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O **A.** 1956-2001 O B. 1987-1999 O **c.** 1979-2003 **D.** 1978-2007

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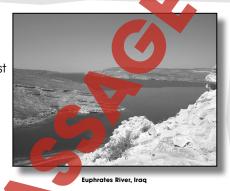
### Reading Passage

NAME: \_

### Iraq - Desert, Oil and Saddam Hussein

he geographical area in which the country of Iraq is located has been home to people and civilizations for countless generations. Some of the world's oldest civilizations and cities, in fact, were located in what is now Iraq. Only since 1921, however, has this land been known as "Iraq".

Iraq is located in southwest Asia and is the world's 58th largest country. It is roughly twice the size of the state of Kansas. Its population (about 27 million) is slightly larger than that of



Texas. Although much of Iraq is sandy desert, it is blessed with the presence of two mighty rivers that run through the country – the **Tigris** and **Euphrates**. These rivers are major assets to farming in this region. As you might expect in a desert region, Iraq's summers are very hot - but its winters are quite cool - especially in the mountainous area to the north.

The **Arabic** people, for the most part, control Iraqi society. They make up about three-quarters of the population. Sixty percent of Iraq's population are Shiite Muslim Arabs. A minority, the Sunni Muslim Arabs, has been the group that has governed the country for most of the past 100 years. The Kurds are the third-largest group, are mostly located in the northeastern corner of the country, and for many years had been persecuted. They are also Sunni Muslims.



How might the presence of different ethnic groups and different Muslim sects spell trouble for Iraq?

Only about half of Iracks very limited arable land is under cultivation. Nevertheless, many Iraqis make their living growing such crops as rice, corn, and dates. Many people in Iraq make their living in the oil industry. This is by far the most important industry in and in the entire Middle East region. It is thought that Iraq has the second largest oil reserves in the world, buried under the sands of its deserts. It is this great wealth that has been the source of many of the terrible troubles that Iraq has gone through in the past thirty years - three major wars, and a number of bloody rebellions.

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追	Oil and Saddam Hus	
IAME:	After You Read 🔷	

	Iraq -	Desert,	Oil	and	Saddam	Hussein
3.	Answer eac	ch question with c	a full se	ntence.		

Alla	wer each question with a fail semence.
A)	What troubles has the country of Iraq experienced during the past thirty years or so?

B) How do you think Saddam Hussein's rule might have added to Iraq's problems?

### Research

The Middle East has been in the news almost daily for the last several years. Iraq, of course, is just one country of many making up this region of the world. Choose a nation from the list below and compile an Information Sheet on it. You may wish to include on the sheet information about the size of the country, its location, population, agricultural products, industry, etc. Your report should total about a half-page in length.

Saudi Arabia Israel **Syria** Jordan

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### Post It on a Poster

or generations posters have been an effective way of publicizing events, advertising products, and making announcements. Posters have come a long way in the last hundred years. Early posters were only in black ink and rarely featured any artwork. Posters today are in full color and feature all kinds of imaginative, eye-catching graphics and fonts.



Your task is to create an imaginative, colorful and effective poster. The poster should in some way be tied in with our study of Iraq and its recent history. You may consider one of the following ideas, or come up with one of your own:

- A recruitment poster for an iraqi company. Select or make up a company of your choice (perhaps in the oil industry, or in police services) and design a poster intended to attract workers to Iraq. You should probably note that while the pay and benefits are good, the risks may be quite high.
- A Wanted Dead of Alive poster for a war criminal (ex. Saddam Hussein before his capture, one of his lieutenants still at large, a terrorist, etc.).
- A poster whose purpose is to attract tourists to Iraq. The country still boasts many wonderful historical sites – and accommodations and meals are very reasonably priced.
- A poster advertising one of Iraq's historical sites (ex. Babylon, Saddam Hussein's Palace, etc.).

Be sure your poster is informative, attractive and colorful. It should feature enough information to make it useful. It should also include a picture.



