

ISOLATIONISM OR INTERNATIONALISM?

With apologies to Disney's
Frozen

BEFORE WE START: THE TWO THINGS THAT DRIVE FOREIGN POLICY #1: FEAR



Throughout the movie, most of Elsa's decisions are based on her fears which were rooted in childhood.

BEFORE WE START: THE TWO THINGS THAT DRIVE FOREIGN POLICY #2: ECONOMICS



Kristoff wanted to save his ice business, Anna wanted to replace his sled, Hans wanted the kingdom to rule.

FOREIGN POLICY: A COMPARISON

Elsa: Isolationism

Anna: Internationalism

This comparison is meant as a way to help my students remember the various points of these foreign policy positions. It's not a perfect comparison!



WHY ISOLATIONISM?

- The Monroe Doctrine: asked for Europe to stay out of our hemisphere
- America was young, needed time to grow and mature, was threatened by larger, more powerful nations (Think of the American Revolution and the War of 1812)



“I’m scared!”

“Just stay away!”



WHY ISOLATION WORKED

The USA believed it could develop and grow and stand independently within our own hemisphere.

The USA developed trade partners, and advanced in territories and even fought a few wars, never leaving the Western Hemisphere.

The Mexican-American War, Spanish-American War, and even the War of 1812 were all fought in the Western Hemisphere without any aid from a European power.



The Duke of Weselton was a trade partner, but had not been invited to the kingdom often.

WHY INTERNATIONALISM?

Anna
desired
for her
kingdom
to be
more
open.



- The economy is becoming more and more globally influenced. The USA can benefit from doing international business.
- During both WWI and WWII, the USA found it must get involved and intervene to help maintain stability in the world. Staying out of these affairs would cause more harm than good.
- As one of the few world powers, the USA feels an obligation to protect and intervene at times.

Anna knew she needed to do something to fix the problem. Like most internationalists, she felt an obligation.

WHAT'S THE DEBATE?



Elsa: "You asked me for my blessing, but my answer is no."

Anna: "All you know is how to shut people out!"

Isolationism is driven with the desire to protect one's own (people, borders, culture, economy)

Internationalism is driven by the desire for all nations to have peace and prosperity, safe international travel, and political alliances.

DO YOU SEE WORLD CHALLENGES AS OPPORTUNITIES OR THREATS?



The question you must ask is whether an isolationist position or an internationalist position is the best foreign policy for the United States now.

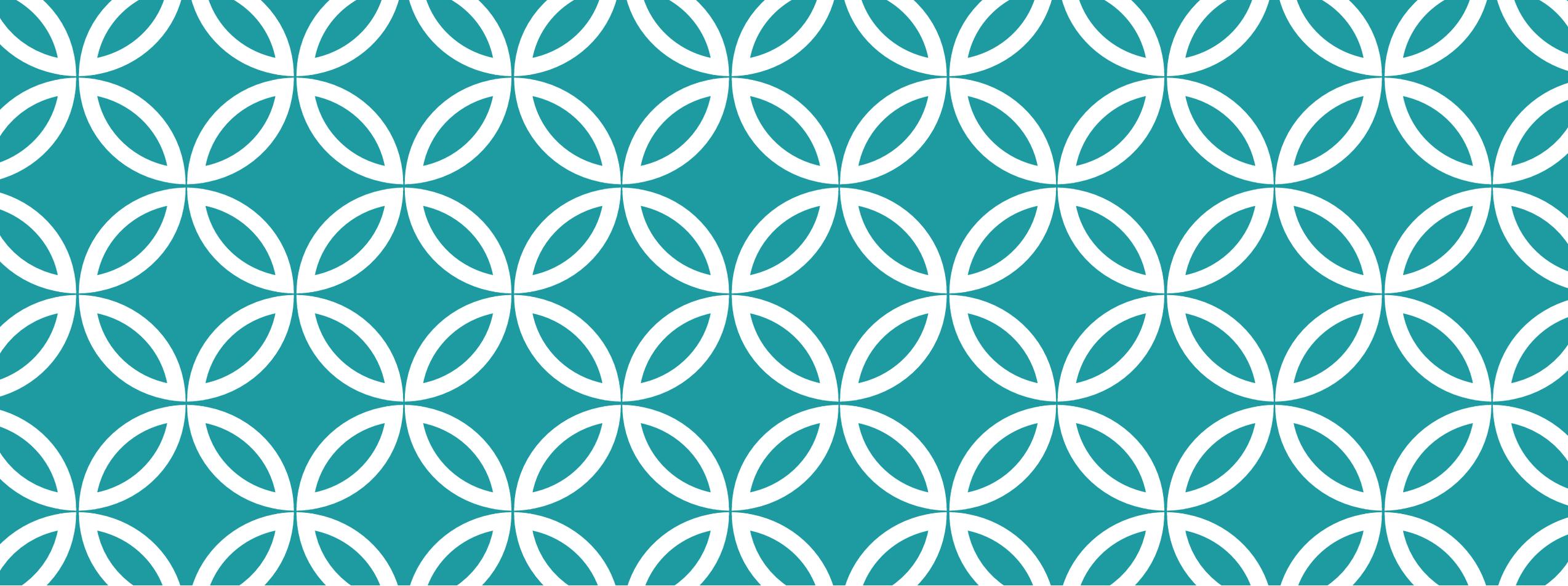
Keep in mind the challenges posed by groups that are not sovereign nations (such as ISIS and Al Qaeda)

Keep in mind the risk of illegal immigration

Keep in mind our economic needs, wars are costly, but international trade can bring wealth

Choose a position

Give as many examples as you can to support your ideas.



THE END (NOW WRITE YOUR ESSAY!)

All photos taken from Disney's 2013 film *Frozen* and 2014's *Frozen Fever*, released by Buena Vista.