Roots of Instability

Sort political changes and conflicts between countries.

MWH.C.7.2.C "Examine the roots of the ongoing regional instability of the Middle East, including the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, the Iranian Revolution and its establishment of a theocracy, the Iran-Iraq conflict, and the invasion of Kuwait."

NAME _____ DATE _____

CHANGE WITHIN A COUNTRY

An internal development changes political power or the role of religious ideas in one country. It does not involve one country's armed forces fighting another's.

In 2007, Turkey's voters approved direct presidential elections.

CONFLICT BETWEEN COUNTRIES

An interstate conflict involves armed forces from different countries fighting each other. An invasion is one example.

India and Pakistan fought in the Kargil region in 1999.

1 SORT

8 items

For each item, circle INTERNAL or INTERSTATE, then choose one item from each category and explain the clue that helped you sort it.

1.	1. Iran's 1979 revolution ended the shah's monarchy.	INTERNAL INTERSTATE
2.	2. Iran's constitution gave a supreme leader broad political power.	INTERNAL INTERSTATE
3.	3. Iraq invaded Iran in 1980.	INTERNAL INTERSTATE
4.	4. In Egypt, Islamist activists called for a greater role for Islamic teachings in law.	INTERNAL INTERSTATE
5.	5. Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990.	INTERNAL INTERSTATE
6.	6. Iran and Iraq fought over territory along their shared border.	INTERNAL INTERSTATE
7.	7. Iran's government required women to wear headscarves in public after 1979.	INTERNAL INTERSTATE
8.	8. Iran's post-revolutionary leaders banned rival political groups.	INTERNAL INTERSTATE

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new example of an INTERNAL development and one new example of an INTERSTATE conflict. Do not repeat an example from the rule box or Part 1.

INTERNAL _____

INTERSTATE _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences explaining how an internal change and an interstate conflict can be connected without treating them as the same event.

Roots of Instability

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	1. Iran's 1979 revolution ended the shah's monarchy.	**INTERNAL**	The revolution changed who governed Iran.
2	2. Iran's constitution gave a supreme leader broad political power.	**INTERNAL**	The constitution changed political authority within Iran.
3	3. Iraq invaded Iran in 1980.	**INTERSTATE**	One country's armed forces entered another country.
4	4. In Egypt, Islamist activists called for a greater role for Islamic teachings in law.	**INTERNAL**	The activists sought a change in their country's laws.
5	5. Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990.	**INTERSTATE**	Iraq used armed force against another country.
6	6. Iran and Iraq fought over territory along their shared border.	**INTERSTATE**	The armed conflict was between two countries.
7	7. Iran's government required women to wear headscarves in public after 1979.	**INTERNAL**	Iran's government imposed a rule within the country.
8	8. Iran's post-revolutionary leaders banned rival political groups.	**INTERNAL**	Leaders restricted political activity within Iran.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **INTERNAL**: Iran's post-revolutionary leaders created the Revolutionary Guard in 1979.
- **INTERSTATE**: In 1991, Iraqi troops fought Saudi forces in the Battle of Khafji.

Challenge: Iran's revolution changed its government and added to tensions with Iraq. Iraq's 1980 invasion of Iran was a separate interstate event that deepened regional instability.

For the explanations, students should identify a change within one country or armed conflict between countries. For example, item 2 concerns authority within Iran, while item 3 describes Iraq's invasion of Iran.