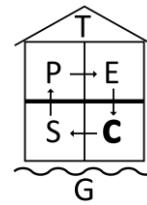




Social Science Factors

The social sciences examine the interplay and impact of these factors.



4WH reference 1: the factor sheet

Influence of **GEOGRAPHY** and impact of **TECHNOLOGY** affect the Four Worlds

Technology	Four Worlds			
	Politics	Economics	Social	Culture
a. discoveries b. inventions impact of technology* ▪ infrastructure: e.g. * transportation - navigation * communication ▪ production ▪ weapons ▪ medicine, health ▪ beliefs, values legal process ▪ medicine, health	Governing Structure a. type of government ▪ monarchy, oligarchy ▪ democracy, authoritarian ▪ centralized, decentralized b. military: armies, weapons ▪ defense, protection vs. conquest, expansion ▪ treaties, diplomacy c. legal system ▪ laws, standards, rights ▪ judges, police, patrol d. taxes, tribute	Economic Structure a. products / trade ▪ goods & services b. production means of production ▪ resources: natural, human, financial ▪ tools, equipment, labor c. types of labor, work, jobs ▪ merchants, artisans, craftsmen, guilds ▪ division of labor, specialization d. infrastructure ▪ irrigation, aqueducts ▪ roads, bridges, ports e. means of exchange ▪ barter system ▪ system of money f. standard measures ▪ length, weight, volume, distance -----Central Concepts----- g. entrepreneurship h. incentives i. scarcity vs prosperity j. innovation & efficiency	Social Structure a. class ▪ upper - ruling class - elite class ▪ middle - common class - working class ▪ lower - peasants - slaves b. status / position ▪ mobility ▪ privilege c. hierarchical v. communal d. integrated v. segregated e. roles (role of women) f. demographics ▪ population groups, trends ▪ migration (internal, external) ▪ rural v. urban ▪ nomadic v. sedentary -----Civil Society**----- g. civic duty / common good h. education (literacy level) i. equity & access j. advocates, watchdogs, movements, protests ▪ accountability ▪ transparency k. organizations, associations l. distribution of information; news; <i>role of the media</i>	Religion & Belief Systems a. origins b. teachings — shared values, moral authority c. texts d. practices, rites & rituals e. influence; role in society Other Aspects of Culture a. daily life b. customs c. language d. alphabet / writing system e. literature f. the arts — aesthetics ▪ visual art, crafts ▪ performing arts: music, dance, theater/drama g. architecture -----Central Concepts----- h. identity (pride, bonds, loyalty) i. tolerance (harmony) j. respect for authority k. meaning, comfort, hope (esp. to face hardship, suffering) l. cultural blending, diffusion ▪ diversity v homogeneity ▪ assimilation v acculturation ▪ harmony v conformity
Geography a. climate b. physical features ▪ topography ▪ vegetation c. natural resources ▪ water ▪ minerals ▪ rich soil - arable land ▪ trees (lumber) d. trade routes ▪ rivers, straits ▪ mountain passes territory, borders, political boundaries	-----Central Concepts----- e. security ▪ order, stability, control ▪ state-building (rise & fall) f. power: limits, transfer, balance ▪ legitimate authority ▪ role of govt / functions g. rule of law vs. force / fear ▪ equality <i>before the law</i> ▪ justice, fairness ▪ enforcement, recourse h. leadership, stewardship ▪ public service, duty i. rights & responsibilities j. managing the commons ▪ public goods, infrastructure ▪ redistribution			

* Impact of technology across society is the central concept. War is the primary driver of technological innovation and radical social change. **Civil society is the central concept of the social world.



Social Science **Factors**: 4W chart of key concepts

4WH reference 2: concrete vs. concept

These concepts are "factors" of the human condition – that when combined in different ways – produce different types of societies throughout history and around the world today. Some factors are basic to survival while others help establish more order and greater stability. Some of these factors are needed for a thriving, more humane existence. Societies have strengths or weaknesses across these factors. Absence or loss of certain factors can lead to the decline of a society.

