LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Critical Thinking Skills: What If..., Beyond Our Borders, Which Side Are You On?, critical thinking questions within photo, figure, and table captions, and end-of-chapter Quiz
- Communication Skills: For Critical Analysis questions could be discussed in class or be used for short writing assignments. The Skill Prep module in the front of the book also helps students improve their writing and speech skills.
- Empirical & Quantitative Skills: Beyond Our Borders features often include graphic data that can be analyzed along with the For Critical Analysis questions, as can the figures and tables throughout.
- Teamwork: Which Side Are You On? and additional Online Resources
- Social Responsibility: Which Side Are You On?, Why Should You Care About..., How You Can Make a Difference, and additional Online Resources. This is a key theme within the narrative and emphasized through examples of youth participating in our political culture throughout.
- Personal Responsibility: Which Side Are You On?, Why Should You Care About..., How You Can Make a Difference, and additional Online Resources. The Skill Prep module in the front of the book also stresses the importance of good study and test-taking skills.

Learning Path activities:
- What Do You Know About...? Video Introductions give a quick overview of the chapter topic and include critical thinking short-answer activator questions that can be submitted for a grade (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills)
- Chapter Learning Outcomes help students focus on the key concepts in each chapter and assess their mastery of these concepts (Critical Thinking Skills)
- Chapter Readings are interactive eBook versions of the text for each chapter (Critical Thinking Skills)
- Focus Activities include video, primary source, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and analyzing charts and maps activities that focus on inquiry, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information. Many problem sets also ask students to manipulate and analyze data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions. (Critical Thinking Skills, Empirical & Quantitative Skills)
- Chapter Forums with Discussion and Polling Activities ask students to engage in collaborative discussion with their peers and to cast their vote in a class poll. After completing these exercises, they should have a broader understanding of opposing views and how their views compare to those of their peers. (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Teamwork, Social Responsibility, Personal Responsibility)
- Wrap it Up Quizzes are 25 question multiple-choice quizzes that help student assess their understanding of the chapter learning outcomes (Critical Thinking Skills)
- KnowNow American Government Blog applies current events to key concepts learned in the text, often incorporating multimedia and data for analysis and prompts class discussion (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical & Quantitative Skills, Social Responsibility)
**Chapter 2: The Constitution**

**Learning Outcomes:**
- Explain how the colonial experience prepared Americans for independence, the restrictions that Britain placed on the colonies, and the American response.
- Describe the significance of the Declaration of Independence and the Articles of Confederation, as well as the weaknesses of the Articles.
- Discuss the most important compromises reached at the Constitutional Convention and the basic structure of the resulting government.
- Summarize the arguments in favor of and the arguments against adopting the Constitution, and explain why the Bill of Rights was adopted.
- Describe the process of amending the Constitution and the informal ways in which Constitutional interpretation has changed over time.

**Chapter 2**

- Video Introduction: What Do You Know about The Constitution? with critical thinking activator questions *(Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills)*
- Chapter 2 Learning Outcomes
- Chapter 2 Reading: The Constitution
- Focus Activities: The Constitution *(Critical Thinking Skills, Empirical & Quantitative Skills)*

This Aplia problem set examines the founding of the United States government including why the colonists declared themselves independent from Britain, and the structure and powers of the Articles of Confederation and the U.S. Constitution.

- “Common Sense” and American Independence
- Articles of Confederation
- Checks and Balances
- Compromise and the Constitution


Students can use these exercises to engage in collaborative discussion with their peers and to cast their vote in a class poll. After completing these exercises, they should have a broader understanding of opposing views and how their views compare to those of their peers.

- Discussion: The Constitution and Law Making
- Polling Activity: Raising the Debt Ceiling

**Wrap it Up: Chapter 2 Quiz (Critical Thinking Skills)**

This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of the American Constitution.


**Chapter 3: Federalism**

**Learning Outcomes:**
- Explain some of the benefits of the federal system for the United States.
- Describe how the various provisions of the U.S. Constitution provide a framework for federalism.
- Discuss how, in the early years of the republic, the United States Supreme Court confirmed the authority of the national government, and how that authority was ratified by the Civil War.
- Define the terms dual federalism, cooperative federalism, categorical grants, bloc grants, fiscal federalism.
- Detail recent political developments and Supreme Court rulings that affect the distribution of power between the national government and the states.

