

Foreign Affairs in the Young Nation

To what extent should the United States have become involved in world affairs in the early 1800s?

PREVIEW

Examine the map your teacher has projected, or look at the map in Section 1. Then answer these questions *on another sheet of paper*.

1. What does this map show?
2. What countries might have posed a potential threat to the United States in 1796?
3. What geographic advantages did the United States have in a potential attack? What geographic disadvantages did it have?
4. Suppose that it is 1796. Do you think the United States should become involved in world affairs? Why or why not?

READING NOTES

Social Studies Vocabulary

As you complete the Reading Notes, use these terms in your answers.

neutrality

embargo

Monroe Doctrine

isolationism

blockade

Section 1

1. Complete the diagram to show foreign threats to the United States in 1789.



2. Suppose George Washington has just given his Farewell Address. Complete the statement to explain the foreign policy he thinks the United States should pursue.

I have declared a policy of neutrality and isolationism. This means...



Section 4

1. Why did Great Britain impress U.S. sailors in the early 1800s?

2. Create a simple drawing to represent the problem of piracy by the Barbary States of North Africa. Then explain President Jefferson's dilemma.

Section 5

1. Describe how President Jefferson responded to piracy in the Mediterranean and to the continued seizures of ships by the British and French. Then explain whether you think he pursued the best foreign policy options.

2. Mark an *X* along the spectrum to indicate where President Jefferson's response to piracy in the Mediterranean falls. Mark an *O* to indicate whether his response to seizures of U.S. ships by Great Britain and France reflected more isolationism or more involvement. Then write a sentence explaining your placements.



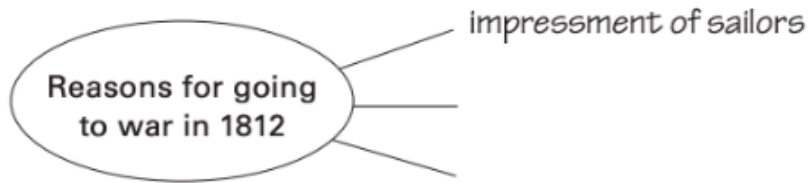
Isolationism



Total Involvement

Section 6

Complete the diagram to show the reasons why many Americans wanted to go to war with Great Britain in early 1812.



Section 7

1. Complete the timeline of the War of 1812. For each month marked, briefly describe the event that happened and create a symbol to represent it.



2. Mark an X along the spectrum to indicate where President Madison's decision to declare war on Great Britain falls. Then write a sentence justifying your placement.



Section 8

Why might the United States have been interested in supporting new Latin American nations in the early 1800s?

Section 9

1. In your own words, explain what the Monroe Doctrine said. Then explain whether you think President Monroe pursued the best foreign policy option.

2. Mark an X along the spectrum to indicate where the Monroe Doctrine falls. Then write a sentence explaining your placement.



PROCESSING

John Adams was so proud of avoiding war with France that he wanted that fact engraved on his tombstone. *On a separate sheet of paper*, create a tombstone like the one below for each of these presidents:

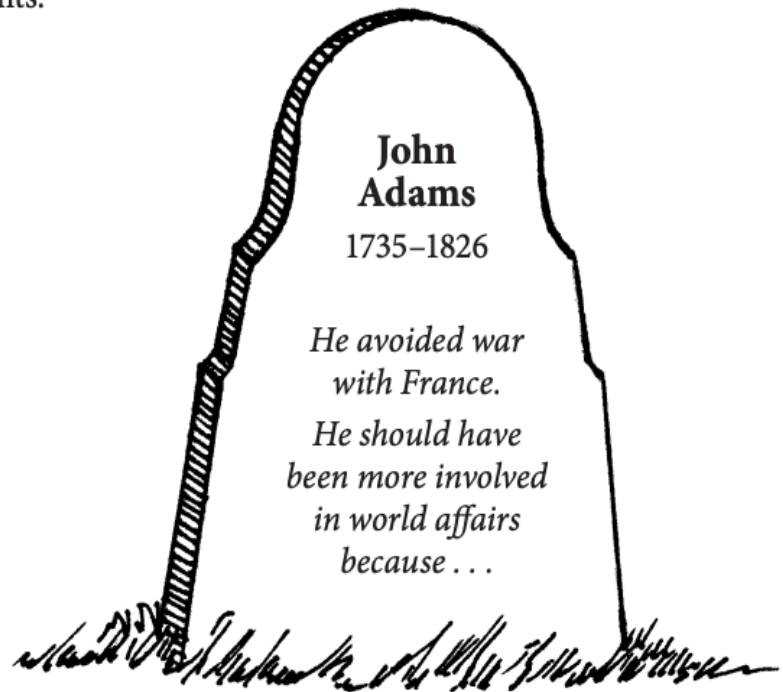
George Washington (1732–1799)

John Adams (1735–1826)

Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826)

James Madison (1751–1836)

James Monroe (1758–1831)



Each tombstone should include:

- the years the president lived
- one example of how the president became involved in foreign affairs.
- one sentence explaining to what extent you think the president should have been involved in world affairs
- a symbol representing the president's foreign policy decisions