Bronx Engineering and Technology Academy (βETA)
99 Terrace View Avenue, Bronx, New York 10463
Phone: (718) 563-6678
Karalyne Sperling, Principal

Mr. Ott – Global History & Geography

NAME _____ SCHOOL _____

(a) describe means "to illustrate something in words or tell about it"

(b) discuss means "to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail"

Part III

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

This question is based on the accompanying documents. The question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. Some of these documents have been edited for the purposes of this question. As you analyze the documents, take into account the source of each document and any point of view that may be presented in the document.

Historical Context:

Genocide*, *threats to the environment*,** and ***weapons of mass destruction are problems that the world has had to face. Various attempts have been made by the international community and its members to address and resolve these problems.

Task: Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of global history, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A. Your answers to the questions will help you write the Part B essay in which you will be asked to

Select ***two*** problems mentioned in the historical context and for ***each***

- Describe the problem
- Discuss attempts made to address ***and/or*** resolve the problem

Part A
Short-Answer Questions

Directions: Analyze the documents and answer the short-answer questions that follow each document in the space provided.

Document 1

Raphael Lemkin created the term genocide. He sent a letter to the *New York Times* editor explaining the importance of the concept of genocide.

Genocide Before the United Nations

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

The representatives of Cuba, India and Panama to the United Nations Assembly have brought forth a resolution which calls upon the United Nations to study the problem of genocide and to prepare a report on the possibilities of declaring genocide an international crime and assuring international cooperation for its prevention and punishment and also recommending, among others, that genocide should be dealt with by national legislation in the same way as other international crimes. . . .

International Concept

The concept of genocide thus is based upon existing and deeply felt moral concepts. Moreover, it uses as its elements well defined and already existing legal notions and institutions. What we have to do is to protect great values of our civilization through such accepted institutions adjusted to a formula of international law which is ever progressing. Because of lack of adequate provisions and previous formulation of international law, the Nuremberg Tribunal had to dismiss the Nazi crimes committed in the period between the advent of Nazism to power and the beginning of the war, as "revolting and horrible as many of these crimes were," to use the expression of the Nuremberg judgment.

It is now the task of the United Nations to see to it that the generous action of the three member states should be transferred into international law in order to prevent further onslaughts [attacks] on civilization, which are able to frustrate the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. . . .

Source: Raphael Lemkin, *New York Times*, Nov. 8, 1946 (adapted)

1 According to Raphael Lemkin, what is ***one*** way the world community can address the problem of genocide? [1]

_____

_____

Score

Document 2a

> . . . In 1948, the fledgling UN General Assembly adopted an international Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, which came into force in 1951. That convention defines genocide as "acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national ethnic, racial or religious group," including inflicting conditions calculated to lead to a group's destruction. . . .
>
> After the horrors of the Holocaust were revealed, the mantra [slogan] of the time became "never again." But it would take four decades, with the creation of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in 1994, before the international community would finally come together to prosecute the crime of genocide again.
>
> Why did it take so long, despite atrocities and mass killings in Cambodia, East Timor, and elsewhere? . . .

Source: Irina Lagunina, "World: What Constitutes Genocide Under International Law, and How Are Prosecutions Evolving?," Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 9/10/2004

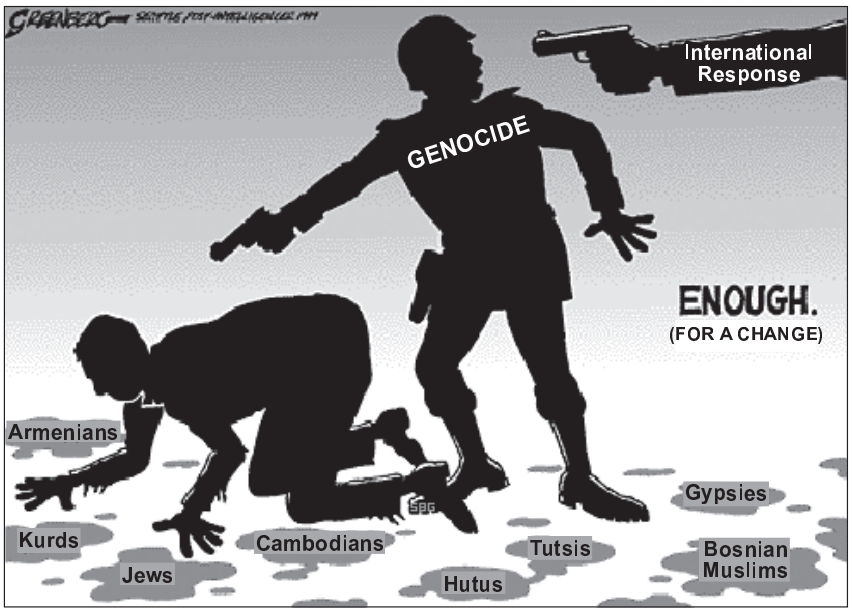
2*a* According to Irina Lagunina, what was ***one*** criticism of the international community's response to genocide? [1]

