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# The War on Terror

— Historical Assessment Review —

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# Part 1: Identifications

- Identifications are a short paragraph that explains *what a term is* and *why it is significant to the topic of study*.
- Identifications test both your content knowledge and your critical thinking.

# Example: Shi'a Islam

Shi'a Islam is one of the two primary sects of Islam. Followers of this branch of the Muslim faith believe that religious authority within Islam should be passed down among members of the family of the prophet Muhammad. Shi'a Muslims make up the minority of the world's Muslim population and still adhere to the 5 pillars of Islam, but they follow the direction of spiritual leaders called Imams - the wisest Imams are called Ayatollahs. Shi'a Islam is socially significant because the Sunni/Shi'a split governs how Muslims relate to one another and the extent to which they have power in their country may depend on which sect they belong to. Shi'a Islam is politically significant, because the Shi'a/Sunni split that divides Islam has been expressed through the politics of many countries in the Middle East. Countries such as Iraq shaped their government through the exclusion of the majority Shi'a population, which created a backlash when the minority government was thrown out of power during the U.S. invasion of the country. This deep split within the Muslim faith adds further complications to the process of seeking peace in the Middle East.

# 5 of these 8 Identifications will be on the test

- Terrorism
- Sunni Islam
- Osama Bin Laden
- The War in Afghanistan
- Weapons of Mass Destruction
- The Patriot Act
- The Arab Spring
- The Syrian Civil War

## Part II: Cause and Effect

- This skill asks you to identify key causes and effects of major historical events.
- You want try to discuss at least two causes and two effects of each event, all linked to the SPICE elements of the War on Terror.

## Events to Study

- The War in Afghanistan
- The War in Iraq
- September 11, 2001 Terrorist Attacks
- Rise of ISIS

# Part III: Change and Continuity

In this skill you are evaluating historical change over time. You are going to be asked to evaluate themes in Middle Eastern History (think SPICE elements) as you compare and contrast ways the United States has changed and ways it has stayed the same since the September 11 Terrorist Attacks.

Find answers for the following:

- Two ways the United States has changed since the 9/11 attacks and two SPICE elements related to each
- Two ways the United States has remained the same since 9/11 and two SPICE elements related to each

# Identifications Activity

With your assigned partner, you'll be given four Identifications that you need to find the definition for. **JUST THE DEFINITION.** Write the definition down on your "Historical Thinking Skills Unit Template"

Now, you are going to get with another partnership that was assigned the same identifications as you. In this group of four you will:

1. Compare definitions. Is there anything missing that you should add?
2. Explain the significance for each definition using as many SPICE connections as possible. Prepare to share your ID's with the class

With your original partner, you will get with another partnership that was assigned different identifications than you. With this group of four you will:

1. Teach each other and share notes for the four Identifications that they're missing



## Cause and Effect Activity

In your group, you will be assigned either the “cause” or “effect” of one of the events. You will be in charge of collecting as much information as possible about the many “causes” or “effects” of your event. Prepare to share this information with the class.