

Midterms

William Spaniel

williamspaniel@gmail.com

wjspaniel.wordpress.com

“The Game Theory of Baseball”



- Fireside Chat at the Drama House
- Billed as Rev. Dr. William J. O'Malley, Jr. PhD (Soon to Be Esquire)
- April 12
- 8 pm
- Learn how to catch a baseball at a game!

But First...Pop Quiz!

- Quiet, please.
- Take out a sheet of paper and write your name at the top.

Question #1

- According to Bruce Baker, African dictators have reason to be nervous in the 21st Century because
 - a. international courts are now putting ex-dictators on trial for crimes against humanity.
 - b. natural resources are running low, so leaders will no longer be able to make money that way.
 - c. they can no longer rely on Cold War politics for payouts from the United States/Soviet Union.
 - d. Invisible Children is shedding light on the use child soldiers (when their president isn't being arrested for public indecency).

Question #2

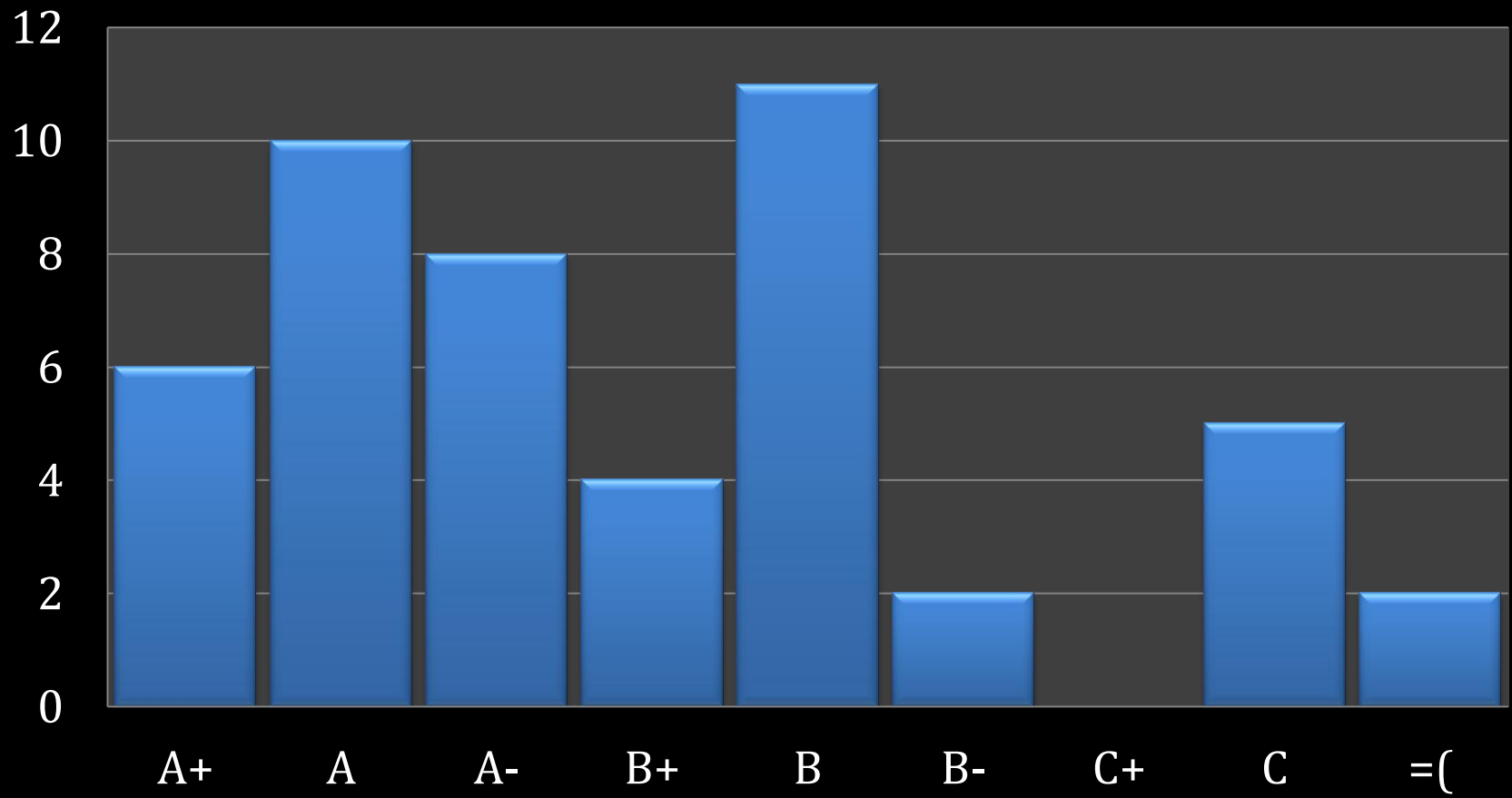
- Why does John Bolton believe that the US should not support the International Criminal Court?
 - a. It claims to supersede American sovereignty.
 - b. Its judges are not elected directly by the UN Security Council.
 - c. The criminals it prosecutes should be able to have a jury trial.
 - d. It would outlaw The Hunger Games.

