

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Israel

The Hebrews were the ancestors of the Jews. They lived on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea until AD70, when the Roman army forced the Jews to leave. For almost the next two thousand years, the Jews lived as minorities in different lands. Through the centuries, they were often unwelcome guests in their new countries.

The Jews faced pogroms, or organized massacres, particularly in Russia and Eastern Europe. In the late 1890s, writer Theodor Herzl formulated the ideas of Zionism. Zionists felt that the only way Jews could be safe would be to recreate a Jewish state. The ancient homeland of the Jews was at that time known as Palestine and was populated by Arab-speaking people.

The British took control of Palestine after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire at the end of World War I. By this time, many Jews had settled on land their ancestors called home. Violence broke out between the Jewish settlers and the local Arab-speaking people known as Palestinians.

At the end of World War II in 1945, representatives of fifty countries formed the United Nations to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.” In 1948, the United Nations created the modern state of Israel as a homeland for Jews. Five Arab states immediately invaded Israel. The Jews fought back and extended the borders of their new nation. After a second war in 1967, Israel occupied formerly Arab lands along the West Bank of the Jordan River, near the city of Gaza, and the Sinai Peninsula.

In 1977, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat became the first Arab leader to agree to a peace treaty with Israel. Israel returned the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt and the long dispute between the nations ended. Many Arabs saw Sadat as a traitor for making an agreement with Israel. Five years later, Sadat was assassinated by Egyptians who did not believe he should have agreed to peace with Israel.



### Fill in the Blanks

The Hebrews lived on the e\_\_s\_\_e\_\_n shore of the M\_\_d\_\_t\_\_r\_\_a\_\_e\_\_n Sea until the R\_\_\_\_\_ forced them to leave almost two t\_\_o\_\_s\_\_nd years ago. The Jews scattered to parts of Europe, Asia, and eventually the Americas, where they often faced \*m\_\_s\_\_r\_\_a\_\_e\_\_e\_\_t. The Zionists were Jews who hoped to r\_\_c\_\_e\_\_t\_\_e a J\_\_w\_\_sh state in P\_\_l\_\_s\_\_i\_\_e, a land that was p\_\_p\_\_l\_\_t\_\_d by A\_\_\_\_\_ -speaking people and controlled by the B\_\_i\_\_i\_\_h. The British ceded control of P\_\_l\_\_s\_\_i\_\_e to the U\_\_i\_\_e\_\_N\_\_t\_\_o\_\_s, a group of fifty countries that formed after World War \_\_\_\_.

The A\_\_\_\_\_ nation declared war on the newcomers, but the new nation of I\_\_r\_\_el won the wars and e\_\_p\_\_n\_\_ed its b\_\_r\_\_e\_\_s. In 1977, the President of E\_\_\_\_\_, Anwar S\_\_d\_\_t, became the first A\_\_\_\_\_ leader to agree to p\_\_\_\_\_ with Israel. Sadat was \*k\_\_l\_\_ed five years later by E\_\_y\_\_t\_\_a\_\_s who did not agree with his \*d\_\_c\_\_s\_\_on to make peace with I\_\_\_\_\_.

### Answer in Complete Sentences

\*1. Why is Zionism?

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2. Why have Palestinian Arabs been unhappy with Israel?

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\*A higher order learning question. Any reasonable answer will be accepted.