

The Cities Are Moving

Student guide

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You advise Aster as a neighboring city moves closer. Explain an agreement, investigate new evidence, and recommend what happens next. The cities and documents are fictional; everything you need about the case is in the game.

<https://yoavduman.com/lab/the-cities-are-moving>

Your task

Use five approaches: realism and neorealism, economic interdependence, neoliberal institutionalism, democratic peace, and constructivism. A useful answer names a fact, explains how it could shape behavior, and connects that process to the decision being explained.

Part A takes about 60 minutes; Part B about 75. These are planning estimates. There is no timer, and you can pause anywhere. The full exercise includes 40 required written responses and eight short knowledge checks. Each field shows its own minimum; write enough to explain your reasoning.

Keep the question in view

The protocol is already signed on Day 0. Explaining why it was adopted is different from advising how to implement or renew it. In Part B, the game also asks why Aster answered two escorts differently. Use the current task label to keep those questions separate.

Later what-if tasks change only the stated condition. The satellite offer variation is separate from the original purchase: no choice has been observed in that variation.

Work through the evidence

Enter your name, read the current screen, and write in your own words. Open Evidence and theory when needed. Where asked, select the records you used. If a relevant fact is absent, identify the gap rather than inventing an answer. Try each knowledge check and read its feedback; retries have no penalty.

Use Review my reasoning and the example explanations to check your work. Completion marks check required fields and selections; they do not grade your argument. A feedback flag marks a response in your portfolio. Share that portfolio with your instructor to request feedback.

Save and submit

Save progress downloads a JSON file that lets you resume, including on another device. Keep one whenever you pause. Local saving alone can be lost if browser data is cleared or a private session ends.

Complete Part A before Part B. At the end, open Portfolio, choose Combined A + B, and use Print / Save PDF or Download HTML. Submit the readable report your instructor requests. The JSON progress file is for resuming; a PDF cannot restore your work.

For comfort, Settings offers larger text, stronger contrast, reduced motion, and text-first presentation. Focus view gives writing more space. A laptop or tablet is helpful for longer responses.