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| Describe three different types of activities carried out by the United Nations.  1.  2.  3.  Explain how the United Nations was created and why.  List three reasons why groups use terrorist tactics  1.  2.  3.  Describe how isolation from the international economic community affects the people of North Korea. | **SECTION2 U8: CONFLICTS AND PEACE EFFORTS**  ***Section overview***  In the last several decades, some nations and organizations have continued to use violence and terrorism to achieve political goals. In its peacekeeping role, the United Nations (UN) has intervened in many conflicts, with varying degrees of success. The UN also promotes human rights and helps with disaster relief throughout the world. In many areas of the world, ethnic and religious differences have sparked conflict. Even with the end of the Cold War superpower struggles, various areas of the world have become hot spots.   1. **The United Nations (UN)**   **A) Structure of the United Nations**     1. The United Nations, or UN was established in 1945. Its goals are to promote global peace and security as well as economic and social well-being. The UN has the power, through the votes of its more than 170 member nations to take action against forces that threaten world peace. 2. The UN has five main bodies. The UN also has a number of specialized agencies. Some, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), fight hunger through agricultural improvement. Others, such as the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO), are concerned with health issues.   **B) Peacekeeping Operations**  The United Nations has taken action to maintain peace or restore order in places all over the world. The UN has had mixed success in keeping the peace. Although no worldwide conflicts have occurred, the sovereignty of individual nations often makes it difficult for the UN to enforce its wishes. As part of its department of political affairs, the UN also advises and monitors milestone elections, such as in the Democratic Republic of Congo and in Nepal.  **Iraq** In August 1990, Iraq troops invaded oil-rich Kuwait. The United Nations voted to impose economic sanctions on Iraq to force the troops to withdraw. When Iraq did not withdraw, the security Council sent a multinational force which drove Iraq out of Kuwait. More recently it monitored Iraq elections.  **Haiti** From 1957 through 1986, Haiti was ruled by brutal dictators. In 1990, Haiti held free elections. However, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the victor, was later ousted by a military coup. Several years later, UN forces helped restore Aristide to power and build a functioning democracy in Haiti.  **Sudan**  Sudan has been torn by civil war for most of its 52 years. Its cultural diversity has been a factor in these wars. In 2003, pro-government Arabic militias began attacking black villagers and rebel groups in the Darfur region. All peace negotiations have failed. In 2007, forces from the African Union joined UN peacekeepers to try end the violence. However, the Sudanese government is not cooperating. It has the support of China and Russian, who depend on Sudan’s oil. The violence in Darfur was so great that the UN wanted to put several men on trial for their crimes there. Sudan’s government refused to cooperate.  UN_Fact_refugees  **II. The Threat of Terrorism**   1. Nature of Terrorism   Terrorism is the deliberate use of unpredictable violence, especially against civilians, to gain revenge or to achieve political goals. Terrorism is usually used by groups that do not have their own military power. Terrorists use tactics such as bombings, kidnappings, assassinations, and hijackings. In recent years, new fears about nuclear terrorism, chemical terrorism, and cyber terrorism have developed. Terrorism spreads fear throughout the world. It may also lead to more violence if groups attempt to retaliate.  Some recent uses of terrorism have been:   * In conflicts between extreme traditionalist groups and modern western societies (such as events supported by al Qaeda extremists like the 9/11 attacks and bombings in Indonesia). * In disputes between nationalist groups who both claim the same homeland (such as Palestinians and Israelis) or that claim the same piece of land, such as India and Pakistan’s claim for Kashmir.   **III. International Hot Spots**   1. **North Korea and South Korea**   North Korea, still rules by a hardline communist dictatorship, which practices a foreign policy of brinkmanship, suffers from isolation and severe economic hardships including recurring famine. South Korea has a strong global economy. North Korea hopes to unite the two Koreas under its rule. It still spends large sums of money on its military. In 2006, it became a nuclear power. Despite international warnings, sanctions, and attempted disarmament talks, North Korea conducted a second nuclear test in 2009.  Tensions escalated when a South Korean warship was sunk and a South Korean island was shelled, and in 2012 when North Korea’s longtime autocratic leader died. Immediately after his son took over, a failed rocket launch and specific threats toward South Kora reinforced North Korea’s political and economic isolation and the world’s fear that it will take military, possibly nuclear, action.   