

## Thinking About War

Many generations of Americans have been faced with the decision of whether to go to war. When is it right for the nation to go to war? Is it ever right to go to war? When should Americans be prepared to fight and when should they stay out of conflicts? After you answer the questions listed below, discuss your choices with your partner.

**Look at each of the statements below and put an A if you agree or a D if you disagree.**

\_\_\_\_\_ The US should go to war if our nation is attacked.

\_\_\_\_\_ The US should not get involved in another country's civil war.

\_\_\_\_\_ The US should go to war to support nations that are friends and allies.

\_\_\_\_\_ War is never justified. We should always find ways to solve conflicts through peaceful means.

\_\_\_\_\_ We should go to war to remove a dictator who is persecuting a group or people who cannot defend themselves.

\_\_\_\_\_ The US should go to war in other countries to stop the spread of terrorism or communism.

\_\_\_\_\_ The US should never fight a war in another country.

\_\_\_\_\_ The US should go to war with dangerous nations that have weapons of mass destruction.

\_\_\_\_\_ The US should go to war to stop genocide.

\_\_\_\_\_ The US should only go to war if they are asked by another country.

\_\_\_\_\_ Americans have the patriotic duty to join the US military and fight, whether they agree with a war or not.

\_\_\_\_\_ An individual American should only have to fight in wars that he or she agrees with, or should not have to fight at all.

Why do countries fight?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

How can nations be like a gang? List three examples:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

List three things a nation can do to avoid going to war.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Do you think human beings can ever do away with wars? Why or why not?

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