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• Reading Comprehension

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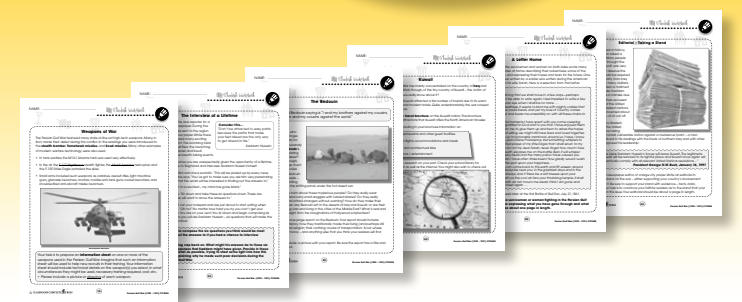
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Invasion of Kuwait



1. The war between Iraq and Kuwait was between two countries whose oil reserves are among the largest in the world. What do you think might be a reason for two such countries going to war?

2. Match each word to its definition. You may use the dictionary to help you.

1	export	To destroy.	A
2	probable	The act of setting upon a course of action.	B
3	destruction	Likely.	C
4	deposed	Head of state in some Islamic countries.	D
5	emir	The choice or best.	E
6	resolution	To ship products to another country.	F
7	elite	To overthrow a ruler.	G



Invasion of Kuwait



Kuwait is a small, oil-rich country that borders on southeastern Iraq. It is much smaller than Iraq, with a population of only about 3 million people. The discovery of oil in Kuwait in the 1930s led it to becoming one of the richest countries in the Persian Gulf region. By 1952 it had become the area's largest exporter of oil. Scientists believe it has the world's fifth-largest proven oil reserves. Modern Kuwait has been an independent nation since 1961.



Kuwait City

In the summer of 1990 Saddam Hussein decided to invade Kuwait and make it Iraq's 19th province. Iraq and Kuwait had been arguing over the border between them for years. Saddam believed that Kuwait should be a part of Iraq because before World War I it had been a part of Iraq under the **Ottoman Empire**. He also accused Kuwait of selling too much cheap oil, which brought the prices of Iraq's oil down, and of stealing his country's oil by "slant drilling" (sticking long oil pipes beneath the Iraqi border). It is more probable that the main reason for the invasion was Iraq's need for cash. In the 1980s the country had run up a huge debt because of their eight-year war with Iran, and they needed money in the worst way. During the Iran-Iraq war Kuwait had loaned billions of dollars to Iraq to help them and when the war finally ended, had demanded repayment.



Why do you think that Saddam Hussein thought that Kuwait should not have asked to be repaid for their loan to Iraq?

Following the war with Iran, Iraq was recognized as having the most powerful military in the Gulf area. In the summer of 1990 Saddam demanded \$27 billion dollars from Kuwait and threatened to invade the little country if they refused. Unfortunately, no other countries took him seriously. On August 2, 1990 an Iraqi force of about 120,000 soldiers and approximately 2,000 tanks and armored vehicles invaded Kuwait, leaving a trail of destruction behind them. The smaller Kuwaiti army was powerless to stop the invaders and many of their 20,000 soldiers were killed or captured. Saddam Hussein removed the Emir of Kuwait, Jaber Al-Sabah, and installed his own governor.



Invasion of Kuwait



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

- a) Unlike its larger neighbor, Iraq, Kuwait is a desperately poor country.
TRUE FALSE
- b) Kuwait has been an independent country since 1812.
TRUE FALSE
- c) Iraq and Kuwait had once been a part of the Ottoman Empire.
TRUE FALSE
- d) Iraq earned millions of dollars because of their war with Iran.
TRUE FALSE
- e) By the end of its war with Iran, Iraq's army had shrunk to almost nothing.
TRUE FALSE

2. Number the events from 1 to 5 in the order they happened in leading to the invasion of Kuwait.

- a) The war between Iran and Iraq finally ends after eight years.
- b) Kuwait becomes an independent country.
- c) Iraqi troops invade Kuwait.
- d) Saddam Hussein accuses Kuwait of "slant drilling" and stealing Iraq's oil.
- e) Kuwait becomes the largest exporter of oil in the Persian Gulf.

3. We have already encountered the names of a number of countries and empires. Circle the ones below that have already played a part in our story.

Iran Ottoman Empire Russia United States Saudi Arabia

Artistic Flair

For this Hands-on Activity you have a **menu of options**. Choose one of the menu items below:

A. A Comic Strip

This activity is especially for students with an artistic flair or who love comic books! Your topic can be on the Persian Gulf War in general, or you may focus on one aspect of it (i.e. the life of Saddam Hussein). The first step is to decide on the length of your comic strip (6 to 12 frames is suggested). Next consider what events you will include.