But First...Pop Quiz!

- Please rip your name off the top of the paper and pass them to the front.
 - Gotcha!
 - Unless you looked at the slides online before class. Then you knew about the pop quiz. And that the pop quiz was a fake.
 - In this case, you are no fun...but at least you are keeping up with the class.
- Hopefully the scores are good.

Midterms (For Real This Time)

Grade Distribution



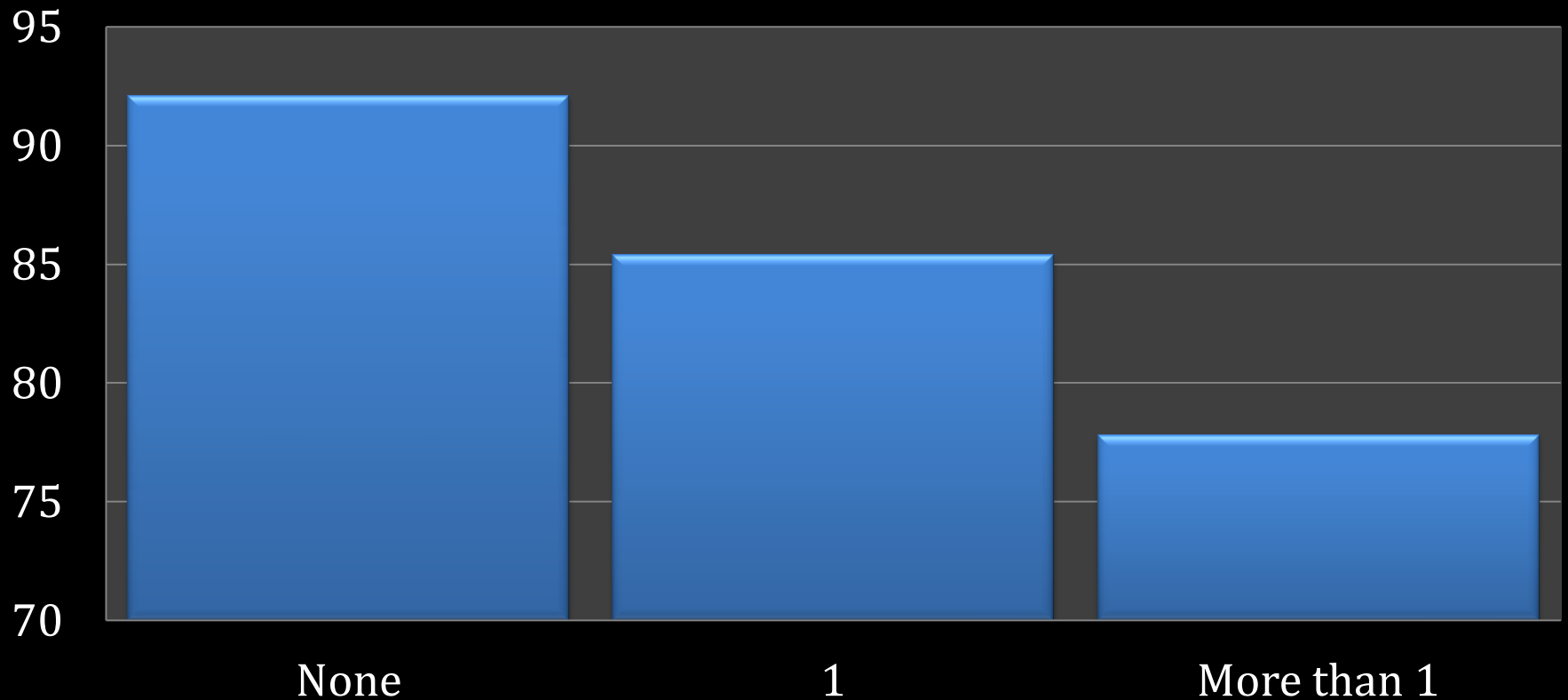
Let's Not Panic

- Did you get an 85 on the exam?
 - If you get an 85 on the final and an A for participation, your course grade will be an A-.
 - If you get an 95 on the final and an A for participation, your course grade will be an A.
- Did you get an 80 on the exam?
 - If you get an 80 on the final and an A for participation, your course grade will be an B.

