

Critical Thinking Skills

Iraq War (2003 – 2010)

Skills For Critical Thinking		Chapter Questions							Hands-on Activities
		Iraq - Desert, Oil and Saddam Hussein	The Persian Gulf War	World Terrorism	Last Moves	Operation Iraqi Freedom	The Fall of Baghdad	Aftermath	A Soldier's Story
LEVEL 1 Remembering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List Details/Facts Recall Information Match Vocabulary to Definition Define Vocabulary Sequence 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 2 Understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate Understanding Describe Classify 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 3 Applying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application to Own Life Organize and Classify Facts Infer Outcomes Utilize Alternative Research Tools 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 4 Analysing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distinguish Meanings Make Inferences Draw Conclusions Identify Cause and Effect Identify Supporting Evidence 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 5 Evaluating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State and Defend an Opinion Make Recommendations 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 6 Creating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compile Research Information Design and Application Create and Construct Imagine Alternatives 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Based on Bloom's Taxonomy

NAME: _____



World Terrorism

1. Using the words in the box, write each word beside its meaning.

stockpiles
motivate

manufacture
axis

contend
destruction

suspicious
ethnic

A

belonging to the cultural, racial, religious, or linguistic traditions of a people

B

to struggle, dispute, compete

C

to cause or prompt

D

to suspect or distrust

E

to make or produce

F

to destroy or demolish

G

a supply for future use

H

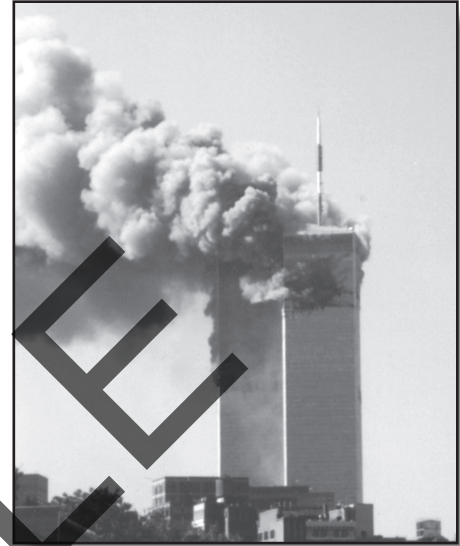
an alliance of two or more nations

2. In the upcoming chapter a character named **Osama bin Laden** is mentioned. What do you already know about this man?



World Terrorism

The Middle East area has long been a troubled region of the world. It is home to a number of different languages, ethnic groups and religions. For generations many of the countries and peoples there have been ill-treated by Western nations – even before the discovery of oil in the region. In some ways the discovery of oil has only added to the problems faced by the people living in this mostly desert region – they now have to face foreigners trying to take advantage of them, as well as rulers motivated by greed and personal ambition. Although the world was no stranger to acts of terror, the events on September 11, 2001 made the entire world sit up and take notice. On that dark day two planes were flown into the World Trade Center in New York City, another into the Pentagon in Washington D.C., and a fourth plane was forced down in Pennsylvania. Two thousand nine hundred ninety-three people lost their lives, and an international terrorist organization known as **al-Qaeda** was deemed responsible.



World Trade Center in New York City on 9/11

How do you think these acts of terrorism contributed to America's decision to attack Iraq?



Ten years had passed between the end of **Persian Gulf War** (which ended in 1991) and the events of September 11, 2001. In those ten years the United Nations had ordered Iraq to get rid of its programs aimed at developing poisonous gases and nuclear bombs. United Nations inspectors had been sent to Iraq to check sites that looked suspicious, but the Iraqi government did not cooperate in the way the inspectors would have liked.

In 1998 US President Bill Clinton ordered a series of air strikes against targets where it was believed **weapons of mass destruction** were being made. After this, no inspections were conducted for four years, a fact that made the United States very uneasy. Was Iraq making an atomic bomb? At the time no one knew for sure.



World Terrorism

The United States and other Western nations knew that **Osama bin Laden** was the leader of the terrorist group that carried out the 9/11 attacks. Bin Laden was a millionaire from Saudi Arabia whose headquarters was believed to be in Afghanistan.

However, President George W. Bush made it known that Saddam Hussein and his Iraqi government were suspected of supporting terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda. In a 2002 speech Bush called Iraq a member of the "axis of evil" – along with Iran and North Korea. He also began to publicly call for military action to be taken against Iraq. He told people in the United States and around the world that he believed Iraq was manufacturing **weapons of mass destruction** (poisonous gas, nuclear bombs) and that Saddam Hussein was supporting al-Qaeda. The American government said that they had evidence that Iraq had large stockpiles of chemical weapons and was actively seeking materials to make nuclear weapons.



Do you think President Bush's reasons for going to war were convincing?



Many countries in Europe and elsewhere in the world did not support America's call for military action. Countries such as France, Germany, and Russia suggested that more time should be given for the weapons inspectors to go through the questionable sites in Iraq.

Iraq finally let the weapons inspectors back into the country in November 2002. After three months of inspections no weapons of mass destruction had been found. However President Bush and his government still did not consider Hussein to be completely cooperative, and the path to war seemed unstoppable.



World Terrorism



1. Circle the word **TRUE** if the statement is TRUE or Circle the word **FALSE** if it is FALSE.

- a) The Middle East has been a relatively peaceful area of the world for centuries.

TRUE

FALSE

- b) Altogether four planes were hijacked during the events of 9/11.

TRUE

FALSE

- c) It is believed that Osama bin Laden masterminded the events of 9/11.

TRUE

FALSE

- d) Despite the protests of the United Nations, no weapons inspectors were ever allowed into Iraq.

TRUE

FALSE

- e) In 1998 President Bill Clinton ordered a series of air strikes on Iraq.

TRUE

FALSE

- f) It is believed that Osama bin Laden's headquarters was in Afghanistan.

TRUE

FALSE

2. What were the two main reasons given by President George W. Bush for invading Iraq?