Part A



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## Comprehension Quiz



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

1. Much of the land in Iraq is sandy desert.

TRUE FALSE

2. Saddam Hussein's political party was called the Strident People's Party.

TRUE FALSE

3. Iraq had been involved in a long war with Syria.

TRUE FALSE

4. The Persian Gulf War happened because of Iraq's Invasion of Kuwait.

TRUE FALSE

5. The organization **al-Qaeda** took credit for the terrorist incidents in America on September 11, 2001.

TRUE FALSE

6. The U.S. wanted to launch their attacks on Iraq from the country of Turkey.

TRUE FALSE

7. The United States accused Iraq of manufacturing weapons of mass destruction.

TRUE FALS

8. General Norman Schwarzkopf was the commander of the coalition forces during the Iraq War of 2003.

TRUE FALSE

### Part B

Circle) the three countries below that were a part of the coalition.

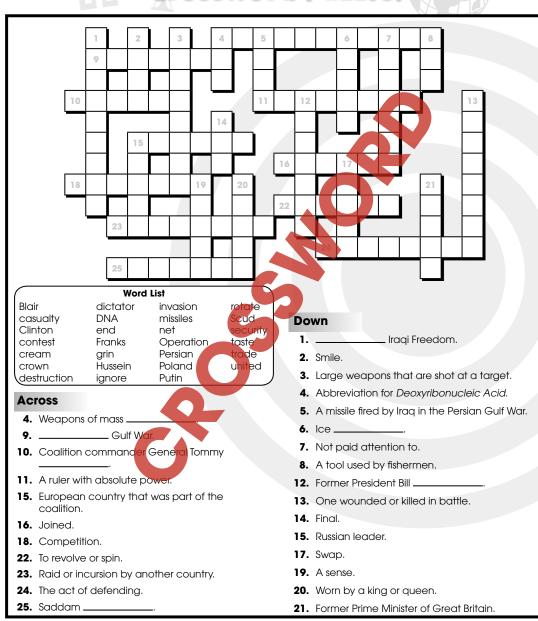




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### **Crossword Puzzle!**

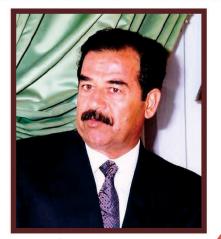


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### Iraq War Key Figures



**Saddam Hussein** 5th President of Iraq 1979 – 2003



**Tony Blair**Prime Minister of United Kingdom
1997 – 2007



**George W. Bush** 43rd U.S. President 2001 – 2009



Tommy Franks
US Army General, Commander-in-Chief
U.S. Central Command

NAME:

## After You Read



# Operation Iraqi Freedom

- 3. Answer each question with complete sentences.
  - a) Why do you think the Iraqis set fire to their own oil wells?
  - **b)** Why do you think the Americans were so concerned about Israel staying out of the war?
  - c) Why do you think coalition leaders expected the conflict to end quickly and without much effort? Why didn't it?

The Prime Minister of Great Britain at this time was **Tony Blair**. It was Prime Minister Blair who provided much in the way of military assistance and moral support to the Americans in this war. He was Prime Minister from 1997 to 2007. Blair is the British Labor Party's longest-serving Prime Minister and the only person to have led the Labor Party to three consecutive general election victories.

Write a brief report (about one-half page) about Prime Minister Blair's life and accomplishments.

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- a) They knew the Americans would soon be taking the wells over and wanted to prevent this from happening.
- **b)** If Israel entered the war other Arab nations might have entered on the side of Iraq.
- aswers will vary

- a) retreat
- **b)** elite
- c) outskirts
- d) discouraged
- e) protective
- f) desperate
- g) interior
- h) parachuted



a) TRUE

b) TRUE

c) FALSE

- - d) TRUE
  - - e) FALSE
    - f) TRUE



b) 🕜 C





a) It delayed the coalition forces' advancement on Baghdad.

**b)** To capture an airfield so they could fly in tanks and other