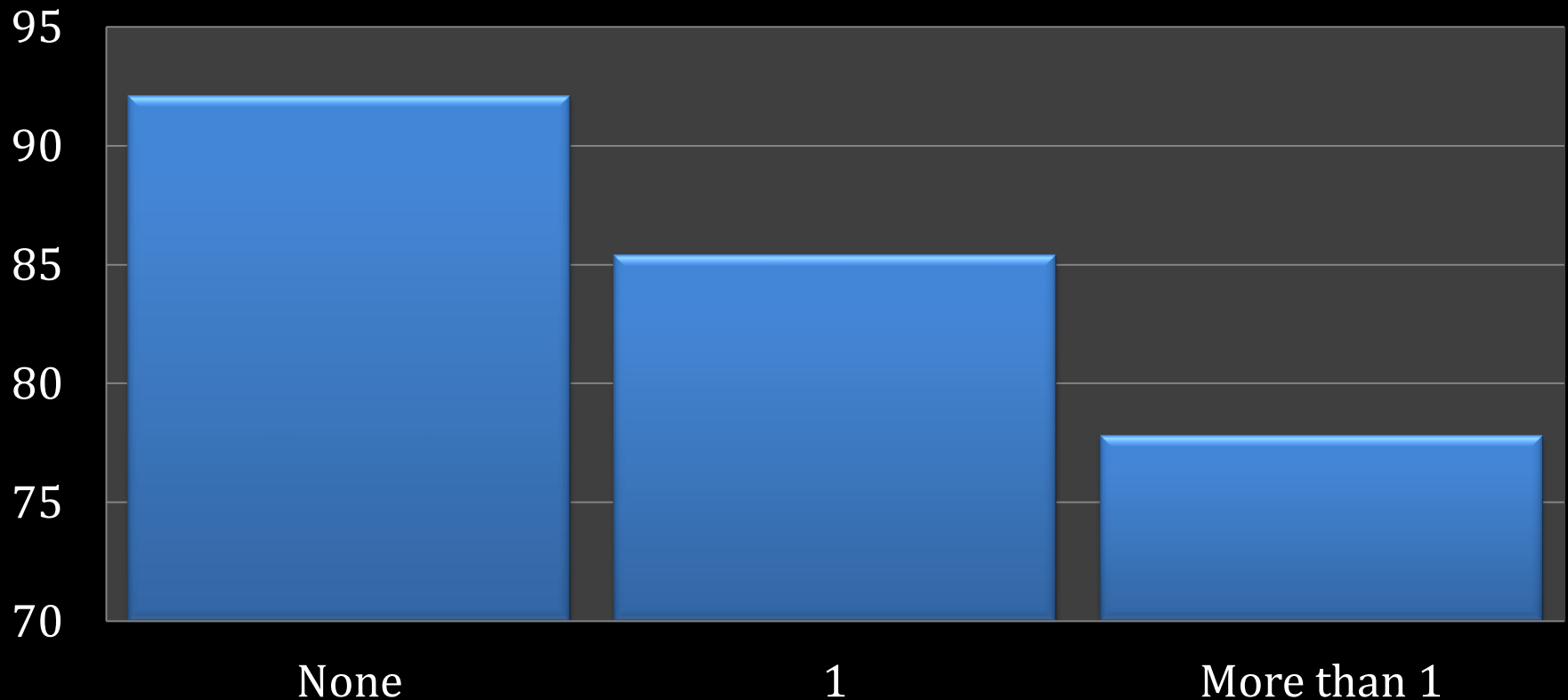
Problem with Your Grade?

- If I didn't add properly or completely missed some part of your midterm (like the bonus question), *you must talk to me before leaving today.*
- Outside of that, please see the professor.

Average Grade By # of Absences



Average Grade By # of Absences



Causal or correlational?

Missed class? Bluebooks will be
in the Harkness 3rd floor cubbies.

Did You Read Fearon?