**Chapter 3**

- Video Introduction: What Do You Know about Federalism? with critical thinking activator questions *(Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills)*
- Chapter 3 Learning Outcomes
- Chapter 3 Reading: Federalism
- Focus Activities: Federalism *(Critical Thinking Skills, Empirical & Quantitative Skills)*

This Aplia problem set examines the structure and evolution of the federal system of government in the United States, including the constitutional basis for federalism, federal-state relations, and modern interpretations of federalism.

- Comparing confederal and federal systems
- The advantages and disadvantages of the U.S. federal system
- Federalism and the U.S. Constitution
- Federalism and the Affordable Care Act
- Dual and cooperative federalism

**The Federalism Forum (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Teamwork, Social Responsibility, Personal Responsibility)**

Students can use these exercises to engage in collaborative discussion with their peers and to cast their vote in a class poll. After completing these exercises, they should have a broader understanding of opposing views and how their views compare to those of their peers.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice.</th>
<th>Chapter 2: The Constitution in the Constitutional Convention section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Chapter 3: Federalism in The Constitutional Basis for American Federalism section</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Describe how the various provisions of the U.S. Constitution provide a framework for federalism.</td>
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Throughout Chapters 11-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Video Introduction: What Do You Know about The Constitution? with critical thinking activator questions (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Chapter 2 Learning Outcome 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Chapter 2 Reading: The Constitution, Learning Outcome 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Focus Activities: The Constitution (Critical Thinking Skills, Empirical &amp; Quantitative Skills)</td>
</tr>
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<td>• Video Introduction: What Do You Know about Federalism? with critical thinking activator questions (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills)</td>
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<td>• Chapter 3 Learning Outcome 2</td>
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<td>• Focus Activities: Federalism (Critical Thinking Skills, Empirical &amp; Quantitative Skills)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Chapter 11: The Congress

**Learning Outcomes:**
- Describe the various roles played by Congress and the constitutional basis of its powers.
- Explain some of the differences between the House and the Senate and some of the privileges enjoyed by members of Congress.
- Examine the implications of apportioning House seats.
- Describe the committee structure of the House and the Senate and the key leadership positions in each chamber.
- Discuss the process by which a bill becomes law and how the federal government establishes its budget.

**Chapter 11 Reading:** The Congress

**Focus Activities:** The Congress

**The Congress Forum**

*Students can use these exercises to engage in collaborative discussion with their peers and to cast their vote in a class poll. After completing these exercises, they should have a broader understanding of opposing views and how their views compare to those of their peers.*

**Discussion:** Representation in Congress

**Polling Activity:** The Power to Declare War

**Wrap it Up:** Chapter 11 Quiz

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### Chapter 12: The President

**Learning Outcomes:**
- Identify the types of people who typically undertake serious campaigns for the presidency.
- Distinguish some of the major roles of the president, including head of state, chief executive, commander in chief, chief diplomat, chief legislator, party chief, and politician.
- Describe some of the special powers of the president, and tell how a president can be removed from office.
- Explain the organization of the executive branch and, in particular, the executive office of the president.
- Evaluate the role of the vice president, and describe what happens if the presidency becomes vacant.

**Chapter 12 Reading:** The President

**Focus Activities:** The Presidency

**The Congress Forum**

*Students can use these exercises to engage in collaborative discussion with their peers and to cast their vote in a class poll. After completing these exercises, they should have a broader understanding of opposing views and how their views compare to those of their peers.*

**Discussion:** Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

**Polling Activity:** State Income Tax

**Wrap it Up:** Chapter 3 Quiz

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### Federalism

*This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of Federalism.*

**KnowNow American Government Blog**

*Throughout Chapters 11-14*

**Objective:**

- Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government.

**Chapter 11 Learning Outcomes**

**Chapter 11 Reading**

**Focus Activities:**

- Congressional powers
- Members of Congress
- Reapportionment
- Congressional committees and legislative process
- Lawmaking and congressional leadership

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**Chapter 12 Learning Outcomes**

**Chapter 12 Reading**

**Focus Activities:**

- Video Introduction: What Do You Know about the Congress? with critical thinking activator questions
- Chapter 11 Learning Outcomes
- Chapter 11 Reading: The Congress
- Focus Activities: The Congress

This Aplia problem set focuses on the Congress, including an examination of congressional powers, members of Congress, reapportionment, congressional committees and legislative process, and lawmaking and congressional leadership.