A quick sketch of the comic strip can first be drawn in a **storyboard format** before a final, good copy is attempted. The strip should include a title, dialog, and color. It should be neat and imaginative.

B. A Poster

Posters are a wonderful way of attracting attention and getting people to think about a particular topic. You are to do a poster (using 11" by 17" paper) on some aspect of the Persian Gulf War. You may wish to consider the following ideas:

- a recruitment poster for the United States Army
- a *Wanted Dead or Alive* poster for Saddam Hussein
- a *Dream of Peace* poster
- a poster advertising for firefighters to put out the oil well fires
- a weapons manufacturer's poster advertising one of its weapons of war

Your poster should be in living color. It should be neat and attractive and feature a title and important information.

C. A Detailed Picture or Diorama

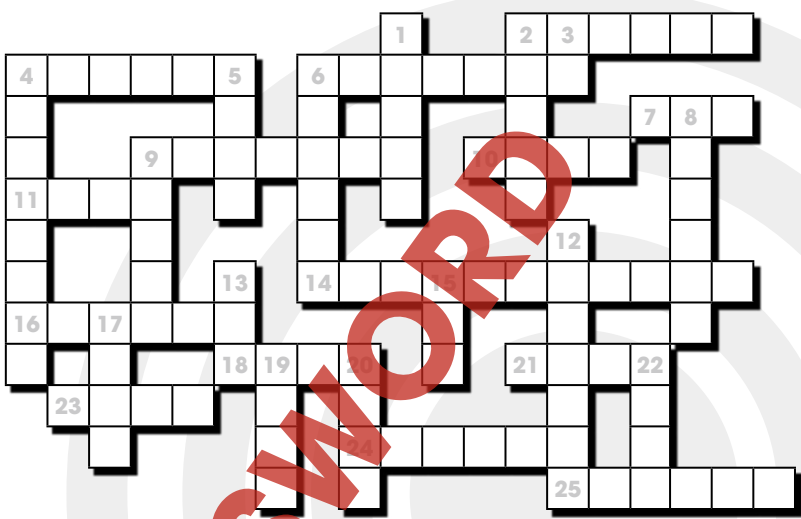
Your final choice is to do either a detailed picture or diorama of some aspect of the Persian Gulf War. Possible subjects *might* include an oil well, Saddam Hussein's childhood home, palace or military bunker in Baghdad, a weapon of war, or one of the coalition military personnel in uniform (or in action).



Crossword Puzzle!

Word List

- ally
- Arabia
- Auja
- Baath
- Baghdad
- bear
- bomb
- Bush
- HH
- Iraq
- Kuwait
- loan
- Mesopotamia
- Norman
- oil
- Ottoman
- reeds
- Saddam
- Scud
- Shield
- sign
- sky
- stealth
- Storm
- Tigris
- Tomahawk
- USA
- wishes
- year



Across

2. Operation Desert _____
4. Iraqi River.
6. A high tech bomber.
7. Where planes fly.
9. Iraqi city.
10. Middle Eastern country.
11. Saddam's hometown.
14. Before 1900 Iraq was a part of _____.
16. Desires.
18. A friend in times of difficulty.
21. Many of these fell on Baghdad during this war.
23. American President during the Persian Gulf War.
24. Saudi _____.
25. Stormin' _____.

