

Name:
Date:
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Foreign Affairs in the Young Nation

Post Revolutionary War, the new nation was surrounded by unfriendly powers. To the north, Britain still controlled Canada. The British also refused to abandon their forts in the Ohio River Valley, even though this region now belonged to the United States. To the south and west, Spain controlled Florida and Louisiana.

During Washington's presidency, he held a policy of **neutrality** (a policy of not choosing sides in a war or dispute between other countries). This policy resulted in the avoidance of alliances with other countries, known as **isolationism**. For the next century isolationism would be the foundation of American foreign policy.

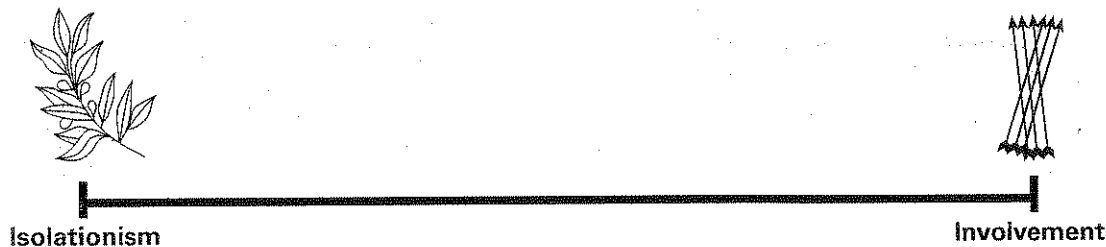
Read each dilemma with your table group and follow the steps provided.

Dilemma 1: What Should President Adams Do to Protect American Ships?

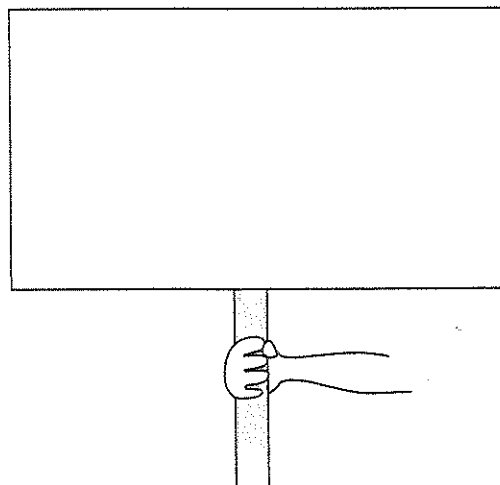
Step 1: Pretend you are citizens living during the presidency of John Adams. Discuss this critical thinking question with your group: *What should President Adams do to protect American ships?*

- A. Request that Congress declare war on France immediately.
- B. Make a military alliance with Britain and try to beat the French.
- C. Continue to build stronger defenses for American shipping, and negotiate with the French.
- D. Stop American shipping to avoid conflict.

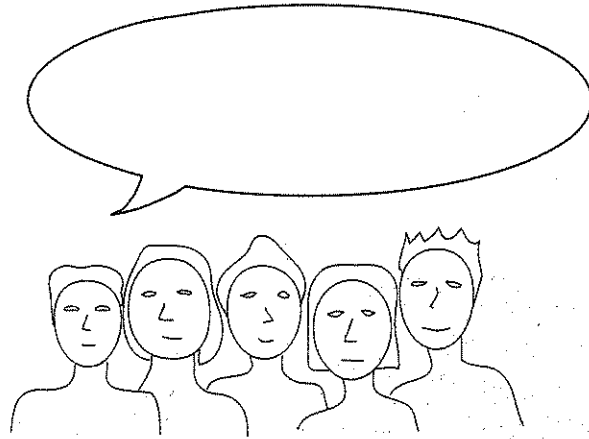
Step 2: Draw an X on the spectrum below to show where your group's choice belongs.



Step 3: Prepare for a rally at the White House. First, on the sign to the right, write a motto that promotes your group's choice. (Example: "Less Involvement!")



Then write a slogan for your group to chant during the rally. (Example: "No more war!")



Step 4: Write your motto in large, bold letters on a large piece of paper to make a poster. Then quietly practice chanting your slogan.

Step 5: Read Section 12.4 and summarize what actually happened.