**The Congress Forum**

*This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of the Congress.*

**KnowNow American Government Blog**

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**Chapter 12 Learning Outcomes**

**Chapter 12 Reading**

**Focus Activities:** The Presidency

**The Congress Forum**

*This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of Federalism.*

**KnowNow American Government Blog**
Chapter 13: The Bureaucracy
Learning Outcomes:
• Discuss the nature of the federal bureaucracy, and identify the largest federal spending programs.
• Describe the various types of agencies and organizations that make up the federal executive branch.
• Explain how government employees are hired and how they are administered.
• Evaluate different methods that have been put into place to reform bureaucracies and make them more efficient.
• Discuss how federal agencies make rules and the role of Congress in this process.

This Aplia problem set covers topics related to the presidency, including presidential qualifications and characteristics, presidential powers, the role of the president in the legislative process, presidential involvement in domestic and national security policy.

o Presidential qualifications and characteristics
o Presidential powers
o The role of the president in the legislative process
o Enacting the Civil Rights Act of 1964
o National security and presidential power

• The Presidency Forum (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Teamwork, Social Responsibility, Personal Responsibility)
Students can use these exercises to engage in collaborative discussion with their peers and to cast their vote in a class poll. After completing these exercises, they should have a broader understanding of opposing views and how their views compare to those of their peers.
• Discussion: Electing a Female President
• Polling Activity: Presidential Veto Power
• Wrap it Up: Chapter 12 Quiz (Critical Thinking Skills)
This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of the Presidency.
• KnowNow American Government Blog (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical & Quantitative Skills, Social Responsibility)

Chapter 14: The Courts
Learning Outcomes:
• Explain the main sources of American law, including constitutions, statutes and regulations, and the common law tradition.
• Describe the structure of the federal court system and such basic judicial requirements as jurisdiction and standing to sue.
• Discuss the procedures used by the United States Supreme Court and the various types of opinions it hands down.
• Evaluate the manner in which federal judges are selected.
• Consider the ways in which the Supreme Court makes policy, and explain the forces that limit the activism of the courts.

Chapter 13 Learning Outcomes
• Video Introduction: What Do You Know about the Bureaucracy? with critical thinking activator questions (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills)
• Chapter 13 Learning Outcomes
• Chapter 13 Reading: The Bureaucracy (Critical Thinking Skills, Empirical & Quantitative Skills)
This Aplia problem set covers topics related to the federal bureaucracy, including necessity of the bureaucracy, the evolution of the bureaucracy, patronage, and bureaucratic power.

o The necessity of the federal bureaucracy
o The evolution of the federal bureaucracy
o Patronage and the federal bureaucracy
o Bureaucratic power

• The Bureaucracy Forum (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Teamwork, Social Responsibility, Personal Responsibility)
Students can use these exercises to engage in collaborative discussion with their peers and to cast their vote in a class poll. After completing these exercises, they should have a broader understanding of opposing views and how their views compare to those of their peers.
• Discussion: Bureaucracy at Work
• Polling Activity: Bureaucracy and Regulation
• Wrap it Up: Chapter 13 Quiz (Critical Thinking Skills)
This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of the Bureaucracy.
• KnowNow American Government Blog (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical & Quantitative Skills, Social Responsibility)

Chapter 14
• Video Introduction: What Do You Know about the Judiciary? with critical thinking activator questions
Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in the political system.

Chapter 6: Public Opinion and Political Socialization
Learning Outcomes:
- Define public opinion, consensus opinion, and divided opinion, and discuss major sources of political socialization, including the family, schools, the media, and political events.
- Identify the effects of various influences on voting behavior, including education, income, religion, race/ethnicity, gender, and geography.
- Describe the characteristics of a scientific opinion poll, and list some of the problems pollsters face in obtaining accurate results.
- Consider the effect that public opinion may have on the political process.