_____

_____

Score

Document 2b



Source: Steve Greenberg, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer,* March 29, 1999 (adapted)

2*b* Based on this 1999 cartoon, identify ***two*** specific groups that have been victims of genocide. [1]

(1) _____

(2) _____

Score

Document 3

> . . . Undeniably, there have been terrible human rights failures—in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda. There, and elsewhere, national constitutions and international norms failed to deter; international institutions and powerful governments failed to respond promptly and adequately. (The expectation that they would fail to respond no doubt contributed to their failure to deter.) But international human rights may be credited with whatever responses there have been, however inadequate, however delayed; and international human rights inspired all subsequent and continuing efforts to address the terrible violations. The major powers have sometimes declared gross violations of human rights to be "threats to international peace and security" and made them the responsibility of the UN Security Council, leading to international sanctions (and even to military intervention, as in Kosovo in 1999). International tribunals are sitting to bring gross violators to trial; a permanent international criminal tribunal to adjudicate [judge] crimes of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity is being created. Various governments have moved to support international human rights and made their bilateral and multilateral influence an established force in international relations. . . .

Source: Louis Henkin, "Human Rights: Ideology and Aspiration, Reality and Prospect," *Realizing Human Rights,* St. Martin's Press, 2000

3 Based on this document, state ***one*** attempt made to address the problem of genocide. [1]

_____

_____

Score

Document 4

At the dawn of the twenty-first century, the Earth's physical and biological systems are under unprecedented strain. The human population reached 6.3 billion in 2003 and is projected to increase to about 9 billion in the next half century. The United Nations estimates that one-third of the world's people live in countries with moderate to high shortages of fresh water and that this percentage could double by 2025. Many of the world's largest cities are increasingly choked by pollution. As carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases build in the atmosphere, the average surface temperature of the Earth has reached the highest level ever measured on an annual basis. The biological diversity of the planet is also under heavy stress. Scientists believe that a mass extinction of plants and animals is under way and predict that a quarter of all species could be pushed to extinction by 2050 as a consequence of global warming alone. Without question, the human impact on the biosphere will be one of the most critical issues of the century. . . .

Source: Norman J. Vig, "Introduction: Governing the International Environment," *The Global Environment: Institutions, Law, and Policy,* CQ Press, 2005 (adapted)

4 According to Norman J. Vig, what are ***two*** environmental problems that pose a threat to the world? [2]

(1) _____

_____

Score

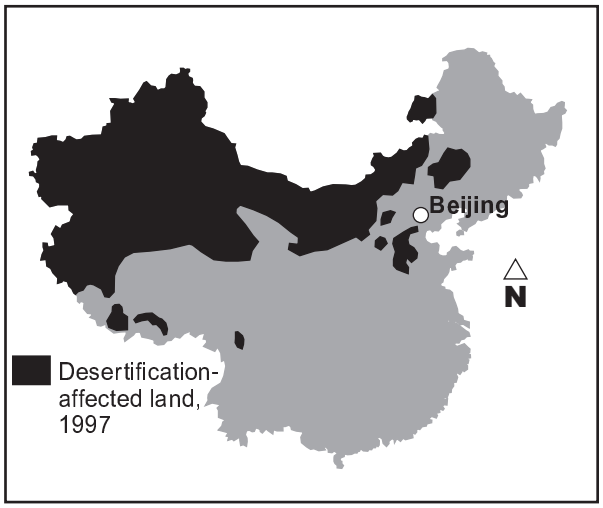
(2) _____

_____

Score

Document 5

Desertification is a major environmental problem. Nearly one-quarter of the Earth's land is threatened by this problem. China is one of those areas.



Source: China National Committee for the Implementation of the U.N. Convention to Combat Desertification (adapted)

Whipped by the wind, sand from Sky Desert swept through this village [Longbaoshan] last month like sheets of stinging rain, clattering against dried corn husks and piling up in small dunes against buildings.