Dilemma 2: How Should President Jefferson Deal with Pirates?

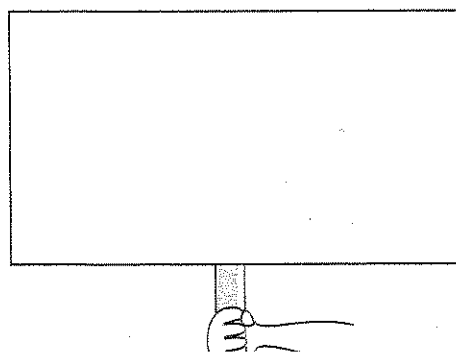
Step 1: Pretend you are citizens living during the presidency of Thomas Jefferson. Discuss this critical thinking question with your group: *How should President Jefferson deal with pirates?*

- A. Pay the increased tribute as requested and avoid bloodshed.
- B. Send a peace envoy to negotiate.
- C. Send troops to force the pirates to allow American ships to trade freely in the Mediterranean.
- D. Order American shipping out of the Mediterranean to avoid unnecessary conflict.

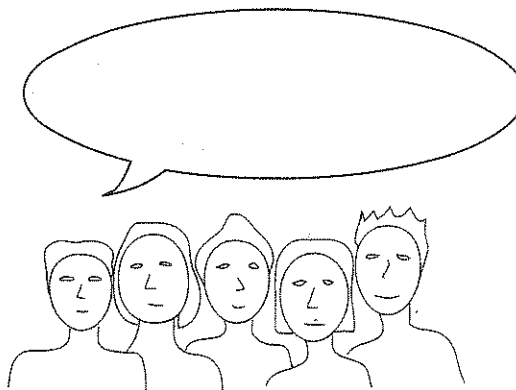
Step 2: Draw an X on the spectrum below to show where your group's choice belongs.



Step 3: Prepare for a rally at the White House. First, on the sign to the right, write a motto that promotes your group's choice. (Example: "Less Involvement!")



Then write a slogan for your group to chant during the rally. (Example: "No more war!")



Step 4: Write your motto in large, bold letters on a large piece of paper to make a poster. Then quietly practice chanting your slogan.

Step 5: Read Section 12.6 and summarize what actually happened.

Dilemma 3: What Should President Madison Do to Protect Sailors and Settlers?

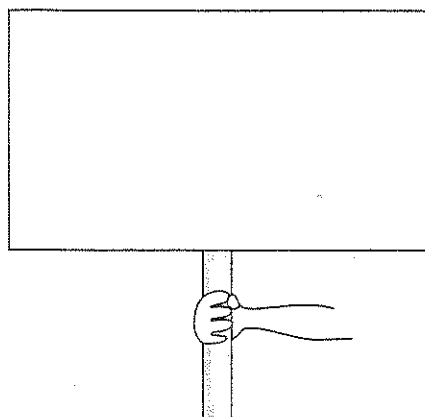
Step 1: Pretend you are citizens living during the presidency of James Madison. Discuss this critical thinking question with your group: *What should President Madison do to protect sailors and settlers?*

- A. Declare war on Great Britain and attack the British on land and sea.
- B. Declare war on Great Britain, but only wage a war at sea.
- C. Delay declaring war on Great Britain until the country is prepared to win.
- D. Do not declare war on Great Britain. The risks are not worth it.

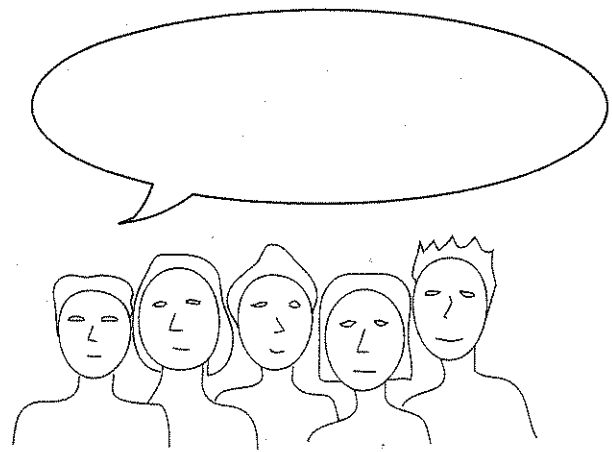
Step 2: Draw an X on the spectrum below to show where your group's choice belongs.