Chapter 7: Interest Groups
Learning Outcomes:
- Describe the basic characteristics of interest groups, and provide three major reasons why Americans join them.
- List the major types of interest groups, especially...
Chapter 8: Political Parties

Learning Outcomes:
- Cite some of the major activities of U.S. political parties, and discuss how they are organized.
- Explain how the history of U.S. political parties has led to the two major parties that exist today.
- Summarize key differences between the policies and supporters of the major parties.
- Give reasons why the two-party system has endured in America, and evaluate the impact of third parties on U.S. politics.
- Discuss some of the ways in which support for the parties can change, and explain the increasing importance of independents.

Wrap it Up: Chapter 7 Quiz (Critical Thinking Skills)
This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of Public Opinion and Political Socialization.

Chapter 8
- Video Introduction: What Do You Know about Political Parties? with critical thinking activator questions (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills)
- Chapter 8 Learning Outcomes
- Chapter 8 Reading: Political Parties
- Focus Activities: Political Parties (Critical Thinking Skills, Empirical & Quantitative Skills)
  This Aplia problem set covers topics related to political parties, including the history of political parties in the United States, the functions of political parties, the core constituencies of the major political parties in the U.S., the conflicting nature of American political parties, and the difficulties third parties face in winning elections in the United States.
    - The history of political parties in the United States
    - The roles and responsibilities of political parties
    - The core constituencies of the major political parties
    - The conflicting nature of the three roles of American political parties
    - Third parties in American politics

Interest Groups Forum (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Teamwork, Social Responsibility, Personal Responsibility)
Students can use these exercises to engage in collaborative discussion with their peers and to cast their vote in a class poll. After completing these exercises, they should have a broader understanding of opposing views and how their views compare to those of their peers.
- Discussion: Participation in Interest Groups
- Polling Activity: Regulating Interest Groups
- Wrap it Up: Chapter 8 Quiz (Critical Thinking Skills)
This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of Interest Groups.

### Analyze the election process.

2014 Elections features throughout the book include the results and analysis of the 2014 mid-term elections.

Chapter 9: Campaigns and Elections
- Discuss who runs for office and how campaigns are managed.
- Describe the current system of campaign finance.
- Summarize the process of choosing a president of the United States.
- Explain the mechanisms through which voting takes place on Election Day.
- Discuss voter turnout in the United States and the types of people most likely to vote.

### Chapter 9
- Video Introduction: What Do You Know about Campaigning for Office? And What Do You Know about Elections? with critical thinking activator questions (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills)
- Chapter 9 Learning Outcomes
- Chapter 9 Reading: Campaigns and Elections
- Focus Activities: Campaigning for Office and Elections (Critical Thinking Skills, Empirical & Quantitative Skills)

This Aplia problem set covers topics related to campaigning for office, including the advantages of incumbency, technological advances and the modern political campaign, and campaign finance, PACs, and Super PACs; and covers topics related to elections, including the primary and nomination process, partisan identification and vote choice, elections and the media, and the Electoral College.
- The advantages of incumbency
- Technological advances and the modern political campaign
- Campaign finance, PACs, and Super PACs
- The primary system and nomination process
- Partisan identification and vote choice
- Elections and the media
- The Electoral College

- Campaigning for Office and Elections Forum (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Teamwork, Social Responsibility, Personal Responsibility)

Students can use these exercises to engage in collaborative discussion with their peers and to cast their vote in a class poll. After completing these exercises, they should have a broader understanding of opposing views and how their views compare to those of their peers.
- Discussion: Electing Incumbents
- Polling Activity: Super PACs and Elections
- Discussion: Bringing the Party Together After Primaries
- Polling Activity: Presidential Election Process

- Wrap it Up: Chapter 9 Quiz (Critical Thinking Skills)

This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of Campaigning for Office and Elections.

Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens

Why Should You Care? and How You Can Make a Difference features and Additional Online Resources encourage student interaction with the political system.

Chapter 1: The Democratic Republic Learning Outcomes:
- Define the terms politics, government, order, liberty, authority, and legitimacy.
- Distinguish the major features of direct democracy and representative democracy, and describe majoritarianism, elite theory, and pluralism.
- Summarize the conflicts that can occur between the principles of liberty and order, and between those of liberty and equality.
- Discuss conservatism, liberalism, and other popular American ideological positions.
- Explain how a changing American population and other social trends may affect the future of our nation.

