

A Historical Perspective on the Arab-Israeli Conflict and Peace Process

A Curriculum for
Modern World History
Teachers



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Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
LESSON I: CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND TO UNDERSTANDING ARAB-ISRAELI RELATIONS	4
THE ARAB LEAGUE AND ISRAEL	8
GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES OF ISRAEL AND ITS NEIGHBORS	9
THE ORIGINS OF ZIONISM AND ARAB NATIONALISM	10
THE ORIGINS OF ZIONISM AND ARAB NATIONALISM: READING QUESTIONS.....	14
LESSON II: BROKEN PROMISES MADE TO ARABS AND JEWS DURING WWI	17
ZIONISM AND ARAB NATIONALISM: ESSENTIAL INFORMATION	20
THE SYKES-PICOT AGREEMENT: 1916.....	21
A LETTER FROM BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER SIR HENRY McMAHON TO SHARIF HUSSEIN OF MECCA	24
BALFOUR DECLARATION 1917.....	26
US CONGRESS ENDORSEMENT OF THE BALFOUR DECLARATION	26
THE FAISAL-WEIZMANN AGREEMENT (JANUARY 3, 1919).....	26
EXCERPTS FROM A COMMITTEE CONSIDERING THE McMAHON-HUSSEIN CORRESPONDENCE	28
PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON'S FOURTEEN POINTS	30
ROLE CARDS FOR THE READERS' THEATER.....	32
WHO DREW THE MAP?: A READERS' THEATER.....	33
LESSON III: THE BRITISH MANDATE AND THE 1948 WAR	38
SOUTHWEST ASIA AND NORTH AFRICA BEFORE AND AFTER WWI.....	42
THE BRITISH MANDATE	43
THE SEPARATION OF TRANSJORDAN (1921).....	44
WORLD WAR II AND THE HOLOCAUST	45
UNDERSTANDING THE 1948 WAR THROUGH MAPS.....	46
LESSON IV: THE CONTINUING CONFLICT AND STEPS TOWARD PEACE (1967-TODAY).....	52
THE 1967 WAR.....	56
ADDITIONAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE 1967 WAR.....	57
AN OVERVIEW OF KEY EVENTS SINCE 1967.....	58
A TIMELINE CHART OF MAJOR EVENTS IN ARAB-ISRAELI RELATIONS.....	64
LESSON V: THE HOPE FOR PEACE.....	67
UNRESOLVED ISSUES IN THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT AND GRAPHIC ORGANIZER.....	72
THE WASHINGTON DECLARATION: ISRAEL - JORDAN - THE UNITED STATES; JULY 25TH, 1994.....	76
THE BRIDGE OF PEACE.....	77
PICTURES OF THE PEACE BRIDGE.....	78
SHEIKH HUSSEIN BRIDGE OFFICIALLY OPENED TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1999.....	79
ISRAELI AND ARAB WRITERS TO MEET AT SHEIKH HUSSEIN BRIDGE	81
QUALIFYING INDUSTRIAL ZONE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND JORDAN	82
ISRAEL AND JORDAN COOPERATE ON CABLE LINK	83
TRADE BRIDGE AS A BRIDGE FOR PEACE	85
THE FOURTH ISRAELI JORDANIAN BUSINESS MEETING	87
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION.....	89



Introduction

This five lesson curriculum explores the history and background of the Arab-Israeli conflict and peace process. The curriculum is modular: lessons can be used sequentially over five class periods or as stand-alone lessons. Lesson plans occasionally include specific tips for educators depending on which option they chose. Each lesson is also modular. Every lesson contains an anticipatory set, two or three main activities, and a closing activity. These components were designed to be used together, but educators can pull out specific elements. This flexibility enables educators to customize this ready-to-use curriculum to meet individual time constraints, needs, and goals.

Each lesson includes all of the necessary primary source documents, secondary source documents, maps, and worksheets for the lesson. These materials follow each lesson plan and their titles are listed on the lesson plan and on the table of contents.

Lessons I and II provide the context for understanding Arab-Israeli relations by having students examine the geography of Southwest Asia and North Africa, the origins of Arab nationalism and Zionism, and the broken promises made to Arabs and Jews during World War I. Lessons III and IV provide an overview of Israeli-Arab relations from their roots in the British Mandate through the present. Lesson V examines the challenges and benefits of a peaceful resolution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Words from other languages can be transliterated a variety of ways into English. The Institute for Curriculum Services has attempted to follow modern conventions whenever possible. Primary source documents have not been altered and may use transliterations that are no longer common.

Various communities in the United States have strong opinions on the issues involved in this curriculum. In producing these materials, the Institute for Curriculum Services has made every attempt to include various points of view and to use scholarly sources and primary source documents to present a factual account of historical events. The Institute for Curriculum Services is dedicated to promoting accurate instructional materials on Jews, Judaism, and Israel. Please send questions, requests, or suggestions about ICS educational materials to bchaika@icsresources.org.

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