Study Guide—Introduction and Part I

Vocabulary: Be sure that you understand these key terms from your reading. Circle ones that you do not know.

security
nuclear terrorism
proliferation
conventional weapons
megaton
radiation
ally
communism
capitalism

Questions:
1. What is President Obama’s goal for nuclear weapons?

2. Define “proliferation.”

3. Russia and the United States have approximately ____________________________ of the some ____________________________ nuclear weapons in the world.

4. When, where, and why were nuclear weapons used during a war?
5. What was the Cold War? How long did it last?

6. Deterrence was based on the idea that the ______________ of nuclear________________ could actually prevent one side from starting a nuclear________________________.


8. What was the Cuban missile crisis?

9. What is the purpose of arms control? Give two examples of arms control treaties.

10. Why did President Reagan shift his attitude about the Soviet Union?
Advanced Study Guide—Part I

1. Why did the United States government increase its supply of nuclear weapons during the 1950s?

2. What is deterrence?

3. Explain the importance of the Cuban missile crisis.

4. President John F. Kennedy worried that twenty to twenty-five nations would have nuclear weapons by the 1970s. Why do you think his worry did not come to pass?
The Role of Nuclear Weapons in U.S. History

Instructions: Use your reading to fill in the boxes below. Briefly describe the relevance of nuclear weapons in each of the events or time periods.

World War II

The Cold War

The Cuban Missile Crisis

Detente

The End of the Cold War

Able Archer

Nuclear Weapons
Why do countries want nuclear weapons?

2003 Iraq War