

SS.7.C.4.2 Low Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	The U.S. government is a member of which organization?	Identify the international organization of which the U.S. government is a member.
A	United Nations	Correct – The United States is a member of the United Nations. The U.N. promotes global peace and cooperation.
B	European Union	Incorrect – Only European nations may join the European Union.
C	World Wildlife Fund	Incorrect – Citizens, not countries, may be members of The World Wildlife Fund, which is a non-governmental organization.
D	International Red Cross	Incorrect – Citizens, not countries, may be members of the International Red Cross, which is a non-governmental organization.

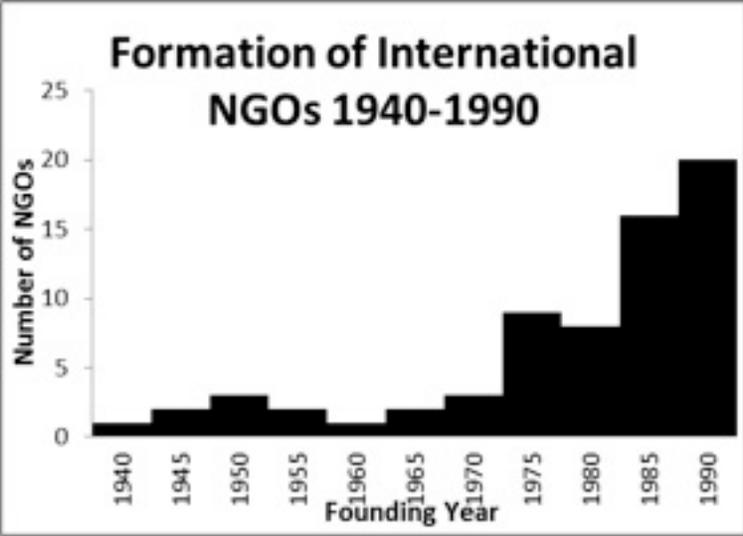


SS.7.C.4.2 Moderate Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	<p>The statement below is from Executive Order 10924, President John F. Kennedy, March 1, 1961.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p>The Peace Corps shall be responsible for the training and service abroad of men and women of the United States in new programs of assistance to nations and areas of the world, and in conjunction with...other international organizations.</p> </div> <p>Source: U.S. National Archives and Records Administration</p> <p>What opportunities does the executive order create for citizens and the government?</p>	<p>Read the passage and predict how the executive order, which created the Peace Corps, benefited citizens and the government.</p> <p>Note that the four options are excerpts from the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution.</p>
A	to provide for the common defense	Incorrect – The passage does not support this response. The Peace Corps is not a military service that provides armed defense of the U.S.; President Kennedy created it to provide “assistance” to foreign nations.
B	to establish domestic tranquility	Incorrect – The passage does not support this response. “Domestic tranquility” means peace within the United States; President Kennedy created the Peace Corps to help foreign nations, “areas of the world,” and “other international organizations.” Although the Peace Corps is located in the United States, its mission is to serve the needs of people around the world.
C	to advance the common good	Correct – This is the correct response because the “common good” means that everybody benefits from the establishment of the Peace Corps. Since the Peace Corps provides training to U.S. volunteers, aid to citizens around the world, and opportunities for the U.S. government to work with “other international organizations,” the Peace Corps advances the common good for both citizens and the government.
D	to administer justice	Incorrect – The passage does not support this response. The executive order does not mention the courts, due process or anything related to law enforcement.



SS.7.C.4.2 High Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	<p>The graph below shows participation in international organizations.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto;"> <caption>Formation of International NGOs 1940-1990</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Founding Year</th> <th>Number of NGOs</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1940</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>1945</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>1950</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>1955</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>1960</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>1965</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>1970</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>1975</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>1980</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>1985</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>1990</td><td>20</td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <p>Source: Yearbook of International Organizations</p> <p>What conclusion about international NGOs can be drawn from the graph?</p>		Founding Year	Number of NGOs	1940	1	1945	2	1950	3	1955	2	1960	1	1965	2	1970	3	1975	9	1980	8	1985	16	1990	20	<p>An NGO is a non-governmental organization made up of individuals. NGOs typically are involved in humanitarian work and solving political issues.</p> <p>Analyze the data in the graph, and draw a conclusion based on the data. The correct response should describe the most likely effect of the increase in the number of NGOs.</p>
Founding Year	Number of NGOs																										
1940	1																										
1945	2																										
1950	3																										
1955	2																										
1960	1																										
1965	2																										
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1975	9																										
1980	8																										
1985	16																										
1990	20																										
A	They have decreased community involvement.	Incorrect – NGOs are founded by individuals who are members of communities. An increase in the number of NGOs would probably mean that communities are getting more involved in political issues through increased citizen participation.																									
B	They have increased democratic participation.	Correct – NGOs are formed by individuals who try to solve political and community problems by participating in government and encouraging other citizens to get involved. As the number of NGOs increases, it makes sense that the amount of democratic participation has also increased.																									
C	They have maintained world peace.	Incorrect – There is no evidence in the graph to support this response. International conflicts have continued as the number of NGOs has increased.																									
D	They have strengthened terrorism.	Incorrect – There is no evidence in the graph to support this response. Many NGOs focus on issues such as protecting the environment and preventing human rights abuses, not terrorism. An increase in the number of NGOs would not lead to strengthened terrorism.																									