Step 3: Prepare for a rally at the White House. First, on the sign to the right, write a motto that promotes your group's choice. (Example: "Less Involvement!")



Then write a slogan for your group to chant during the rally. (Example: "No more war!")



Step 4: Write your motto in large, bold letters on a large piece of paper to make a poster. Then quietly practice chanting your slogan.

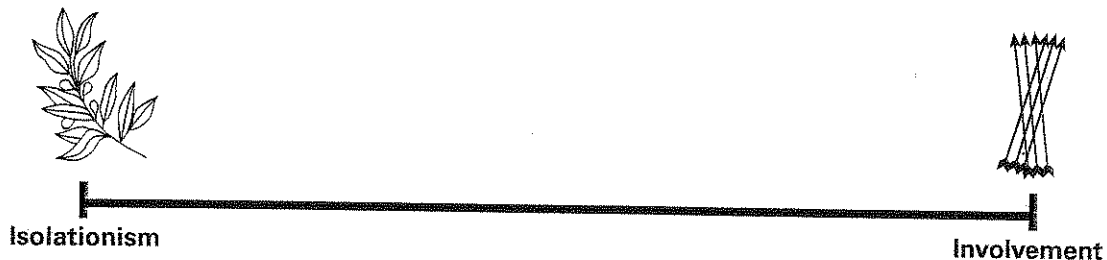
Step 5: Read Section 12.8 and summarize what actually happened.

Dilemma 4: What Should President Monroe Do to Support the New Latin American Nations?

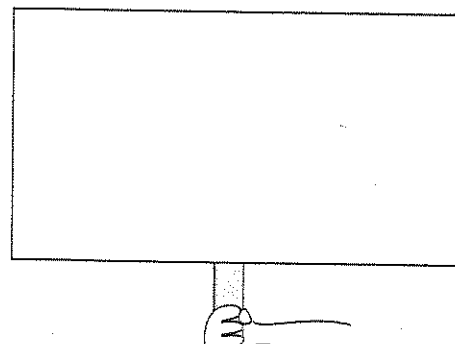
Step 1: Pretend you are citizens living during the presidency of James Monroe. Discuss this critical thinking question with your group: *What should President Monroe do to support the new Latin American nations?*

- A. Join in an alliance with Great Britain to support Latin American independence.
- B. Do not join an alliance with Great Britain, and warn Europe to stay out of Latin America.
- C. Allow the Latin American countries to defend themselves.
- D. Work to create an alliance with all of the Latin American countries to defend their independence against European interference.

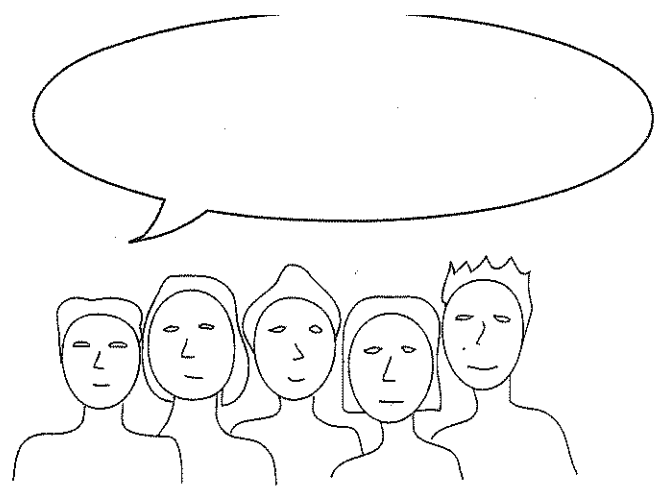
Step 2: Draw an X on the spectrum below to show where your group's choice belongs.



Step 3: Prepare for a rally at the White House. First, on the sign to the right, write a motto that promotes your group's choice. (Example: "Less Involvement!")



Then write a slogan for your group to chant during the rally. (Example: "No more war!")



Step 4: Write your motto in large, bold letters on a large piece of paper to make a poster. Then quietly practice chanting your slogan.

Step 5: Read Section 12.10 and summarize what actually happened.