

Working Across Borders

How the United States and its citizens take part in international cooperation

SS.7.CG.4.2 "Describe the United States' and citizen participation in international organizations."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each action taken by the United States in an international organization, and circle each action citizens can take to support international cooperation. These marks will help you compare government participation with citizen participation.

Partners Beyond U.S. Borders

- ① In 1945, the United States helped create the United Nations, or UN, after World War II. The UN gives nearly every country a place to discuss shared problems, including conflict, hunger, disease, and human rights. The United States is one of five permanent members of the UN Security Council. Its ambassador speaks for the U.S. government at the UN. On the Security Council, the United States can vote on actions meant to protect international peace. As a UN member, the United States also pays assessed dues and sends experts to some UN programs.
- ② The United States also works with regional organizations. In the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or NATO, the United States joins European and North American allies in a promise of collective defense. Members agree that an attack on one member is considered an attack on all. In the Organization of American States, the United States meets with countries of the Americas to address issues such as democracy, security, and human rights. U.S. diplomats negotiate, vote when rules allow, and share information. These organizations do not replace the U.S. government, but they help countries act together.
- ③ Citizens take part in international cooperation in different ways. A student might learn about a global issue, examine reliable sources, and share a respectful opinion with an elected representative. Citizens may volunteer with or donate to nonprofit groups that provide disaster relief, protect human rights, or support refugees across borders. Some Americans work for international organizations or for groups that cooperate with them. Citizens can also join school service projects connected to global needs. These actions do not give citizens the government's vote, but they can inform leaders and support international work.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How does the United States participate in the UN Security Council?

2 What promise does the United States make as a member of NATO?

3 What are two issues the United States addresses with other countries in the Organization of American States?

4 Give two ways citizens can take part in international cooperation without having the government's vote.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine that a major earthquake affects several countries. Write exactly four sentences explaining one action the United States could take through the UN and two actions citizens could take to support international cooperation.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each action taken by the United States in an international organization, and circle each action citizens can take to support international cooperation. These marks will help you compare government participation with citizen participation. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the United States participate in the UN Security Council?	The United States is a permanent member. Its ambassador speaks for the U.S. government and can vote on actions meant to protect international peace.
2	What promise does the United States make as a member of NATO?	It joins the promise of collective defense. An attack on one NATO member is considered an attack on all members.
3	What are two issues the United States addresses with other countries in the Organization of American States?	Any two: democracy, security, and human rights.
4	Give two ways citizens can take part in international cooperation without having the government's vote.	Any two: learn about global issues using reliable sources, share an opinion with an elected representative, volunteer with or donate to a nonprofit group, work for an international organization or cooperating group, or join a school service project connected to global needs.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

After a major earthquake affects several countries, the United States could work through the United Nations by sending experts to help with relief efforts. U.S. representatives could discuss the countries' needs with other UN members. Citizens could donate or volunteer with a nonprofit that provides disaster relief. They could also write to an elected representative about supporting aid.

Accept accurate paraphrases that distinguish actions of the U.S. government from actions citizens can take. For the open response, accept other realistic forms of international cooperation if the response includes one U.S. action through the UN, two citizen actions, and exactly four sentences.