- If you *only* read Fearon and understood it perfectly, then you could have scored 90% on this test.
 - Anarchy
 - Risk-return tradeoff

Advice on Quotes

- Do *not* rewrite the quote.
 - Tell me something I don't know instead.
- Bad: "Fearon argues that wars occur due to incomplete information, commitment problems, and issue indivisibility."
- Good: "Commitment problems cause wars because _____. Issue indivisibility causes wars because _____."

Quote #1: War's Inefficiency Puzzle

- Correct: A research question that asks why states choose to fight wars when there are settlements which are mutually preferable to war.
- Incorrect: There exist mutually preferable settlements to war, so war should never happen.

Quote #1: Commitment Problems

- States want to make agreements binding.
- But after agreements are made, if power shifts, one or both of the states might want to break the agreement.
- So they fight before any agreement is made.

Quote #5



Giacomo Chiozza

Life Lesson: When Names Are Important

Essay #1: For Your Situational Awareness

- Israel and Iran are not currently at war.
- War between Israel and Iran is not “extremely likely” in 2012.
 - Or maybe it is. I don’t know.



USA and/or Israel to execute an overt Air Strike against Iran
before midnight ET 31 Dec 2012

Event: [US/Israeli Overt Air Strike against Iran](#)

39.5%
CHANCE

Predict

Essay #1: Three Rationalist Explanations

- Question asked for rationalist explanations, not *unitary actor* rationalist explanations.
- A lot of people wrote about issue indivisibility and then remarked it does not fit the situation.
 - Awkward.
- Domestic political cleavages.
 - Great way to integrate more readings.

Essay #1: Information Problems

- States have incentive to *overrepresent* actual capabilities.
- If Iran has nuclear weapons, it would want to demonstrate their nuclear capability to Israel and force Israel to make concessions.
- If Iran tried a swift nuclear attack on Israel, Israel would bomb them right back.

Essay #1: Issue Indivisibility

- Nuclear weapons are a means to an end.
 - The states negotiate over them because they know more power will lead to a different distribution of the good (territory, policy, whatever).
- Thus, nuclear weapons are *not* an indivisible issue.
 - Having nukes is indivisible, but they are not issues.

Essay #2: Readings

- Incorporate them into your essay. Seriously.
- A lot of essays only talked about Glennon for a sentence (if at all) and didn't mention any other readings from the class.

The Best Way To Cook Fries (+1)

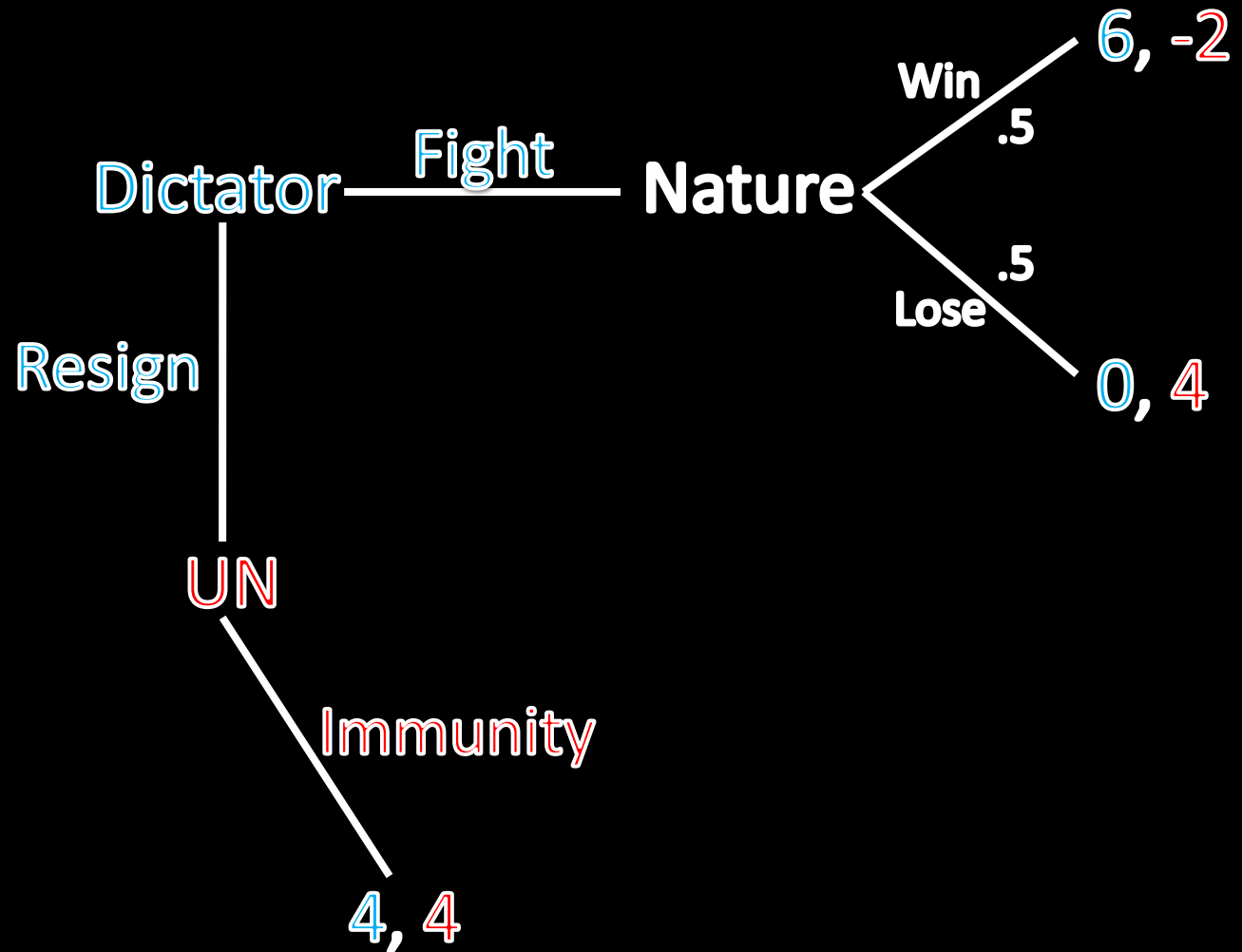
- Through bargaining! The hegemon, the United States, threatens a state that is good at making French fries with compellence (do this or else)...Then, the state will feel threatened and provide the French fries at a reasonably low price to avoid war. To the United States, there's no cost of war because it does not happen and it gets the best result.