Chapter 4: Civil Liberties Learning Outcomes:
- Describe the Bill of Rights and how it came to be applied to state governments as well as the national government.
- Explain how the First Amendment’s establishment clause and free exercise clause guarantee our freedom of religion.
- Specify the limited circumstances in which the national and state governments may override the principles of free speech and freedom of the press.
- Provide the constitutional basis of the right to privacy, and explain how the principle has been applied to the abortion and right-to-die controversies.
- Cite examples of how recent security concerns have affected our civil liberties.
- Identify the constitutional rights of those who are accused of a crime, explain the Miranda and exclusionary rules, and describe the current status of the death penalty.

Chapter 5: Civil Rights Learning Outcomes:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Analyze issues and policies in U.S. politics.</strong></th>
<th><strong>Chapter 5</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What If..., Which Side Are You On?, and Beyond Our Borders</strong> features encourage students to think critically about current issues and policies in American government.</td>
<td><strong>Video Introduction: What Do You Know about Civil Rights? with critical thinking activator questions</strong> (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chapter 10: The Media</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chapter 5 Learning Outcomes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learning Outcomes:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chapter 5 Reading: Civil Rights</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Describe the different types of media and the changing roles that they play in American society.</td>
<td><strong>Focus Activities: Civil Rights</strong> (Critical Thinking Skills, Empirical &amp; Quantitative Skills)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Summarize the impact of the media on the political process.</td>
<td><strong>This Aplo problem set covers topics related to civil rights, including interpretation of the Fourteenth Amendment, the process of advancing civil rights for various minority communities, and the role of the Supreme Court in interpreting civil rights over time.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Explain the relationship between the government and the media, and in particular the Internet.</td>
<td>• Interpreting the Fourteenth Amendment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Discuss the question of opinion and bias in the mainstream media and alternative media such as the Internet.</td>
<td>• Diversity and civil rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The Supreme Court and civil rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Civil Rights Forum</strong> (Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Teamwork, Social Responsibility, Personal Responsibility)</td>
<td><strong>Wrap it Up: Chapter 5 Quiz</strong> (Critical Thinking Skills)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students can use these exercises to engage in collaborative discussion with their peers and to cast their vote in a class poll.</td>
<td>This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of Civil Liberties.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Summarize the historical experience of African Americans, state how the separate but equal doctrine was abolished, and describe the consequences of the civil rights movement.**

**Define the different levels of scrutiny used by the Supreme Court in civil rights cases, and describe recent rulings on affirmative action.**

**Discuss the history and current status of Latinos, American Indians, and Asian Americans.**

**Contrast the goals of the women’s suffrage movement with the goals of modern feminism.**

**Summarize the recent revolution in the rights enjoyed by gay men and lesbians.**

**Evaluate the rights and status of juvenile citizens.**

This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of Civil Liberties.

Chapter 15: Domestic and Economic Policy

Learning Outcomes:
- Describe the five steps of the policymaking process, using the health-care reform legislation as an example.
- Explain why illegal immigration is seen as a problem, and cite some of the steps that have been taken in response to it.
- Discuss recent developments in crime rates and incarceration.
- Evaluate the federal government’s responses to high oil prices and the controversy over global warming.
- Define unemployment, inflation, fiscal policy, net public debt, and monetary policy.
- Describe the various taxes that Americans pay, and discuss some of the controversies surrounding taxation.

Chapter 16: Foreign Policy

Learning Outcomes:
- Define foreign policy, and discuss moral idealism versus political realism in foreign policy.
- Describe recent foreign policy challenges that involve the use of force.
- Discuss the use of diplomacy in addressing such issues as nuclear proliferation, the rise of China, and the confrontation between Israel and the Palestinians.
- Explain the role of the president, executive agencies, and Congress in making U.S. foreign policy.
- Cite the main themes in the history of U.S. foreign policy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Poll</td>
<td>After completing these exercises, they should have a broader understanding of opposing views and how their views compare to those of their peers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Developing Foreign Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polling Activity</td>
<td>U.S. as the World’s Superpower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrap It Up</td>
<td>Chapter 16 Quiz (Critical Thinking Skills) This final chapter activity will assess how well students understand the facts, themes, and concepts of Foreign Policy and National Security.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>