –

International group that works on issues of wildlife conservations and endangered species