Longbaoshan, a farming community about 40 miles northwest of Beijing, stands on the front line of China's losing war against the country's advancing deserts. Driven by overgrazing, overpopulation, drought and poor land management, they are slowly consuming vast areas of the country in a looming ecological disaster.

Official figures tell a frightening story.

Between 1994 and 1999, desertified land grew by 20,280 square miles. Desert blankets more than a quarter of China's territory. Shifting sands threaten herders and farmers in a nation with one-fifth of the world's population and one-fifteenth of its arable land. Scientists warn of calamity if the government fails to stop the sands.

"Pastures, farmland, railroads and other means of transportation will be buried under sand," said Dong Guangrong, a research fellow in environmental engineering at the Chinese Academy of Sciences. "People will be forced to move.". . .

In March, the worst sandstorm in a decade blinded the capital, painting the sky yellow and engulfing 40-story buildings as visibility dropped to less than a football field. Beijingers gritted their teeth as a seasonal storm known as the Yellow Dragon dumped 30,000 tons of sand on the city. People on the street covered their mouths with surgical masks or their faces with scarves in a futile attempt to keep the sand out. . . .

Officials here are trying to stop the sands by building green buffers. A project intended to protect Beijing in advance of the 2008 summer Olympic Games involves reclaiming desertified land in 75 counties. . . .

Source: Frank Langfitt, "Desertification," *The Post-Standard*, May 13, 2002 (adapted)

5*a* Based on this document, state ***one*** problem desertification poses in China. [1]

_____

_____

Score

b Based on this document, state ***one*** attempt the Chinese officials have made to address the problem of desertification. [1]

_____

_____

Score

Document 6

Selected Efforts to Preserve the Environment

1972	Stockholm—United Nations Conference on Human Environment—beginning of organized international effort to safeguard the environment
1973	The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)—restricts trade in 5,000 animal and 25,000 plant species
1987	Montreal Protocol—binding agreement on protection of the ozone layer
1992	Rio de Janeiro "Earth Summit"—produced treaties on climate change and biodiversity
1994	The World Conservation Union (IUCN)—published a revised Red List of endangered and threatened species, creating a world standard for gauging threats to biodiversity
1997	Kyoto Protocol—negotiated an agreement on obligations to reduce greenhouse gases in the atmosphere
2004	European Union—issued its first-ever pollution register containing data on industrial emissions and representing a "landmark event" in public provision of environmental information
2006	United Nations General Assembly—declared the International Year of Deserts which led to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

Source: "Environmental Milestones," World Watch Institute (adapted)

6 Based on this document, identify ***two*** ways the international community has attempted to address environmental problems. [2]