The Best Way To Cook Fries (+2)

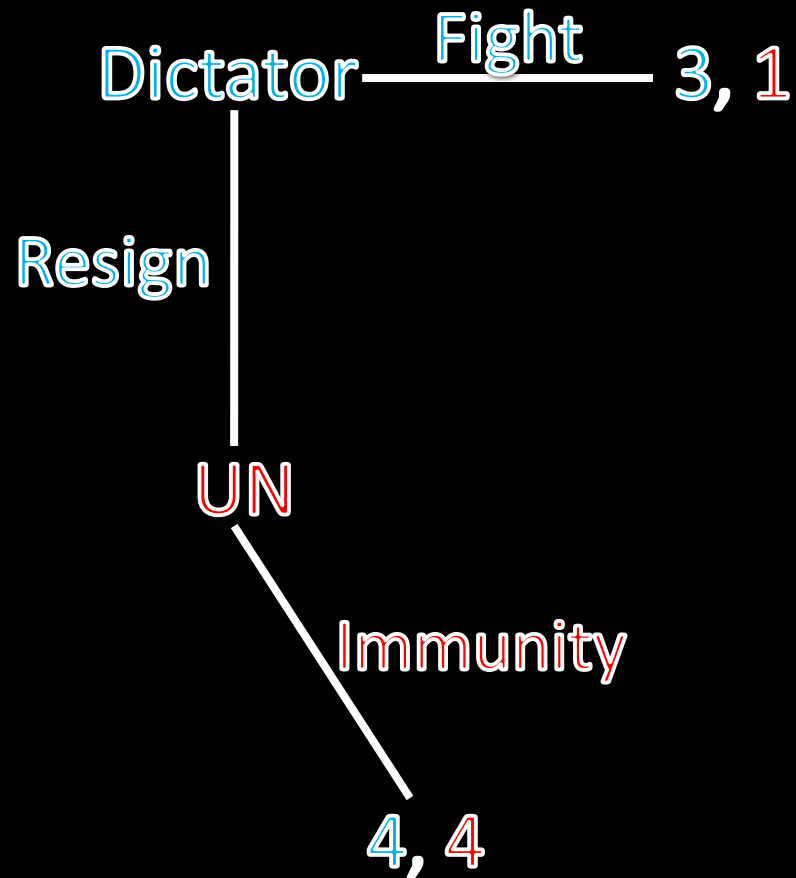
- What the professor said in class:
 - Bake them and then fry them.
- What he wanted to say:
 - Fry them once, let them sit, and fry them again.

