

SSWH22: ANALYZE GLOBALIZATION IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD



Element A: Describe the cultural and intellectual integration of countries into the world economy through the development of television, satellites, and computers.

WORLD ECONOMY: TELEVISION, SATELLITES, AND COMPUTERS

- ❑ The development of television, satellite, and computer technology since the 1980s has made it possible to disseminate information around the world easily and immediately.



- Satellites are used for communications, weather, navigation, and military purposes.
- Television spreads information and art to large numbers of people simultaneously. American and British programs are broadcast internationally, increasing the use of English as a principle world language.
 - Yet, there remains diversity, as telenovelas, for example, also find audiences outside of Latin America.
 - CNN's broadcast of the Persian Gulf War was watched around the world and inspired international versions of the news network.
- Computers changed problem solving and processing capabilities.
 - They also provided artists of all types with new tools for film, photography, music, and writing.
 - Miniaturization made computers and many other electronic technologies available to huge numbers of people. The Internet has allowed people to exchange information almost instantly, a phenomenon that has been dubbed the information revolution.
 - It has been embraced as a vehicle for business, dubbed "ecommerce," and many companies, both global and local, use the internet for marketing, sales, and research.

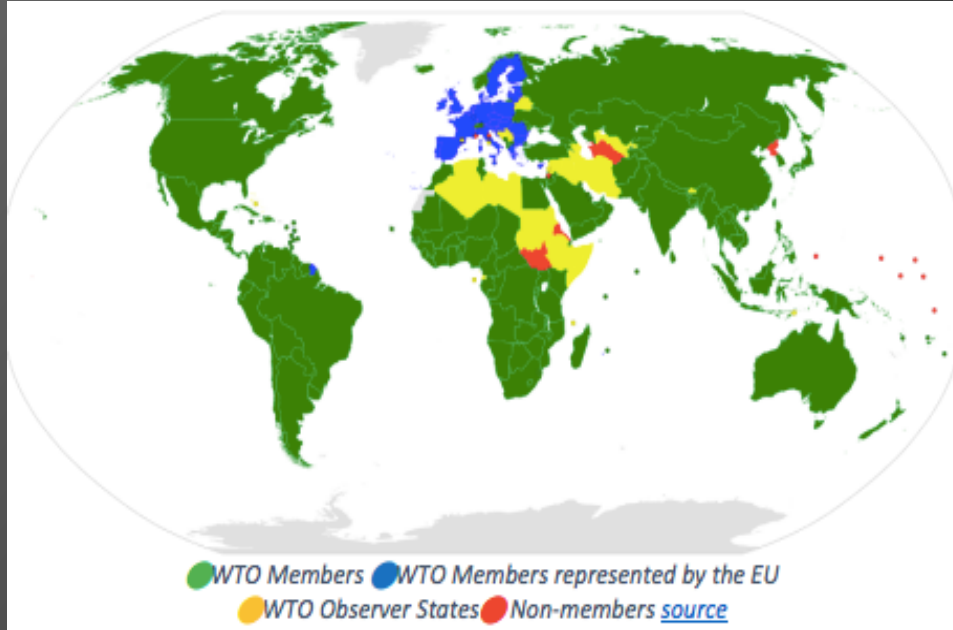


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Element B: Analyze global economic and political connections; include multinational corporations, the United Nations, OPEC, and the World Trade Organization.

MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS

- ❑ Multinational corporations have been agents of technological change and global transfers of wealth.
 - Companies in industrialized nations had the economic power to invest directly in mines and plantations in poorer countries.
 - This was made even easier by international trade agreements and open markets. Trade agreements also made it possible for companies to relocate to escape restrictions and regulations imposed by any one nation, especially those in the industrialized world.
 - Developing nations, desperate for foreign investment offered fewer regulations, usually resulting in lower wages and fewer environmental protections in these countries.





