

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____



Directions: After reading the background information and examining the source, answer the questions below.

Background Information: *Prior to the outbreak of WWII, Mackenzie King wrestled with how to approach Canada's involvement in a potential conflict. The following source is an excerpt from a speech made by King in the Canadian Parliament.*

Featured Source:

"The idea that every twenty years this country would automatically and as a **matter of course** take part in a war overseas for democracy or **self-determination** of other small nations, that a country which has all it can do to run itself should feel called upon to save, periodically, a continent that cannot run itself, and to these ends risks the lives of its people, risks **bankruptcy** and **political disunion**, seems to many a nightmare and **sheer** madness."

Source: Mackenzie-King, William Lyon, speech to the Canadian House of Commons as reported in the *New York Times*, March 31, 1939.

Matter of course: Routine

Self-determination:
Independence

Bankruptcy: Financial
failure

Political disunion:
division

Sheer: Complete / Total

Your Task: Examine the inferences below and return to the text. Which inference is best supported by the source?

Alternative Inferences	
Person 1:	King's speech suggests an emphasis on Canada's priority to prioritize its own well-being.
Person 2:	King's speech suggests a frustration with European politics and conflict.

Multiple Choice: Which inference is most plausible?

- a) Person 1's inference is most plausible.
- b) Person 2's inference is most plausible.
- c) Both Person 1 and Person 2's inferences are equally plausible
- d) Neither inference is plausible

Short Answer Response: Explain your reasoning.