Foreign vs Domestic Policy

There are two types of government policies: domestic and foreign.

**Domestic policy** is any government policy that concerns affairs “at home”- such as raising tax rates, regulating safety in factories, or determining the academic requirements for students in middle school.

**Foreign policy** is any government policy that concerns foreign countries and events taking place outside the United States: for example, making an alliance with a foreign country, fighting a war overseas, or entering into a trade agreements with another country.

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**Foreign vs. Domestic.** Read each example and select the correct word to fill in the blank.

1. Americans often refer to a country that is not the United States as a ________ country
   - [ ] domestic
   - [ ] foreign

2. A language that is not English and comes from a country outside the United States is called a ________ language.
   - [ ] domestic
   - [ ] foreign

3. Someone who is really good at chores and maintaining a home might be described as a ________ person.
   - [ ] domestic
   - [ ] foreign

4. If you get on an airplane and take a flight that doesn’t leave the country it is called a ________ flight.
   - [ ] domestic
   - [ ] foreign

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Looking at the examples you answered above, complete the following definitions and draw a symbol that represents the term to you in each box.

“**Foreign**” refers to things that happen ________ of the United States.

“**Domestic**” refers to things that happen ________ of the United States.

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**Which is which?** Read each example below and decide if it is a domestic policy—addresses issues at home—or a foreign policy—addresses issues around the world. Label each with a “D” or and “F.”

1. The government wants to make sure students are learning what they should be, so it requires standardized testing in certain grades.
   ___ 

2. The government operates national parks in different parts of the country.
   ___

3. The United States is allied with countries around the world, which means they are partners and look out for each other’s interests.
   ___

4. The United States provides help to other countries when natural disasters, like earthquakes, occur.
   ___

5. The countries of the world meet to decide how to handle climate change, and the United States plays a role in the talks.
   ___

6. The United States is attacked, and the President, in his role as Commander-in-Chief, calls on the U.S. military to defend the U.S. by attacking the other country.
   ___

7. The government decides how much money Americans must pay in federal taxes.
   ___

8. The government makes an agreement with specific countries that none of them will attack each other.
   ___

9. The government cleans up land and water areas that are severely polluted.
   ___

10. The government enforces federal laws and sends convicted criminals to jail.
    ___
**U.S. Foreign Policy**

**Definition:**

**Main Goals**

1) 
2) 
3) 

**Key Players:**


**Foreign Aid**

**Definition:**

**Main Goals**

1) 
2) 
3) 

**Forms**

1) 
2) 
3) 

**Military**

**Definition:**

**Main Goals**

1) 
2) 
3) 

**Active Groups**

1) 
2) 
3) 
4) 

**Treaties**

**Definition:**

**Who is involved?**

**Example:**