Should We Bring War Criminals
to Justice?

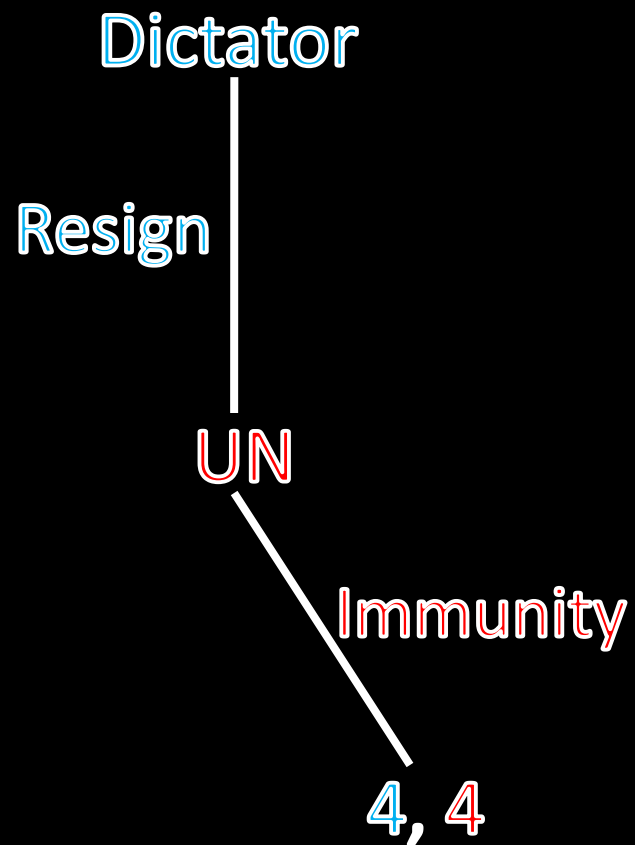
With No International Criminal Courts



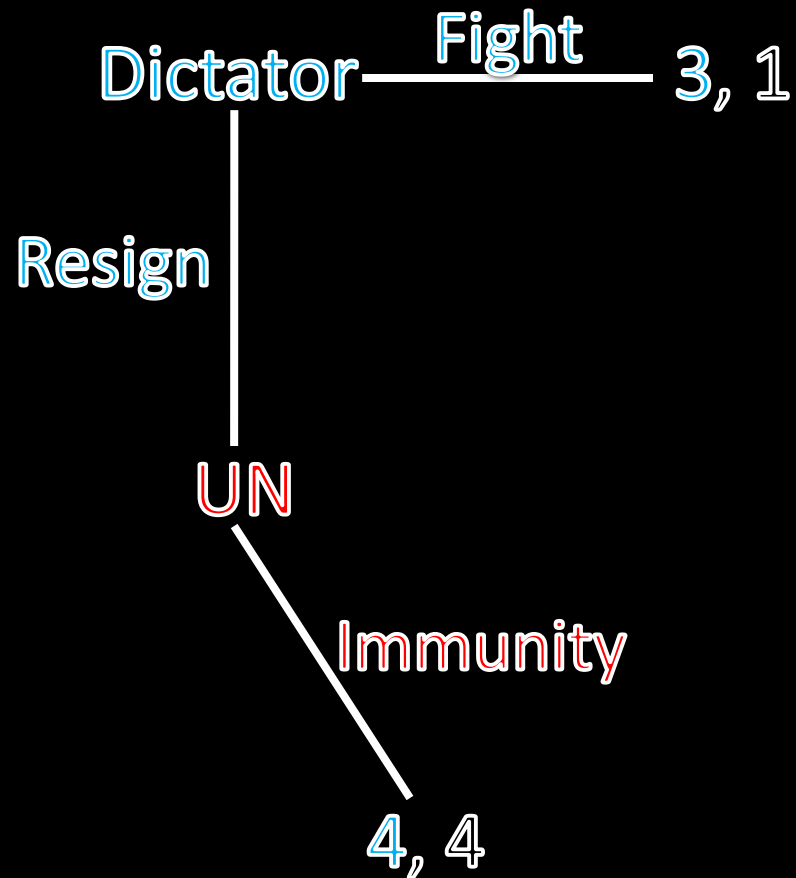
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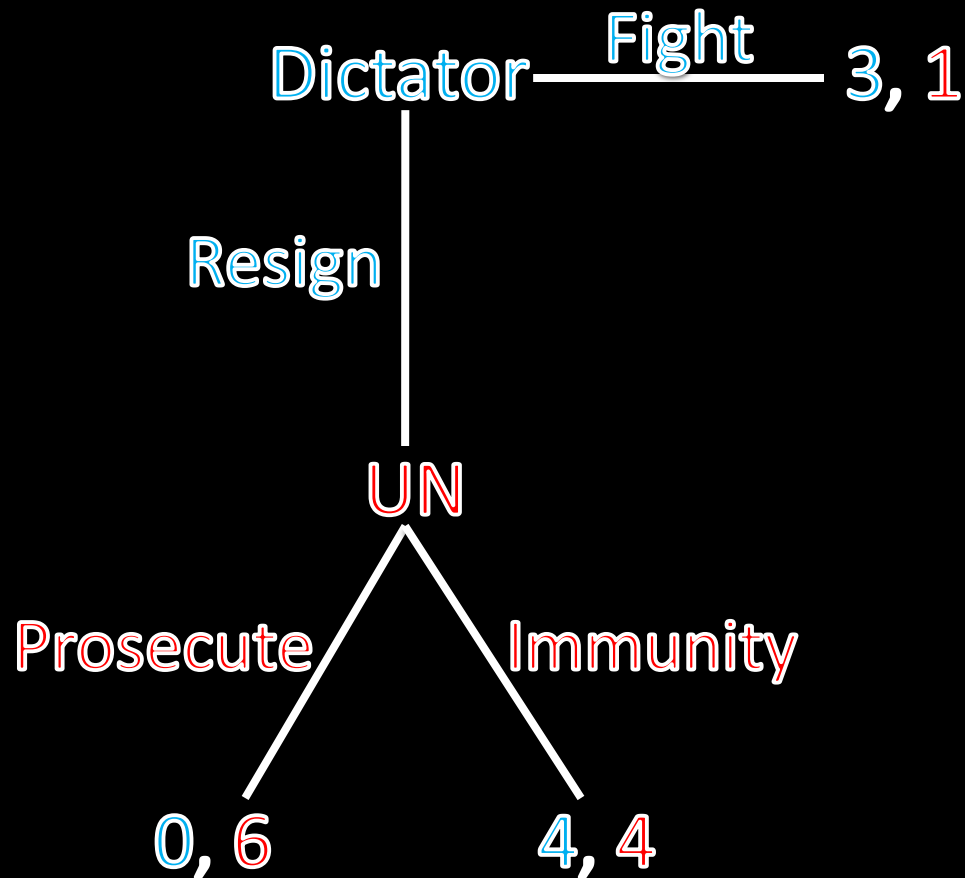
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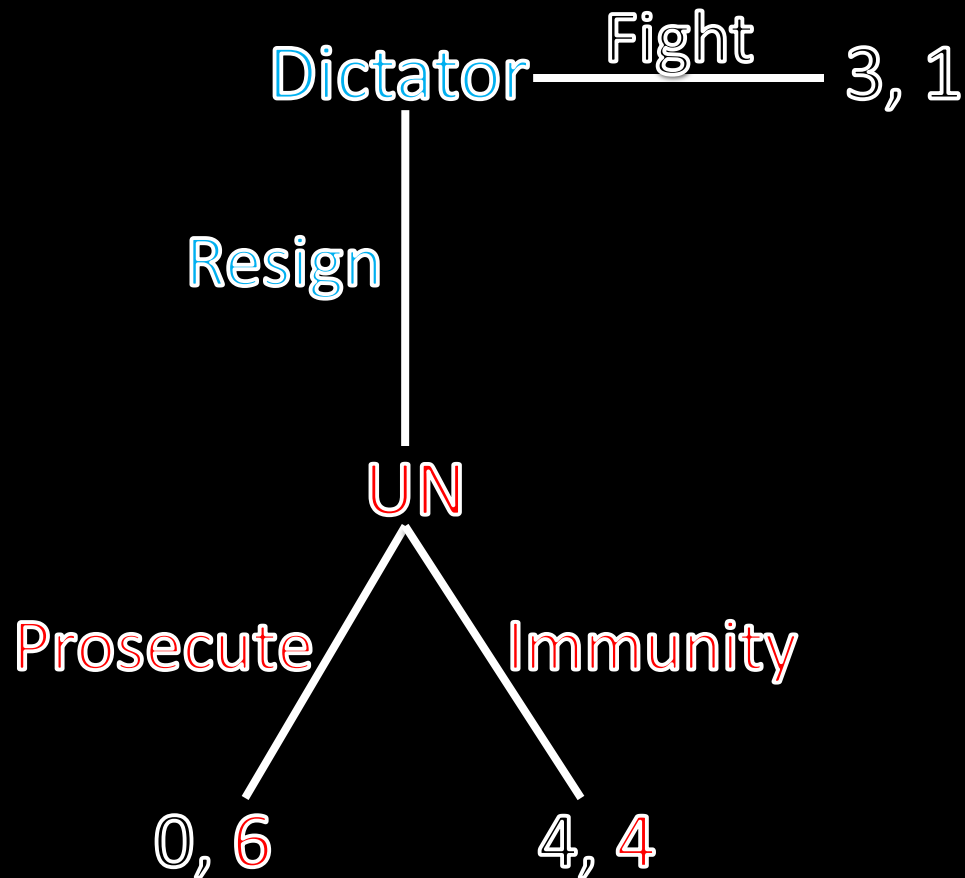
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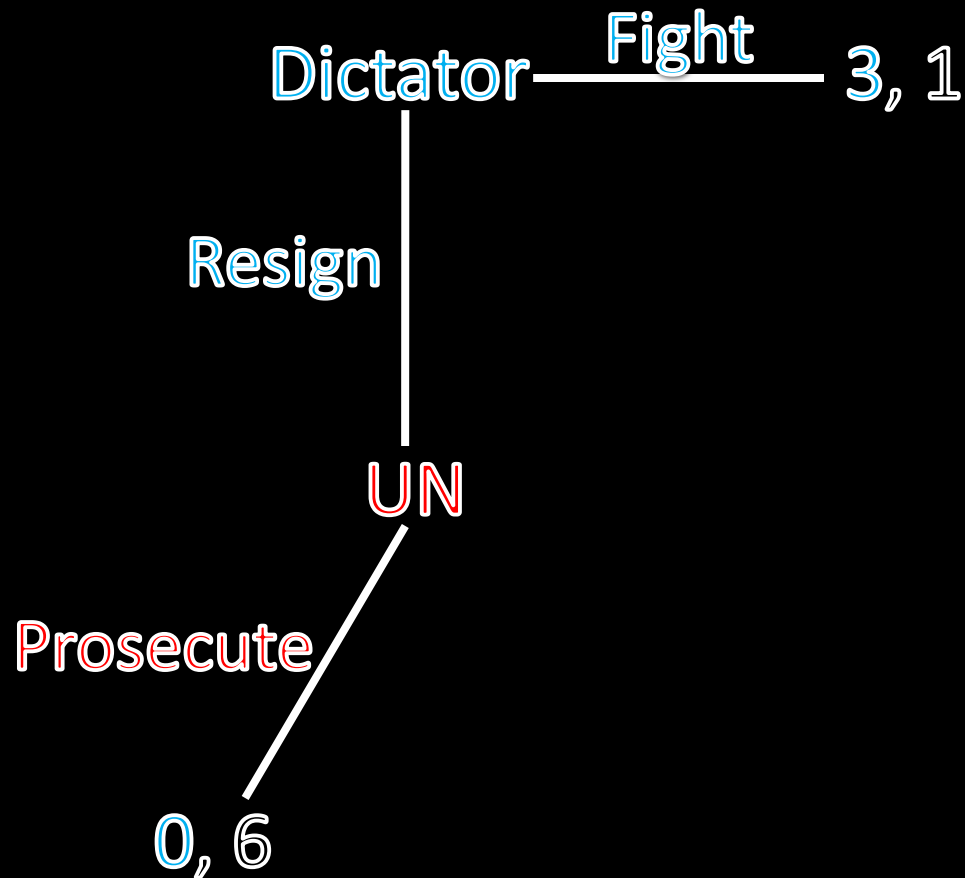
With International Criminal Courts



With International Criminal Courts



With International Criminal Courts



With International Criminal Courts

Dictator Fight 3, 1

**With No International
Criminal Courts**

Dictator

Resign

UN

Immunity

4, 4

**With International
Criminal Courts**

Dictator — Fight — 3, 1

The Dilemma

- International courts entrench evil dictators.
 - They know they will be prosecuted if they try to leave office, so they put up a fight if challenged.
 - Thus, in a one-time interaction, international courts are really, really bad.
- But they discourage future evil dictators.
 - If a dictator just entered office, he might play nice with his people to avoid future prosecution because he knows its coming.

The Dilemma

- So are international courts a good thing?
 - Who knows?