

America as a Hyperpower

Part One



Part One

Part Two

Part Three

Thematic Icons



Economics



Geography



Historical concepts



Government

Icons



Flash activity (these activities are not editable)



Teacher notes included in the Notes page

For more instructions, see the *User Guide*.





Following World War II, the U.S. emerged as a **superpower** for several reasons:

- Much of Europe's infrastructure had been destroyed. European nations turned to American industry for necessary goods.
- During the Cold War, the U.S. put money toward technological development and defense to keep up with the Soviet Union.
- The U.S. provided aid to countries to keep them ideologically aligned with Western democracy, rather than communist Russia.



How might these factors affect the U.S.'s global status?





In 1947, President Truman asked Congress to supply aid to countries resisting repressive regimes. This policy became known as the **Truman Doctrine**.

“I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures.”



In the 1970s, President Nixon supplied aid to countries whose freedom was deemed necessary to American security.

In which countries has the U.S. intervened since World War II?



Conflict in the Middle East



In 1990, Iraqi ruler **Saddam Hussein** invaded oil-rich Kuwait. His troops then pushed into Saudi Arabia.

By conquering Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, Iraq would control half the world's oil. To prevent this, President George H. W. Bush called for military intervention in the region. The conflict became known as the **Persian Gulf War**.



On January 16, 1991, U.S. led **coalition** troops launched **Operation Desert Storm** with an air attack on Baghdad, Iraq's capital. In February, coalition troops pushed into Kuwait from Saudi Arabia.





The Gulf War ended on February 28, 1991 with the liberation of Kuwait. Afraid that destabilizing Iraq would strengthen Iran, the U.S. chose not to pursue Hussein.

Many Americans celebrated the successful operation. However, while only 400 UN soldiers had been killed in the Gulf, more died after the war from the effects of chemicals used in combat.



Roughly 100,000 Iraqis were killed in the Gulf War. UN trade embargos against Iraq caused additional civilian casualties as many Iraqis lost access to Western food and medication.





Bush's approval ratings soared after the Gulf War. However, an economic recession beginning in 1990 forced him to break his campaign promise not to raise taxes.

As the recession went on, Americans began to look for new leadership. In the 1992 election, 43% of voters chose Democrat and Arkansas Governor **William "Bill" Clinton**.



Clinton promised a moderate approach to reform. He defeated Bush as well as **H. Ross Perot**, a Texan billionaire who ran as an Independent and won an impressive 19% of the vote.





Clinton's foreign policy

Clinton believed that international trade would stimulate the economy and maintain peace. He worked to ensure positive relationships with Russia and China.

Clinton did support foreign intervention in certain situations. When Serbian nationalists began a genocide in Bosnia, Clinton sent forces to help **NATO** resolve the situation in 1995.



In 1998, Serbs began killing Albanians in Kosovo. The U.S. and NATO intervened again.



Terrorism in the United States





War on terrorism



How should the U.S. resolve the situation?





Military budget



Are you surprised by this data? Why or why not?