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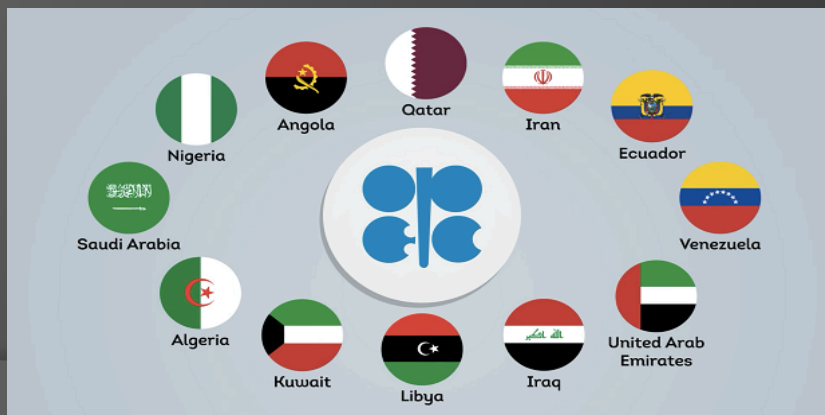
- Countries around the world joined together in 1945 to create the United Nations.
 - It was designed to maintain peace and security for member nations, and promote international cooperation culturally, politically, and economically.
 - It is made up of a General Assembly in which each member nation has one vote and a Security Council with ten rotating member states and five permanent state members. These permanent members have veto power.
 - The UN administers several organizations that promote peaceful cooperation globally, for example, the World Health Organization to fight disease and the Food and Agricultural Organization to guard against food scarcity.
 - UNICEF works to protect children around the world, and UNESCO coordinates international cooperation as it relates to education, science, and culture.



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

ORGANIZATION OF PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES (OPEC)

- ❑ In 1951, Iran nationalized its oil industry in an effort to receive greater economic benefit from its oil reserves. A boycott of Iranian oil demonstrated, however, that individual countries had little power on the world oil market.
- ❑ In 1960, oil countries in the Middle East and Latin America formed OPEC, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to promote their collective interests in the global oil market.
 - OPEC has proven to have considerable political as well as economic power. This was most clearly demonstrated in 1973 when, in response to support for Israel in the Yom Kippur War, OPEC cut off shipments of oil to the United States and the Netherlands.
 - This created high prices and an oil shortage in the U.S. Price hikes that followed in 1974 hurt many other countries, including Japan and its manufacturing industries that relied heavily on oil.



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO)

- In 1995, over 100 nations joined together to create the World Trade Organization to facilitate free and reliable trade around the world.
 - It was designed to reduce trade barriers and enforce trade agreements between nations.
 - Free trade, however, was not universally beneficial.
 - It put pressure on manufacturers and workers in developed countries who lost job security and put pressure for domestic social and political reforms on developing countries as conditions for financial support and investment.
 - Division over the WTO's mission was also evident at a 2003 meeting. Nations were unable to come together when developing countries pushed richer countries to lower their agricultural subsidies that left poorer countries at a disadvantage in the world market.



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Element C: Explain how governments cooperate through treaties and organizations to minimize the negative effects of human actions on the environment.

NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF HUMAN ACTIONS ON ENVIRONMENT

- ❑ Industrialization around the world plundered natural resources and polluted the environment and nations struggled to come together on solutions.



- Strip mines ruined land, pesticides destroyed soil, water, and insects, oil spills killed marine life, air pollution led to acid rain, and the emission of greenhouse gases contributed to global climate change.
- In 1984, a leak at a pesticide plant in India killed over 3,500 people.
- The meltdown of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in Russia exposed thousands to lethal levels of radiation.



- ❑ As developing nations worked to gain economic footing through industrialization, solutions to overpopulation and environmental damage are challenging.
- ❑ These nations opposed environmental treaties that would regulate pollution in a way that inhibits their industrial growth. They point to the deforestation and pollution caused by industrialized countries in decades and centuries past.
- ❑ The Kyoto Protocol adopted by over 100 nations at a meeting in 1997, as part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, bound participating nations to meet certain emission reduction targets.

- It put a greater burden on developed countries as they were the ones primarily responsible for the high levels of greenhouse gases, but required action by all countries. Though signed by U.S. President Clinton, the Senate never ratified the agreement, and thus the U.S. remained outside the Kyoto Protocol.

THE INTENSIVE "WHO CARES?" UNIT
PROUDLY PRESENTS:

Save the Kyoto Protocol!

