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## The War Begins



### 1. With a straight line, connect each word on the left with its meaning on the right.

|   |           |                      |
|---|-----------|----------------------|
| A | ruthless  | battle               |
| B | protect   | cruel                |
| C | support   | exactness            |
| D | deadline  | alliance             |
| E | coalition | secret               |
| F | critical  | safeguard            |
| G | opponent  | enemy                |
| H | combat    | uphold               |
| I | stealth   | important            |
| J | accuracy  | last possible moment |

### 2. Weapons of war have certainly undergone some changes during the past century. What are some examples of weapons that are available for use in a war today?

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### 3. What might be considered the "ultimate" weapon today? Why is it so important that such a weapon never be used?

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## The War Begins



People the world over were very nervous about the idea of facing Saddam Hussein and the ruthless Republican Guard in a war. Saddam, it was said, "simply does not understand fear." The Iraqi army was believed to number over 1.2 million and supporting them were over 750 fighter planes and bombers.



Shortly after the invasion of Kuwait, the United States, under the leadership of George H.W. Bush, began sending troops and military equipment to the Gulf region to help protect other nations in the area, and to protect their sources of oil in the Middle East. This was known as **Operation Desert Shield**.

Why do you think President Bush gave it the name "Operation Desert Shield"?




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The United Nations had told Iraq that it must leave Kuwait by January 15, 1991. The whole world then held its breath. In the meantime a number of nations, including Great Britain, France, and Canada joined the **coalition** in Operation Desert Shield. When the January 15th deadline passed and Iraq refused to leave Kuwait, President Bush ordered the start of the air attack on Iraqi military targets. Operation Desert Shield had become **Operation Desert Storm**.

Operation Desert Storm began with the most awesome air assault ever. In the first week they flew almost 5,000 missions - losing only ten planes. Tomahawk cruise missiles and "stealth" fighter planes were used for the first time in combat. The "stealth" bombers dropped laser-guided "smart bombs" with pinpoint accuracy. The war against Saddam Hussein and his armies was only beginning. How tough an opponent would the Iraqi army prove to be in this critical next phase of the war - the ground war?



## The War Begins



### 1. Fill in each blank with the correct word from the reading.

- It was said that Saddam Hussein simply didn't understand \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Iraqi army was believed to number over \_\_\_\_\_ million and were supported by \_\_\_\_\_ fighter planes and bombers.
- The military build up in the Middle East by the United States and its allies was known as Operation Desert \_\_\_\_\_.
- The purpose of this operation was to protect the nations of the area as well as the sources of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The United \_\_\_\_\_ told the Iraqis they must leave Kuwait by January \_\_\_\_\_, 1991.
- The air attack was directed at Iraqi \_\_\_\_\_ targets.

### 2. a) Cross out words that were not a part of Operation Desert Storm.

~~stealth bombers~~ ~~Tomahawk missiles~~ ~~smart bombs~~ ~~Spitfire fighter planes~~

### b) Circle any of the following that were not a part of the Persian Gulf War.

George H.W. Bush   Bill Clinton   Saddam Hussein   Republican Guard

### c) Underline the nation that did not join Operation Desert Shield.

Israel   Great Britain   France   Canada



## A Day in the Life



It sounds like Saddam Hussein had quite a rough life as a young boy growing up in the village of Auja, Iraq. His family was poor, and his father was not a part of his life. Many young boys and girls grew up in small Iraqi villages at the same time as Saddam. Many had the same disadvantages he did, yet they grew up to be fine, productive citizens.



Your task is to investigate the life of the average boy or girl growing up in small-town Iraq during the 20th century. You may wish to consider some of the following questions:

- In what kind of a house would he/she live?
- What might his/her parents do for a living?
- What kinds of food would they have for meals?
- What kinds of recreational activities would he/she engage in?
- What kind of education could he/she expect?
- What might their social life be like?
- What role would religion play in their life?
- What kinds of clothing would he/she wear?

