

Critical Thinking Skills

Persian Gulf War (1990 – 1991)

Skills For Critical Thinking		Chapter Questions							Hands-on Activities	
		Iraq, Oil and the Middle East	Life in Iraq	Saddam Hussein	Invasion of Kuwait	The War Begins	The Ground War	Victory		Aftermath
LEVEL 1 Remembering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List Details/Facts Recall Information Match Vocabulary to Definitions 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 Influence Community 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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



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

SAMPLE

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?

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



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"?



The United Nations demanded that 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.

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

SAMPLE

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

NAME: _____



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?

SAMPLE

Research

4. 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.