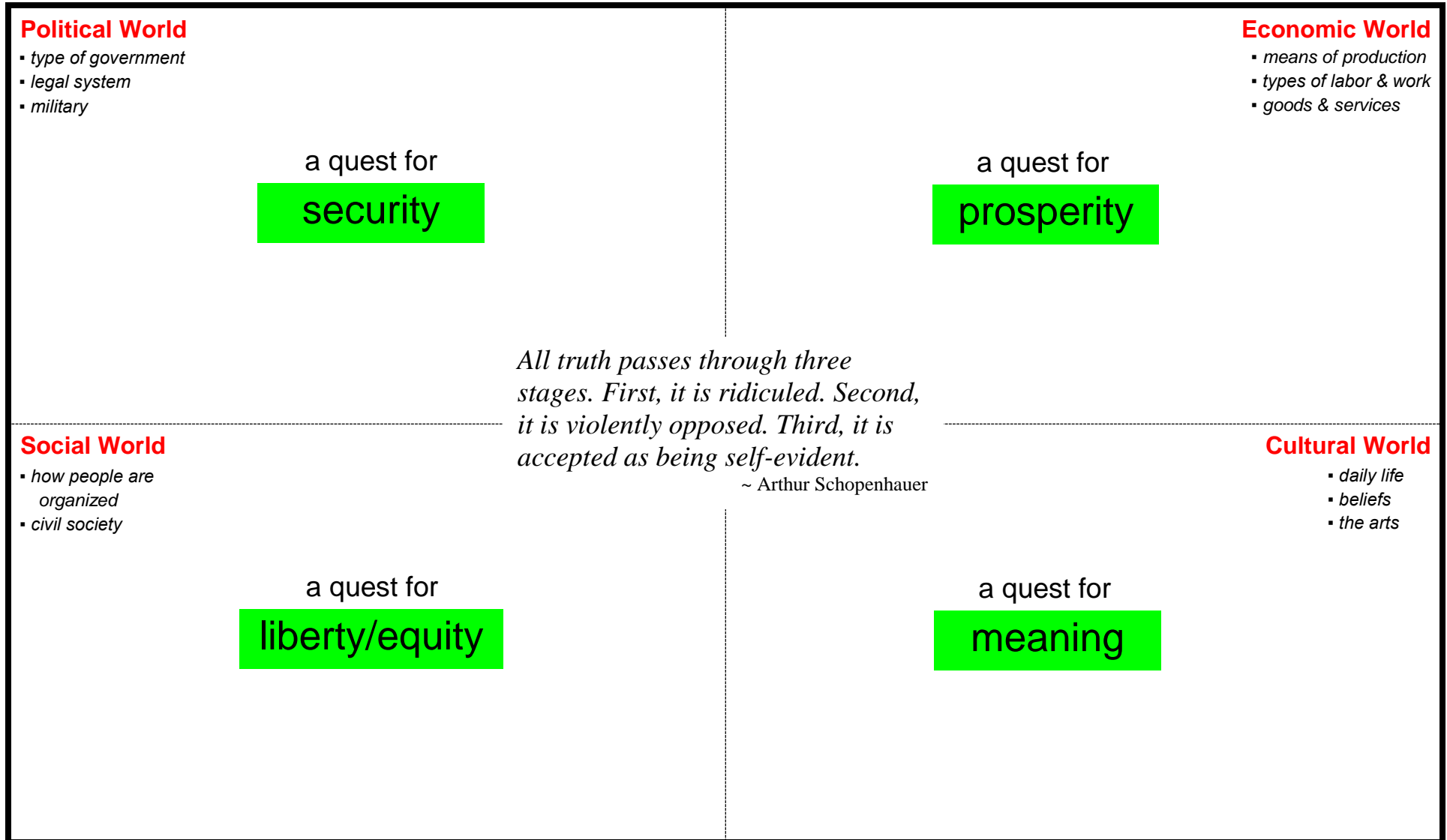




Social Science **Factors**: tools for exploration

4WH reference 3: the quest

Human History can be studied as a quest....

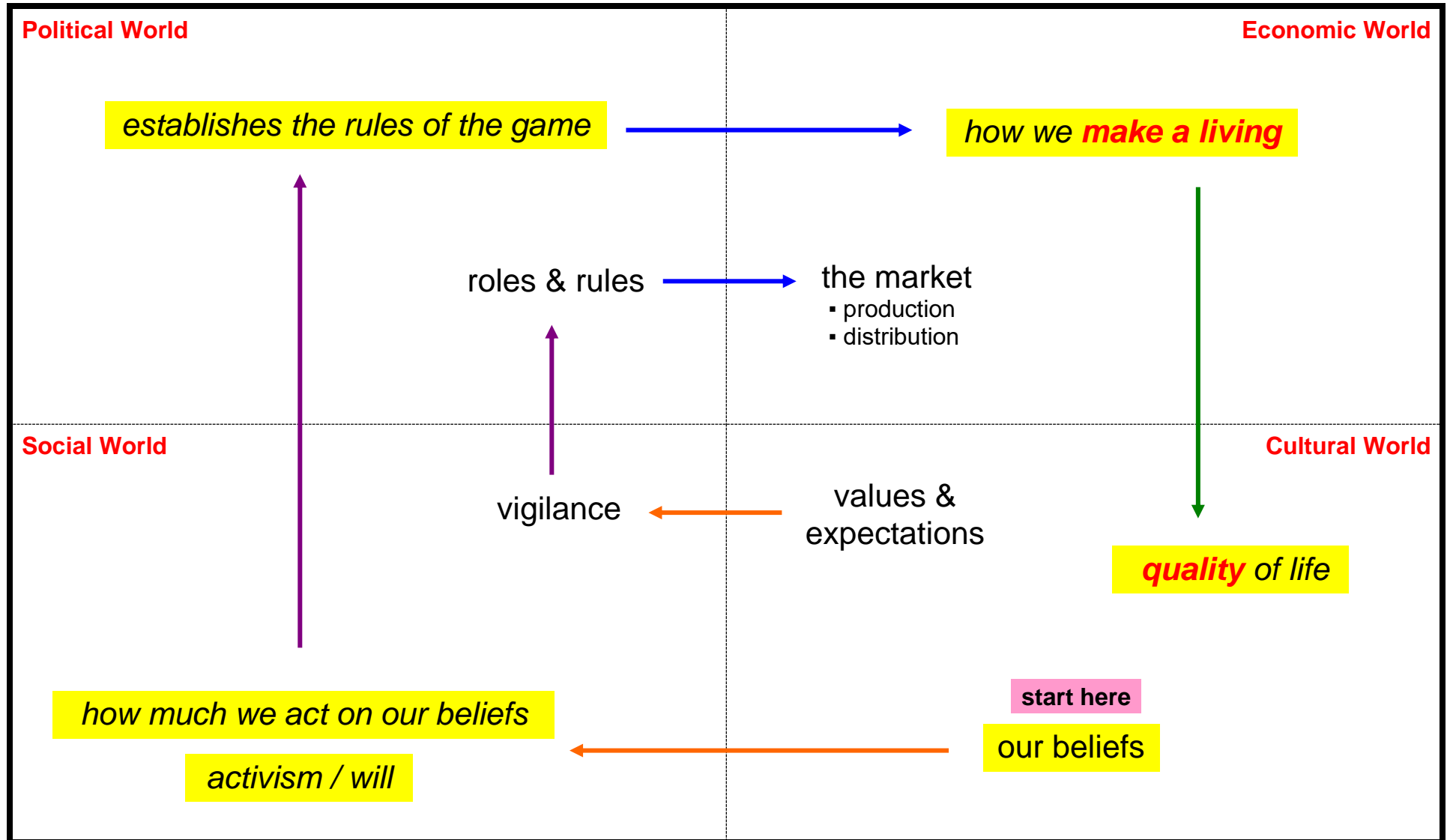




Social Science **Factors**: same dynamics, different outcomes

4WH reference 4: relationships

How do societies organize themselves?





Social Science **Factors**

4WH analysis worksheet

Technology

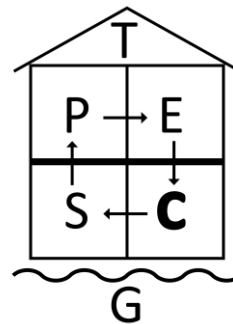
- *impact of discoveries & inventions: transportation, communication, weapons, medicine, health*

Economic World

- *means of production*
- *types of labor & work*
- *goods & services*

Political World

- *type of government*
- *legal system*
- *military*



Cultural World

- *daily life: customs, traditions, practices*
- *beliefs, values*
- *the arts*

Social World

- *social structure: class, status, position, roles*
- *civil society*
- *news, information, media*
- *education, literacy*

- *climate, physical features*
- *natural resources*
- *trade routes, political boundaries*

Geography