Once you have completed your investigation, compile a report and write it in the **first person** - as a young Iraqi boy or girl would write it. Your main goal is to give the reader a real taste of what it might have been like to grow up in Iraq - especially with regard to daily life.

Your report should be between one and two pages long. You may wish to include a picture or two to add to the presentation.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

After You Read

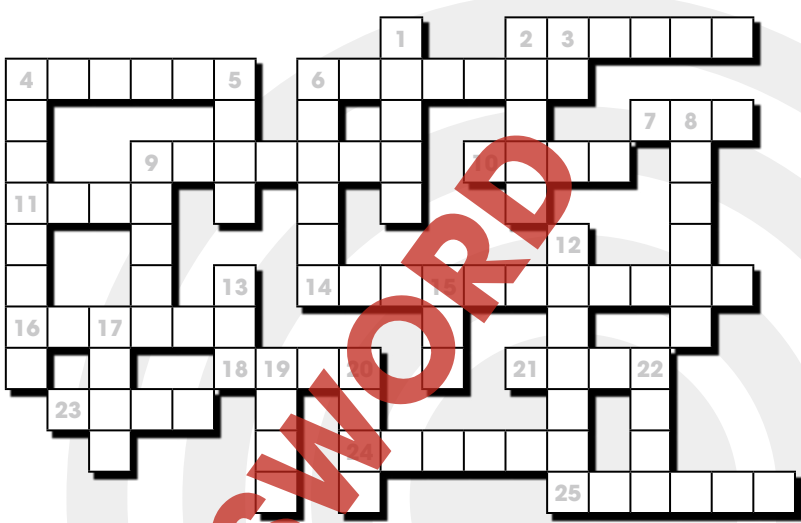


## Crossword Puzzle!

### 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

- Operation Desert \_\_\_\_\_
- Iraqi River.
- A high tech bomber.
- Where planes fly.
- Iraqi city.
- Middle Eastern country.
- Saddam's hometown.
- Before 1900 Iraq was a part of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Desires.
- A friend in times of difficulty.
- Many of these fell on Baghdad during this war.
- American President during the Persian Gulf War.
- Saudi \_\_\_\_\_.
- Stormin' \_\_\_\_\_.

### Down

- Saddam's childhood house was made of mud and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Operation Desert \_\_\_\_\_.
- Abbrev. Initials of President Hubert Humphrey.
- A missile.
- Stop \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hussein.
- Iraq invaded this nation.
- Saddam's political party.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ Empire.
- Large North American country.
- A resource found in Iraq and Kuwait.
- Missile fired into Israel during war.
- A bank may \_\_\_\_\_ you money.
- Usually it's 365 days long.
- This animal may be found in the mountains of Iraq.



