A Short History of the Nuclear Arms Race

1. What were the origins of the nuclear arms race? Why did both the United States and Soviet Union try to build up their nuclear arsenals?
2. What was significant about the development of the hydrogen bomb?
3. What were two reasons that negations between the two superpowers to bring the arms race under control were often unsuccessful?
4. What did the Test Ban Treaty of 1963 accomplish? Why did it fail to bring the arms race under control?
5. What did the Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty (SALT I) accomplish? Why was it ineffective in halting the arms race?
6. What did the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty accomplish? What about SALT II?
7. What events finally brought the superpowers arms race to an end?
8. How did each of the following treaties help to reduce the threat of nuclear war?

* START –
* START II –
* Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) –

1. What are two reasons that nuclear weapons still remain a threat to world peace?