1. **Israel and Its Neighbors**   In 2005, when cease-fire talks began between Israel and the Palestinians, Israel began withdrawing settlers and soldiers from Gaza and parts of the West Bank. In 2006, Palestinians elected Hamas, a party known for both its social services and its hardline policies toward Israel. Hamas carries out its anti-Israeli policies by using terrorists’ methods, such as rockets and suicide bombings. However, it did not control Gaza after Israel left until it created chaos there and then assumed control. Hamas continued conducting rocket attacks on Israel from Gaza.  To try and end Hamas’ attacks, Israel and Egypt closed Gaza’s borders. These economic sanctions destroyed the fragile Gaza economy, but a new economy developed using tunnels between Egypt and Gaza. In 2008, Israel launched a devastating attack on Hamas in Gaza. When it ended, much of Gaza was in ruins but Hamas remained in control. It wanted to move toward a more traditional Islamic society and to continue its attacks on Israel while refusing to participate in peace talks. Israel has retaliated. Then, in 2011, the Palestinians asked UN to give it full membership; Israel and its allies oppose this move.  In recent years, Israel has lost support from its neighbors. Turkey became angry after an Israeli commando attack in international waters killed Turkish citizens. The downfall of President Mubarak of Egypt meant the loss of a strong ally. Border incidents with Egypt led to the destruction of Israel’s Cairo embassy. Syria, one of Israel’s most vocal enemies, is experiencing a violent civil war, which leaves Israelis fearful of what will happen no matter who ends up in power. Finally, Israel fears an attack from Iran if its nuclear program is not stopped. These events have increased Israel’s isolation in the region.   1. **The Iraq War**   At the end of the Persian Gulf War, the United Nations required that Iraq destroy its nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons as well as its missiles. The UN sent inspections teams to ensure compliance until the late 1990’s, when Iraq’s leader, Saddam Hussein, refused to allow further inspections. In response, the United States and Britain staged air strikes against Iraq.  In 2001, the Unites States accused Iraq of supporting terrorists, such as al Qaeda, and of hiding weapons of mass destruction. UN inspectors searched for these weapons, but found none. The grievances also included Saddam Hussein’s human rights abuses, such as the use of torture and poison gas against the Kurds. In March 2003, without UN support, the United States and its coalition forces invaded Iraq. Although the invasion led to a quick defeat of the Iraqi military, a violent insurgency developed against the coalition troops, the new Iraqi government, and workers repairing war damage. Saddam Hussein was captured in December 2003, convicted of crimes against humanity, and hanged.  Saddam Hussein was a Sunni Muslim and his brutal dictatorship favored Sunnis while the majority of Iraqis are Shiite Muslims. These groups disagree in Iraq’s culture, degree of westernization and a government. Some religious leaders, al Qaeda fighters, and other Iraqis used violence against Iraq’s government, its security forces, the western military, and each other.  In 2005, an Iraqi election took place amidst the violence. A new constitution was approved by voters and parliamentary elections were held. Sunnis, Shiites, and Kurds eventually agreed to a new government led by a compromise candidate, Jawad al-Maliki, as prime minister. In 2010, a second election with challenged results, more violence and new alliances allowed Maliki to continue as prime minister.  In 2007, the United States increases its military operations to end the internal violence and has some success. Then in December 2011, the United States formally ended its mission in Iraq. Although some bases and troops remain, most American combat troops were withdrawn. The violence against Iraqi citizens and its military continues as does political instability and power struggles between the Sunni and Shiite. Terrorist groups, such as Al Qaeda, have claimed responsibility for the killing of many Iraqi civilians.  Iraq War (Iraqi Freedom) |

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| **Questions/Main Ideas/Annotations:** | **ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS USING YOUR STUDY GUIDE AND/OR MATERIALS FROM CLASS** |
| ***POWER***   1. For what purposes have various groups used terrorist tactics? |  |
| **BELIEF SYSTEMS**   1. How have religious and ethnic differences contributed to instability and conflict? |  |
| **CONFLICT**   1. How has the United Nations tried to promote world peace and security? |  |
| **UNIT 8 Section 2** | **DEFINE THE FOLLOWING VOCABULARY** |
| 1. **Terrorism** |  |
| 1. **Al Qaeda** |  |
| 1. **Ethnic cleansing** |  |
| 1. **Saddam Hussein** |  |
| 1. **United Nations** |  |
| 1. **Sunni** |  |
| 1. **Shiite** |  |
| 1. **Total War** |  |
| 1. **Propaganda** |  |
| 1. **Armistice** |  |