(1) _____

_____

Score

(2) _____

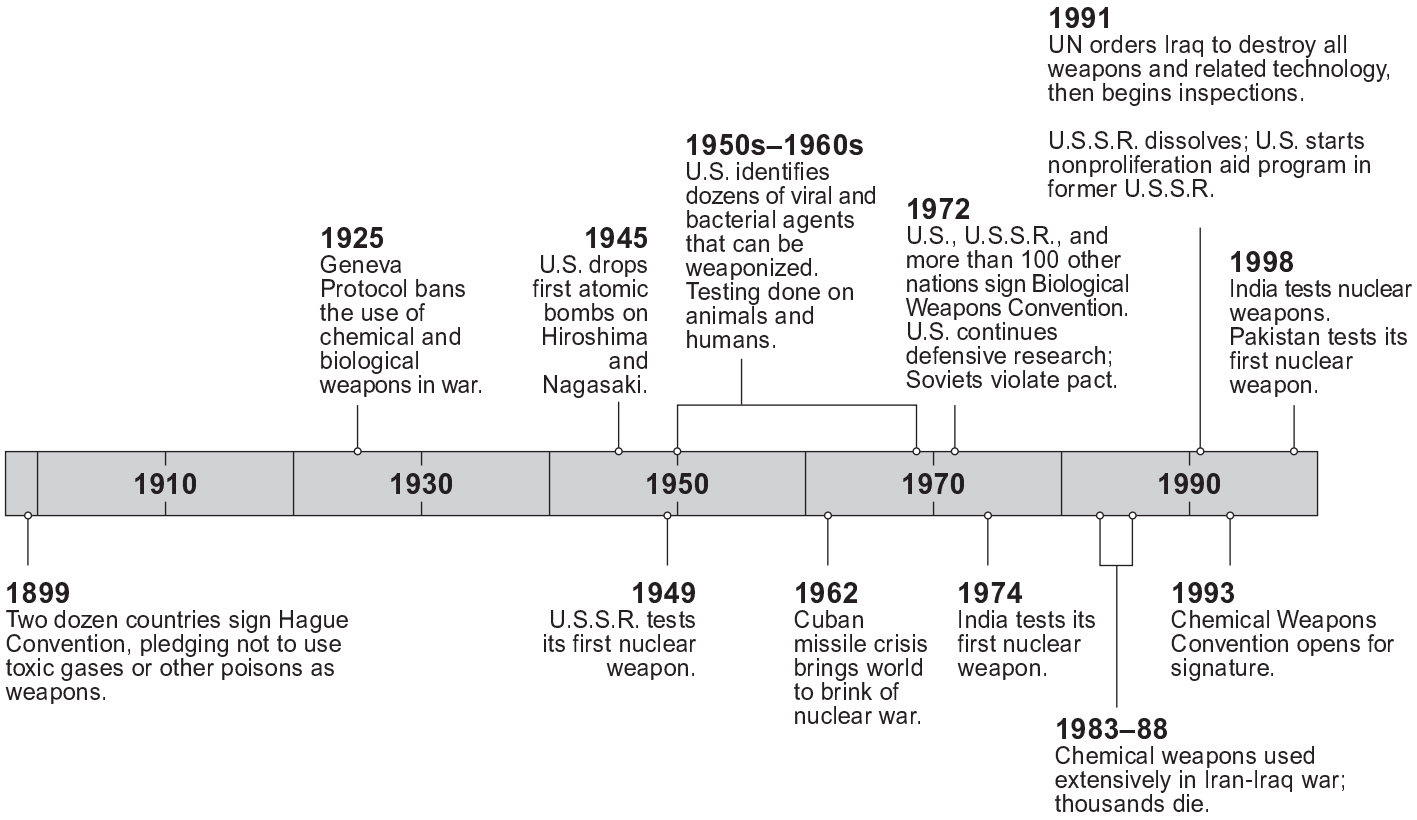
_____

Score

Document 7

The Twentieth Century's Deadly Yield

Weapons of mass destruction generally refer to biological, chemical, and nuclear weapons.



Source: "Weapons of Mass Destruction," *National Geographic*, November 2002 (adapted)

7*a* Using the information on this time line, identify ***one*** way a weapon of mass destruction was used. [1]

_____

_____

Score

b Using the information on this time line, identify ***one*** attempt made to address a problem related to weapons of mass destruction. [1]

_____

_____

Score

Document 8



Source: Jeff Danziger, Tribune Media Services, January 4, 2002 (adapted)

8 Based on this cartoon, state ***one*** reason nuclear weapons pose a threat to the world community. [1]

_____

_____

Score

Document 9

Civilian uranium is found at nonmilitary sites. It is used to conduct scientific and industrial research or to produce radioisotopes for medical purposes. This uranium can also be used to make highly enriched uranium (HEU), which is used in nuclear weapons.

Overview/Securing Civilian Uranium 235

- Terrorists who acquired less than 100 kilograms of highly enriched uranium (HEU) could build and detonate a rudimentary but effective atomic bomb relatively easily. HEU is also attractive for states that seek to develop nuclear weapons secretly, without having to test them.
- Unfortunately, large quantities of HEU are stored in nuclear research facilities worldwide—especially in Russia, often under minimal security.
- The U.S. and its allies have established programs to bolster security measures, convert reactors to use low-enriched uranium (which is useless for weapons) and retrieve HEU from research-reactor sites around the world. Dangerous gaps remain, however.
- High-level governmental attention plus a comparatively small additional monetary investment could go a long way toward solving the problem for good.

Source: Glaser and von Hippel, "Thwarting Nuclear Terrorism," *Scientific American,* February 2006

9 Based on this article by Glaser and von Hippel, state an attempt being made by the United States and its allies to improve the security of highly enriched uranium (HEU). [1]

_____

_____

Score

Part B
Essay

Directions: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs, and a conclusion. Use evidence from *at least* ***four*** documents in your essay. Support your response with relevant facts, examples, and details. Include additional outside information.

Historical Context:

Genocide, threats to the environment, and ***weapons of mass destruction*** are problems that the world has had to face. Various attempts have been made by the international community and its members to address and resolve these problems.

Task: Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of global history, write an essay in which you

Select ***two*** problems mentioned in the historical context and for ***each***

- Describe the problem
- Discuss attempts made to address ***and/or*** resolve the problem

Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to

- Develop all aspects of the task
- Incorporate information from *at least* ***four*** documents
- Incorporate relevant outside information
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme