ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:
1) How and why was the Jewish nation of Israel formed from the area previously known as Muslim Palestine?
2) How has conflict persisted since Israel’s conception between Palestinian refugees and extremists and Jews?
3) Will there ever be a permanent, peaceful solution to end the conflict?

Jerusalem’s Importance to Three Religions

- Christians consider Jerusalem to be holy because Jesus was crucified there.
- Jews consider Jerusalem to be holy because there temple was located there.
- Muslims consider Jerusalem to be holy because Muhammed ascended to heaven there and received the word of Allah.

- So, let’s look at the history of religious conflict over this holy land…
The Dreyfus Case, 1894

Capt. Alfred Dreyfus

Emile Zola

How did this case raise fears of anti-Semitism throughout the world?

Background to the Case

• The Dreyfus affair was a political scandal fueled by anti-Semitism—racial hatred of the Jews—which divided France from the 1890s to the early 1900s. It involved the wrongful conviction for treason of Captain Alfred Dreyfus (1859–1935), a Jewish artillery officer in the French Army.

• In October 1894, Captain Dreyfus was arrested and charged with passing military secrets to the German embassy in Paris. He was convicted of treason and confined to Devil's Island, a small isolated prison island off the coast of French Guiana.

• This case fueled the Zionist movement—an international organization which pushed for Jewish rights and a national homeland.

Zionism

**Zionism—GOALS.**

1. Create a national homeland for the Jews

2. The spiritual and political renewal of the Jewish people in its ancestral homeland of Palestine.

3. Freedom from Western anti-Semitism.

Theodore Herzl
1860–1904
First Zionist Conference, 1897

- Theodore Herzl writes *Der Judenstaat* or *The Jewish State* in 1896.
- Creates the First Zionist Congress -- an international Jewish organization.
- Slogan “Next Year in Jerusalem!”

Video Clip: From Ottoman to Zionism in Jerusalem (3 Min)

Prompt: What were the effects Zionism in Jerusalem, Israel?

The Main Players in WWI

**Allied Powers:**
- Nicholas II (Rus)
- George V (Br)
- Victor Emmanuel II (It)
- Pres. Poincare (Fr)

**Central Powers:**
- Wilhelm II (Ger)
- Enver Pasha (Tur)
- Franz Josef (A-H)
The Middle East in 1914

Hussein-McMahon Letters, 1915

...Britain is prepared to recognize and uphold the independence of the Arabs in all regions lying within the frontiers proposed by the Sharif of Mecca....

Sykes-Picot Agreement, 1916

Did Britain really intend to uphold Arab independence during and after WWI?
The Arab Revolt: 1916-1918

Arabs in Egypt revolt against British control! "Lawrence of Arabia"—a British soldier who defected to the Arabs—leads the revolt.

The British & Arab Armies

British Forces

Lawrence & Faisal’s Forces

Prince Faisal at Versailles, 1918

The Treaty of Versailles ended World War I and reinforced British and French power. The Arabs were disappointed. The British and French continued to exert control and influence in the Middle East. The issue of Jewish-Israeli relations in Israel also remained unsettled.
The League of Nations Mandates

When Imperial Germany and the Ottoman Empire lost World War I, they lost the privilege of controlling certain territories. Some of the Allies, the winners of World War I, Great Britain and France, would be given control over the territories by the League of Nations. People who lived in these regions felt like they were becoming colonies of Great Britain and France. However, the Mandates would be given to nations to govern, and they would get to govern for a limited period of time. Hence, the mandate system. Some countries continued to have communes within their territory. Later, this region would become the Mandate of Palestine.

Problems of European Domination in the Middle East

- **Diversity of the region**
  - **Religion:** Judaism, Islam, Christianity
  - **Languages:** Arabic, Turkish, Persian, Hebrew, Kurdish, Armenian
  - **Boundaries:** created by European nations without thought to ethnic makeup of the region

Nationalism: Independence was gained in the following years:

- 1923: Trans-Jordan from Britain
- 1932: Iraq gained independence from Britain, borders were drawn in the Arabian Gulf and religious and ethnic tensions prevailed
- 1934: Egypt independence from Britain, but military control of the Suez Canal by Britain for 30 years
- 1941: Lebanon, Syria, Jordan gained independence after World War II
- 1947: Arab states move to create a united Arab state

**Background**

**The League of Nations Mandates**

**New** Countries & Ruling Families **Emerge!**

- **Prince Faisal** → ruler of Trans-Jordan.
- **Prince Abdullah** → ruler of a newly-created Iraq (pasted together from three distinct geographic regions).
- **The House of Saud** → put on the throne of the newly-created Saudi Arabia.
- **The Pahlavi Family** → put on the throne of a new Iran.
- **Mustafa Kemal** → leads a military/nationalist movement in Turkey.
Mapping the Modern Middle East

- Number the map, using the key and clues below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Clue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Palestine is the land where Jesus was born.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Jordan River and Delta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Dead Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Israel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>West Bank and Gaza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Syria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Iraq</td>
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<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
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<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Oman</td>
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<td>K</td>
<td>Kuwait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Qatar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Bahrain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Essential Question:

How did Britain's actions in Palestine lay the groundwork for the ongoing conflict between the Jews and the Arabs in the Middle East today?
British Promise to the Jews: Balfour Declaration, 1917

His Majesty’s Government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine.

The Balfour Declaration

His Majesty’s Government view with favor, the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people.

Background

Balfour Declaration (1917):
- 1) Britain promised Palestinian Arabs (Muslims living in present-day Israel) independence if they helped beat the Ottoman Turks in World War I.
- 2) Promised Jews a homeland

Question: What’s wrong here? Predict how the Balfour Declaration could create future conflict between Palestinians and Jews.

Palestine Was Part of the Ottoman Empire
How did Palestine become a divided Israel?

- **1920's - 1940's**
  - Jewish immigration increases in Palestine (present-day Israel), leading to the *Zionist movement* — a nationalistic movement of Jews calling for a new homeland.

In 1920, there was 1 Jew to every 10 Arabs in Palestine.

By 1947, the ratio was 2 Arabs for every Jew.

The Arabs felt that they were losing control of their "country!"
**British Mandate in Palestine**

Created July, 1922

---

**1929 Arab Riots**

**EBAH AL-YAHUD!**

[“Slaughter All the Jews!”]

Arabs revolt against increased Jewish presence in Palestine

| Year | Jewish Immigration
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1919</td>
<td>1,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>8,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>8,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>8,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>8,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>13,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>34,366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>13,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>3,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>2,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1929</td>
<td>5,249</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Palestine Arab Revolt: 1936-1939**

The Arab’s Goals:

1. An end to Jewish immigration to Palestine.
2. An end to the transfer of lands to Jewish owners.
3. A new “general representative government.”

The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin al-Husseini, with Adolf Hitler.
The "Arab Legion" of the British Army During WW2

The "Jewish Brigade" of the British Army During WW2

British White Paper of 1939

- British White Paper
- 1. Limited Jewish immigration to Palestine to 75,000 over the next five years.
- 2. It ended Jewish land purchases.
- 3. Independence for Palestine within 10 years.
- 4. It is NOT British policy that Palestine become a Jewish state.
Hitler’s “Final Solution”

The Jewish population in each country in 1942.

Nazi Concentration & Extermination Camps

The Nazi Holocaust

6,000,000 Jews killed by the Nazis [1/2 in the concentration camps.]
Aliyah Bet: Illegal Jewish Immigration

- Illegal Jewish immigration to Palestine.
- The Exodus, 1947.

Palestine Population in 1946
ACTIVITY: SHOULD JEWISH HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS HAVE RELOCATED TO ISRAEL?

- Directions: Imagine that it’s the year 1947. You are a delegate to the newly created United Nations. Your job is to determine where to place Jewish Holocaust survivors who fled Europe during the Nazi occupation of the early 1940’s. Many Zionists believe that a new Jewish homeland should be created in Palestine (now modern-day Israel). The problem is that a large Muslim Arab population already lives there. The class will be divided into three main groups in this mock United Nations conference:

1. As U.N. delegates, you support the idea of allowing Jews to resettle in Palestine (modern-day Israel) and believe that this area should be proclaimed a national homeland for the Jews. You believe in the ideals of the Zionist movement. Working in groups of 3-4, write a 1 page statement in defense of your position. Make sure to address potential problems that may result from your proposal and suggest solutions. In addition, using the blank map of Israel, indicate where Jews should be allowed to resettle. Create a color map key, indicating where Jews and Arab Palestinians are supposed to live.

2. As U.N. delegates, you oppose the idea of allowing Jewish refugees to resettle in Palestine (modern-day Israel) because you fear that violence may erupt between Muslim Arab and Jewish populations there. You must decide upon another location (or locations) in the world to resettle the Jewish population. Will you allow Jews to create their own national homeland in another area of the world? What potential problems could result from your proposal and what are the solutions? Working in groups of 3-4, write a 1 page in defense of your position. In addition, using the blank map of the world, indicate where you would allow Jews to settle. Create a color key to represent the settlement of the Jewish population on the world map.

3. As leaders of the U.N. General Assembly, you are responsible for making the final decision in this case. You will listen to both sides and ask each group questions, attempting to expose weaknesses or flaws in their arguments. In 100 words, write a summary of the problem. Then, write 10-15 questions to ask the U.N. delegates who will present their arguments. Listen to each side’s arguments, ask your questions, then make the final decision!

Today’s Procedure:

1. You have 10 minutes to finish preparing with your group. This includes your paper and map.
2. During your presentation, you will refer to your map on the placement of Jews. Using the blank map projected on the board, color and label where you will place the Jews and Palestinians.
3. Mock conference format:
   a. Each group presents their papers with proposals and map. 5 minutes each
   b. Each side can take turns asking the other side questions to expose weaknesses. This question/answer debate will last up to 10 minutes.
   c. Judges ask each side questions to expose weaknesses or clear up confusion. 5 minutes
   d. 4. Judges make a decision. Either they support one of the group’s proposals or develop an entirely different solution. 5 minutes.

For group #1—arguing to make Israel a homeland for the Jews:

- Color in where you would place the Jewish populations and where you would place the Arab Palestinian populations on the board before presenting!
Recap:
Yesterday, some students argued that Israel should be divided up between the Israelis and Arab Palestinians. The map to the right is what the British and United Nations actually proposed in 1947.

In our upcoming activity, you will complete two maps of Israel to demonstrate how Israel became divided and a center for bloodshed!

U.N. Partition Plan of 1947

Israel Map Information

Find and label the following places on the maps. We will complete these two maps, "1947: U.N. Partition," and "1948: Israel's Independence," while we look at Israel's establishment in 1948. Complete the maps and map keys by coloring the Arab State and Israel and labeling the places, below, on the maps. Notice how the occupied territory of Israel changed after the war for Independence.

1. 1947: U.N. Partition

1. Palestine
2. Jerusalem
3. Tel Aviv
4. Gaza
5. Transjordan
6. Sinai Peninsula
7. Syria
8. Saudi Arabia
9. Dead Sea
10. Mediterranean Sea

2. 1948: Israel's Independence

1. Israel
2. Transjordan
3. Tel Aviv
4. Gaza Strip
5. Jordan
6. Sinai Peninsula
7. Syria
8. Saudi Arabia
9. Dead Sea
10. Mediterranean Sea

10. West Bank

1947: After the Six-Day War

1. Israel
2. Transjordan
3. Egypt
4. Sinai Peninsula
5. Syria
6. Dead Sea
7. Mediterranean Sea
8. West Bank

10. West Bank
Palestine is Divided!

1947
Britain asked the UN to intervene as a result of continuing rioting and terrorism between Palestinians (Muslims) and Jews. United Nations called for a plan to partition Palestine into two states; one Palestinian and one Jewish, with Jerusalem controlled by the UN. The plan didn’t work. Arabs rejected it; Jews rejoiced and prepared for war.
Israel Becomes a Nation:
May 14, 1948

David Ben-Gurion,
1st Prime Minister

Chaim Weizmann,
1st President

Israel

War Begins!:
May 15, 1948

Arab Refugees, 1948

The Palestinian Diaspora begins!
What were the results of the Israeli—Palestinian war of 1948?

- 1948
  - Britain left Palestine. Violence escalated.
  - Israel declared independence. Jews took control of government and declared Israel to be a new national homeland.
  - Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Syria, and Lebanon prepared to fight Israel.
  - Israel overcame these armies and took more land than partition had suggested.
  - 750,000 Palestinians (Muslims) were displaced and forced to become refugees—persons fleeing from their homeland due to political/religious causes.
  - Jordan occupied Jerusalem’s Old City and the West Bank.
  - Egypt occupied the Gaza Strip.
  - David Ben-Gurion became the first prime minister of Israel.

Palestinian Refugees Today

Palestinian Diaspora

Question: Do the Palestinian Arabs deserve a homeland, too?

Armistice Signed, 1949
ASSIGNMENT:

• Complete “The Legacy of the Holocaust: The Arab-Israeli Conflict.”

ASSIGNMENT: Should there be a “Declaration of Independence for Palestine?” Due in Twenty Minutes!

• Directions: Read “Declaration of Israel’s Independence 1948.” As you read, highlight the major reasons why the Israelis (Jews) feel justified in declaring Israel a newly independent nation as well as what they hope to accomplish. Then, working in small groups, write a “Declaration of Independence for Palestine.” The challenging part is to write this from the perspective of Muslim Palestinians, WITHOUT becoming offensive towards Jews. Write about how Palestinians would feel justified creating their own nation. 250 words.

Mr. C’s “Special” 20-Question Quiz on the Israeli conflict

• 1. Israel was once called _________________.
• 2. The conflict in Israel is between the __________ and ________.
• 3. Which group lived in the land of Israel first?
• 4. What is the date of Israel’s independence?
• 5. Who was the first President of Israel?
• 6. Who was the first Prime Minister?
• 7. Israel was first partitioned by the United Nations in what year?
• 8. During the 1949 partition of Israel, the Arabs controlled this tiny area of land.
• 9. Which country is largely to blame for creating the current conflict in Israel?
• 10. Draw the flag of Israel.

More questions follow on the next slide...
Quiz Part II

11. How many Jews died during the Holocaust?

12. A person who is forced to flee from their country for political/religious reasons is called____________.

Use the map to answer questions #13-20:

13. Number 1 is __________

14. Number 2 is __________

15. Number 3 is __________

16. Number 4 is __________

17. Number 5 is __________

18. Number 6 is __________

19. Number 7 is __________

20. Number 8 is __________

The Arab-Israeli Wars (1956-present)

Israel and Palestine: The Roots of Conflict (22 min)
Video Quiz: Israel and Palestine

1) Both Jews and Palestinians claim the land that is present-day ______. (Choose only one answer)
   A) Israel 
   B) Egypt 
   C) Jordan 
   D) Ethiopia

2) What did the British do to keep the peace with Israel’s Palestinians? (Choose only one answer)
   A) They renamed the region Palestine 
   B) They declared war against the Jews 
   C) They killed the Jews during a series of pogroms. 
   D) They limited the number of Jews allowed into Israel.

3) The United Nation’s plan for partition of Palestine included ______. (Choose only one answer)
   A) only a homeland for Jews 
   B) only a homeland for Palestinians 
   C) one homeland shared by both Jews and Palestinians 
   D) a homeland for Jews and a homeland for Palestinians

4) The Six-Day War ______. (Choose only one answer)
   A) actually lasted almost a year 
   B) created a home for Palestinians 
   C) challenged Israel’s right to exist 
   D) created the country of the Golan Heights

5) PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat spoke to the United Nations as an act of ______. (Choose only one answer)
   A) violence 
   B) bravery 
   C) cowardice 
   D) diplomacy

6) What was the first Arab state to sign a peace agreement with Israel? (Choose only one answer)
   A) Syria 
   B) Egypt 
   C) Jordan 
   D) Saudi Arabia

7) The names Sabra and Shatila will live forever in Palestine’s history because ______. (Choose only one answer)
   A) Yasser Arafat lived in both villages 
   B) the Christian militias brought peace to the cities 
   C) both served as capitals of the new Palestine state 
   D) of the massacres that occurred in those refugee camps

8) The Madrid Conference of 1991 brought peace to the Middle East. true false

9) Why were the Israeli-Palestinian peace talks halted? (Choose only one answer)
   A) because Israel declared war on Egypt 
   B) because of the death of Yitzhak Rabin 
   C) because Yasser Arafat changed his mind 
   D) because of the defeat of President Jimmy Carter

10) With the involvement of President Bill Clinton, Israeli-Palestinian peace talks ______. (Choose only one answer)
    A) succeeded 
    B) failed again 
    C) ended with lynchings 
    D) resulted in a compromise

Video Quiz: Israel and Palestine continued...

6) What was the first Arab state to sign a peace agreement with Israel? (Choose only one answer)
   A) Syria 
   B) Egypt 
   C) Jordan 
   D) Saudi Arabia

7) Yasser Arafat lived in both villages (Choose only one answer)
   A) true 
   B) false

8) The Madrid Conference of 1991 brought peace to the Middle East. true false

9) Yasser Arafat changed his mind (Choose only one answer)
   A) true 
   B) false

10) Israel-Palestinian peace talks ended with lynchings (Choose only one answer)
    A) true 
    B) false

Conduct a News Conference on Conflicts in the Middle East

Directions: In this 40-point project, you will work in groups of 2-3 in order to research, write, and perform a news report skit in front of the class! Your skit must be at least two pages long and be conducted like a special news report on television. Your goal is to inform the audience (us), in an exciting way, of the following:

1) Causes of the conflict (10 points)
2) Major events and people of the conflict (10 points)
3) Whether a resolution was reached. (10 points)

In addition, you need to create a some type of appropriate background or scenery (poster or PowerPoint) to perform in front of. (10 points)

Suggestions:
1) A map, showing the conflict
2) Pictures, showing major people and events of the conflict
3) Important documents such as peace treaties or resolutions.

The topics for news reports include:
1. The Six-Day War
2. The Yom Kippur War
3. The Palestine Liberation Organization and Yasser Arafat
4. The West Bank
5. The Gaza Strip
6. The Golan Heights

Video Quiz: Israel and Palestine continued…

7) The names Sabra and Shatila will live forever in Palestine’s history because (Choose only one answer)
   A) Yasser Arafat lived in both villages 
   B) the Christian militias brought peace to the cities 
   C) both served as capitals of the new Palestine state 
   D) of the massacres that occurred in those refugee camps

8) The Madrid Conference of 1991 brought peace to the Middle East. true false

9) Yasser Arafat changed his mind (Choose only one answer)
   A) true 
   B) false

10) Israel-Palestinian peace talks ended with lynchings (Choose only one answer)
    A) true 
    B) false
Six-Day War (1967)

- UN Resolution 242
- UN Resolution 338

Chronicles of Conflict: Six Day War

After the Suez Crisis in 1956, the United Nations stationed troops along the border of Israel and Egypt. In May of 1967, President Nasser of Egypt demanded that the UN leave the border and stop policing the boundary between Israel and Egypt. Then Nasser announced the closing of the Gulf of Aqaba. This would block Israel’s sea route to Africa and Asia, thereby cutting off their trade routes.

In June of 1967, Israel began a lightning war against Egypt. Israel captured the Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip from Egypt. Then Israel captured the Golan Heights from Syria and took the entire west bank of the Jordan River from Jordan. The “West Bank,” had remained in Arab hands after the Arab-Israeli War of 1948. Lastly, Israel annexed Jerusalem, which the United Nations had made into an international city.

This war became known as the “Six-Day War.” It changed Middle Eastern nations’ views of Israel. Palestinians realized that Arab governments could not get their land back from Israel. They joined guerrillas fighting organizations, such as the PLO, led by Yasser Arafat.

The United States and the Soviet Union were in the Cold War. They did not want to be drawn into Arab-Israeli wars, so they tried to help create a peaceful resolution in the area. Even though nations tried to seek compromise, the mutual suspicions and fears doomed any attempts at lasting peace.
Camp David Accords (1979)

President
Anwar Sadat
of Egypt

President
Jimmy Carter
of the U.S.

Prime Minister
Menachem Begin
Of Israel

The Yom Kippur War lasted from October 6 – October 20, 1973. It was fought between Israel and a group of Arab nations. Egypt and Syria were the leaders of the opposition to Israel. The war began on Yom Kippur, a Jewish holy day, with a two-pronged attack by Egypt and Syria.

These Arab nations invaded the Sinai Peninsula and the Golan Heights, land that Israel had captured during the Six-Day War in 1967. Within two weeks, Israel had pushed the Syrians back out of the Golan Heights. Then, the Israelis cut off the entire Egyptian army near the Suez Canal. After this, the United Nations declared a ceasefire. Israel would hold the territories until the peace agreements several years later.

The significance of this war was that the early victories won by the Egyptians helped take away some of the humiliation they had suffered during the Six-Day War. A few years later, in 1979, the Camp David Accords would be signed by both Israel (Menachem Begin) and Egypt (Anwar Sadat). This would be the first time an Arab nation had recognized the existence of Israel. One more result of this conflict was that the Soviet influence over the nation of Egypt lessened after this. There was no longer such a concern that the Soviet Union would win over the Egyptians to become an ally to the communists in the Cold War.
The Expansion of Israel

Palestinian Intifada—Part I

Palestine Liberation Organization

Yassir Arafat—Leader of the PLO
Chronicles of Conflict: The West Bank

The West Bank is the name of the area west of the Jordan River. The area is smaller than the state of Delaware. The government of Jordan annexed it after it was taken by Jordan in 1948. In the early twentieth century, this region was part of the British mandate. It was to be part of Palestine after the breakup of the Ottoman Empire. This area was taken over by Israel in 1967, in the Six-Day War. Israel continues to occupy this region today.

The area is under some jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority; however, Israel has overall control. This includes the Israeli settlements, rural areas, and border regions. The area is mostly Palestinian, with a minority Jewish population. Part of Jerusalem, the eastern portion, is in the West Bank region. Israel claims to have annexed it, but other nations and the United Nations do not recognize the annexation.

Since the West Bank holds part of the city of Jerusalem, a city that is holy to Judaism, Islam, and Christianity, the importance of it geopolitically cannot be overemphasized. This is a region that three major world religions claim as their own.

Chronicles of Conflict: The Gaza Strip

The Gaza Strip is a long region of coastal land adjacent to the Mediterranean Sea. About 1.4 million Palestinians live there. The area is slightly more than twice the size of Washington, D.C. This strip of land does not belong to any country, although it was occupied by Israel for the last forty years. The Israeli government has been controlling the airspace and coastline of the Mediterranean Sea; the Palestinian Authority controlled the border with Egypt and had jurisdiction within the area. In 2005, Israel began to dismantle some of the settlements in the Gaza Strip that had been created after the Six-Day War in 1967. The houses occupied by the Israelis would be destroyed and high rise apartment buildings would be built to house the Palestinians that had waited for the return of this small bit of land.

Chronicles of Conflict: The Golan Heights

This small but disputed area had been the territory of Syria before the Six-Day War. Afterwards, the 1,000 Syrian lost and now there is a population of about 33,000 living in the region. The area is important for boundary security, for Israel, between Lebanon and Syria, and for water rights. Syria believes the Golan Heights is their territory. Israel offered the return of the Golan Heights to Syria in 2000, if Syria recognized Israel and granted peace. Syria refused.

The Golan Heights continues to be a land of contention in the Middle East, another point of conflict for Israel and her neighbors.
Guidelines and Materials to prepare for our In-Class Debate! This will take the place of an Exam!

Today’s Plan—
Prepare for Debate On Arab-Israeli Conflict

1) DO NOT work on assignments for other classes, AT ALL!
2) Prepare for tomorrow’s Arab-Israeli debate! Remember, you must study all materials in your packets and become experts on the topic! You will be graded on your educated responses, not name-calling!
3) Here’s the debate requirements for the groups:
   - Judges: Develop at least five of your own questions to ask each of the groups—15 questions total! Use will use these questions as well as the ones in your packet during the debate. Also, develop a solution/plan to end the conflict. (Keep in mind, you may need to revise your plan later after hearing all sides of the debate).
   - Debaters: Prepare opening position statements, make a list of the evidence-backed arguments which you will use during the debate, write down several questions to ask the opposing teams, and create a solution/plan to end the conflict.

Arab-Israeli Conflict
Debate Procedure: Who is to blame?

1. Each group of debaters—Arabs, Israelis and British—present opening statements.
2. Each group will present their evidence-based arguments and ask their own questions (and/or questions from the worksheet) to the other two groups, followed by responses/rebuttals.
3. Judges will ask each group their list of 5 questions, followed by responses/rebuttals.
4. Each group presents their solution to the conflict.
5. Final decision: Judges determine: 1) Who is to blame. 2) The best solution to the conflict.
For up-to-date news about the conflict:
http://www.pbs.org/newshour/indepth_coverage/middle_east/conflict/index.html
Israel conducts operation "Defensive Shield" in the West Bank, following a surge in Palestinian suicide attacks.

Israel's security initiative began at Rafah crossing.

Jan 29, 2003

Elections in Israel give Labor margin (40 seats) to right-wing Likud party, returning RR Ariel Sharon for another term.

March 18, 2003

US begins invasion of Iraq by a strike against a building which Saddam Hussein and other leaders are meeting. Baghdad Falls, April 9.

July 8, 2003

International court of Justice (ICJ) rules that the Israeli security barrier violates international law and must be torn down.

Nov 11, 2003

Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat dies.

Jan 15, 2004

Hamas' Abd Al-Majid: "We will continue to exist despite the death of Yasser Arafat."

Apr 20, 2004

Ariel Sharon votes for President George Bush at his Texas ranch. Syrian army invades Lebanon, effectively ending Syria's occupation.

May 26, 2005

Hamas' Abbas: "We will continue to exist despite the death of Yasser Arafat."

June 2005

Violence flares in Gaza. US Secretary of State Colin Powell visits Palestinian and Israeli leaders to ensure accordance of Israel withdrawal from Gaza. Israeli PM Ariel Sharon and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas meet in Jericho. June 21. Sharon announces that the Palestinians have proposed to negotiate regarding Gaza withdrawal. PM Abbas postponed Palestinian legislative elections in order to change the election law. Ariel Sharon announced that Hamas will become the Fatah party in the elections. Lebanon's elections give a decisive majority to the opposition in Syria backed Saad Hariri, son of slain leader Rafik Hariri.

Aug 19, 2005

Disengagement: Israeli evacuation of Gaza settlements and four West Bank settlements began on Aug 15 and was completed August 26.