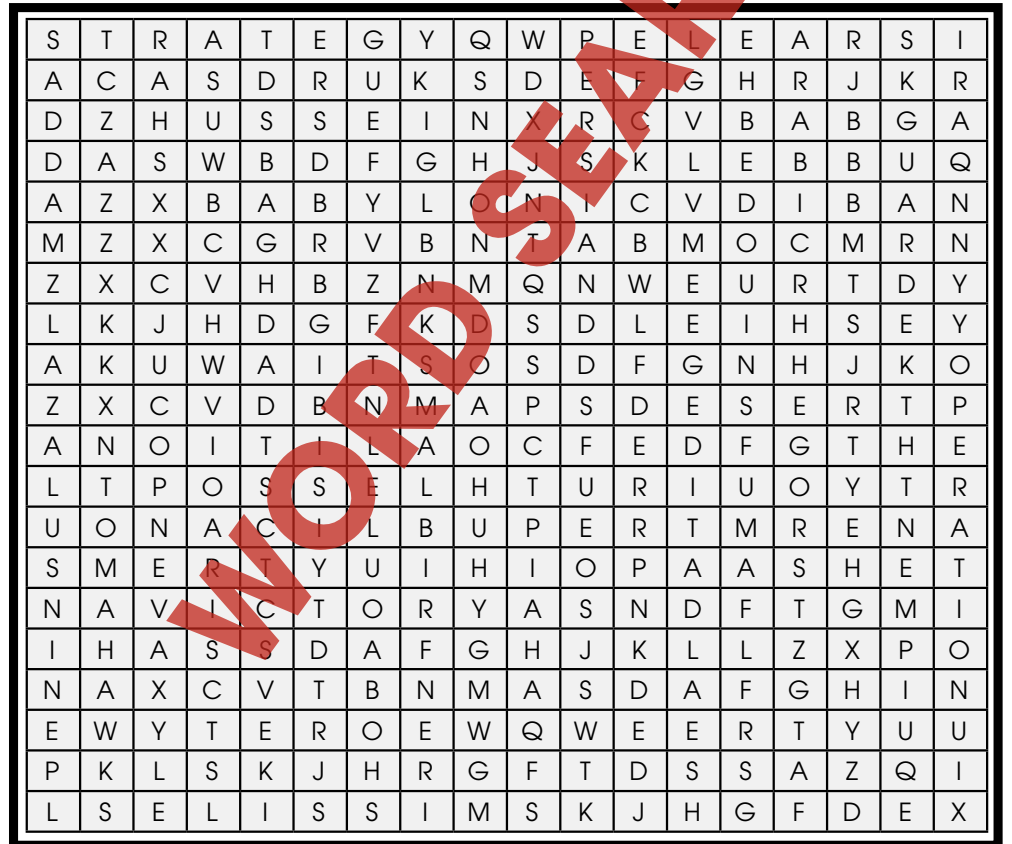
Down

1. Saddam's childhood house was made of mud and _____.
2. Operation Desert _____.
3. Abbrev. Initials of President Hubert Humphrey.
4. A missile.
5. Stop _____.
6. _____ Hussein.
8. Iraq invaded this nation.
9. Saddam's political party.
12. The _____ Empire.
13. Large North American country.
15. A resource found in Iraq and Kuwait.
17. Missile fired into Israel during war.
19. A bank may _____ you money.
20. Usually it's 365 days long.
22. This animal may be found in the mountains of Iraq.

Word Search

Find all THIRTY words in the Word Search. Words are written horizontally, vertically, diagonally, and some are even written backwards.

- Arabic
- Babylon
- Baghdad
- Bedouin
- coalition
- combat
- desert
- equipment
- Euphrates
- guard
- Hussein
- Iraq
- Israel
- Kurds
- Kuwait
- missiles
- operation
- Ottoman
- peninsula
- Persian
- republican
- ruthless
- Saddam
- Schwarzkopf
- shield
- stealth
- storm
- strategy
- Tomahawk
- victory



Part C

Comprehension Quiz

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

1. List two possible reasons as to why Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait. 4

2. What is the name of the nomadic people, many of whom live in the deserts of Iraq? 2

3. Before the Persian Gulf War began the United States rushed thousands of troops and military equipment to the area. What did this operation become known as? 2

4. What do you think were two clear advantages the coalition forces had over the Iraqis in this war? 4

5. What was shocking to the coalition forces about how the ground war in Kuwait and Iraq went? 3

6. Although the coalition forces won a clear victory over Iraq, what was disturbing to many people about the aftermath of the war? 4

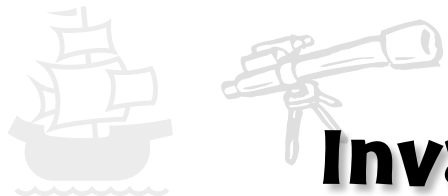
SUBTOTAL: /19

Coalition Forces Air Campaign Map



NAME: _____

After You Read 



Invasion of Kuwait



4. Answer each question with a complete sentence.

a) How did it happen that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait also frightened the other countries in the Persian Gulf?

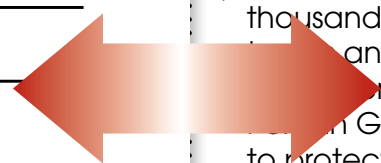
b) What action did the United Nations take after the invasion of Kuwait?

c) What was *Operation Desert Shield*?

Research

EASY MARKING

At least part of the reason that other countries reacted so strongly to the invasion of Kuwait was the danger of having their supply of oil cut off by Iraq. How important is oil to the economy of a country like the United States? Investigate and prepare a report on the importance of oil products to a Western economy. You might consider such questions as: What products are made from Kuwaiti oil? How much oil is *consumed* every day in the United States? How many jobs are tied in with the oil industry? What might happen to a country like the United States if their sources of oil dried up?

4. 
- 1. Tigris, Euphrates
 - 2. Mileh Tharthar
 - 3. Zagros
 - 4. a) Iran
b) Saudi Arabia, Kuwait
 - 5. Syrian Desert
 - 6. Damascus



ANSWER KEY

