

USA – Foreign Policy

Background

This is an important section in your study of the Twentieth Century.

The evolution of American foreign policy, gives you a chance to witness the relationship between normative traditions and the real world.

This section is a window into the raw working of power.

Today you will learn about how a great power calculated its national interests, and then designed its foreign policy.

During this period, America shifted from a policy of isolationism towards a policy of active international leadership.

This shift marks an important turning point in the history of the Twentieth Century!

Assignment

1) Summarize the main points from Paul Kennedy's quote on the American position in the 1920's.

2) a) What is a tariff?

b) In what way did Americans "circle their wagons" in the 1930's? Why?

3) The Americans resolved to stay out of European affairs. What was the fear of European affairs?

4) Do you think that America was justified in its policy of isolationism? Explain!

5) a) Which conferences and agreements was America involved with during the inter-war years?

b) Why did America only participate in these conferences and agreements?

6) a) Define . . . "red scare."

b) Why did Americans worry about the spread of communism?

c) What led the American government to formally recognize the USSR?

7) Give examples of how American commitments changed during the 1930's . . .

a) Asia: _____

b) Neutrality Acts:

What? _____

When? _____

Why? _____

Why were they not invoked during the Japanese invasion of China? Explain!

c) Latin America: _____

8) Describe the steps out of neutrality . . .

<p><i>Destroyers for Bases</i></p>	
---	--