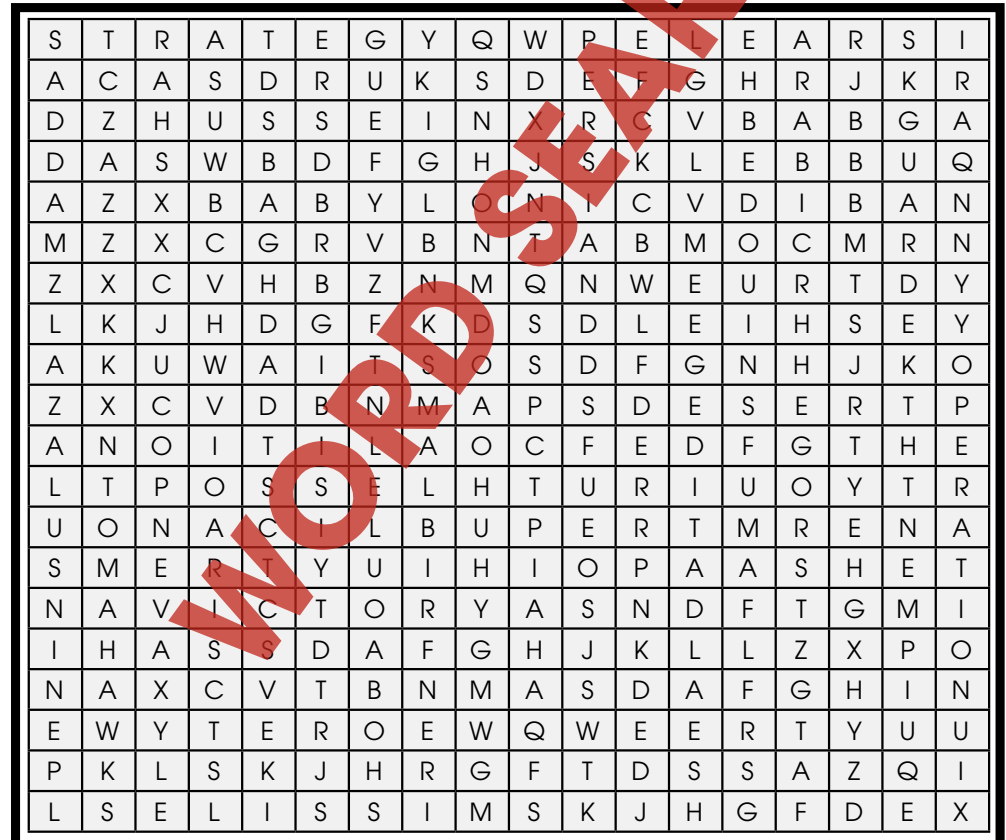
After You Read

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## Word Search

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

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



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

After You Read



## Comprehension Quiz

### Part A

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

- Iraq is about the same size as the state of New York.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- The people living in northeastern Iraq are the Kurds.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- Saddam Hussein accused Kuwait of "slant drilling" beneath its border to steal Iraqi oil.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- Saddam Hussein was a member of the Baath Party.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- At the start of the Gulf War Iraq had over 5 million soldiers and 2,500 fighter planes.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- At the beginning of the war Iraq fired Scud missiles into Israel and Saudi Arabia.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- Although the coalition forces were victorious, the war lasted almost two whole years.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- The Iraqi people were most grateful that their capital city, Baghdad, had been spared any bombing by the coalition forces.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**

### Part B

Circle the three countries that are not located in the Gulf region.

**Korea**   **Iran**   **Ethiopia**   **Kuwait**   **Saudi Arabia**   **Pakistan**   **Iraq**

SUBTOTAL: /11

## Persian Gulf War Key Figures



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



**George H.W. Bush**  
41st U.S. President  
1989 - 1993



**Fahd bin Abdul Aziz**  
King of Saudi Arabia  
1982 - 2005



**Norman Schwarzkopf**  
US Army General, Commander-in-Chief  
U.S. Central Command



# The War Begins



### 3. Answer each question with a full sentence.

a) What advantage was there in the use of stealth bombers?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

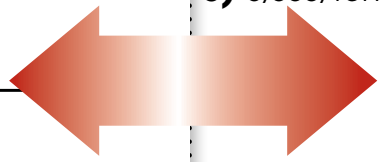
b) Why do you think the air assault was planned before the ground war began?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c) How many missions were flown by the coalition forces during the war's first week, and how many planes did they lose as a result?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 3.**
- a) Could avoid detection from radar and drop bombs with great accuracy.
  - b) To *soften up* the ground troops and destroy Iraqi planes.
  - c) 5,000, ten.
- 1. Tigris, Euphrates
  - 2. Mileh Tharthar
  - 3. Zagros
  - 4. a) Iran  
b) Saudi Arabia, Kuwait
  - 5. Syrian Desert
  - 6. Damascus



# EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY

## Research

President **George H.W. Bush** played an important part in the Persian Gulf War. Investigate the life and accomplishments of this man and write a one-page report outlining a few key points about his personal life and political career. Pay special attention to the role he played in the Persian Gulf War.

