

Security After 9/11

Trace how terrorism changed United States policy at home and abroad.

8.7d "Terrorist groups not representing any nation entered and reshaped global military and political alliances and conflicts. American foreign and domestic policies responded to terrorism in a variety of ways."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that explains why al-Qaeda was a different kind of threat, circle each foreign-policy response, and number each domestic-policy response 1, 2, or 3.

A New Kind of Threat

- ① On September 11, 2001, members of al-Qaeda, a terrorist network that did not represent a country, hijacked four passenger airplanes. They crashed two planes into the World Trade Center in New York City, one into the Pentagon in Virginia, and one in Pennsylvania after passengers fought back. Nearly 3,000 people were killed. The attacks showed that a group outside any national government could strike the United States and affect people far from a battlefield. They also changed what many Americans considered a security threat.
- ② Because al-Qaeda operated from Afghanistan with protection from the Taliban government, the United States asked the Taliban to turn over al-Qaeda leaders. When it refused, the United States and allied forces began military action in Afghanistan in 2001. NATO members treated the attack on the United States as an attack on the alliance, invoking Article 5 for the first time. The United States called its wider campaign the War on Terror. Its goal was to disrupt terrorist networks and prevent future attacks.
- ③ At home, a 2002 law created the Department of Homeland Security, which began operations in 2003 to coordinate security agencies. The newly created Transportation Security Administration strengthened airport screening. The USA Patriot Act gave investigators broader tools to gather information related to terrorism. Supporters argued that these steps could prevent attacks. Critics warned that stronger surveillance and law-enforcement powers could threaten privacy and civil liberties. The response involved both security measures and debates about individual rights.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Why did the September 11 attacks show that al-Qaeda was a different kind of threat from a nation at war with the United States?

2 What foreign-policy action did the United States and its allies take after the Taliban refused to turn over al-Qaeda leaders?

3 How did NATO's response show that terrorism affected international alliances?

4 Name one domestic security policy from the passage and one concern that critics had about stronger government powers.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine that a terrorist network that does not represent a government threatens transportation in the United States. Write three sentences that describe one domestic action, one action with foreign allies, and one safeguard for individual rights.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that explains why al-Qaeda was a different kind of threat, circle each foreign-policy response, and number each domestic-policy response 1, 2, or 3. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did the September 11 attacks show that al-Qaeda was a different kind of threat from a nation at war with the United States?	Al-Qaeda was a terrorist network that did not represent a country, but it could still attack the United States far from a battlefield.
2	What foreign-policy action did the United States and its allies take after the Taliban refused to turn over al-Qaeda leaders?	They began military action in Afghanistan in 2001.
3	How did NATO's response show that terrorism affected international alliances?	NATO members treated the attack on the United States as an attack on the alliance and invoked Article 5 for the first time.
4	Name one domestic security policy from the passage and one concern that critics had about stronger government powers.	Answers may name the Department of Homeland Security, stricter airport screening and the TSA, or the USA Patriot Act. Critics feared threats to privacy and civil liberties.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

If a terrorist network threatened transportation, the United States could increase security checks at major travel centers. It could work with allied nations to share information and disrupt the network's overseas bases. Courts and lawmakers should oversee information gathering so security efforts protect privacy rights.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the passage's policies and effects. For the open response, accept reasonable domestic and foreign actions plus a specific protection for privacy, civil liberties, or government oversight.