

Name:

## Day One

# Dangers for Soldiers

### Part 1: Silent read

➔ What are the dangers for U.S. soldiers in Iraq? Read silently.

Conventional warfare takes place on a battlefield. Two armies fight each other until one overpowers the other.

The Iraq War, however, quickly became an unconventional war. It was fought by many different insurgent groups with different goals. It was fought in cities and towns, among civilians. “You’re going literally building to building,” a U.S. soldier told *The Washington Post* in 2004.

The Iraqi insurgents used unconventional tactics. To get money, they kidnapped people for ransom. To fight, they used snipers, ambushes, and homemade bombs called IEDs. Their goals were to terrorize their enemies and catch them off guard.

U.S. soldiers were trained for these dangers. Army drivers were told never to stop their trucks. Even a person lying in the road could be a trick. “If you come to their aid, you become a target,” one soldier said. “Don’t stop for anything.”

In August of 2010, U.S. troops were leaving Iraq by the thousands. The drawdown had begun. But those who remained were still targets. Sergeant Jamal Rhett, a young medic, was killed on August 15. A grenade had been thrown into his truck. His friend, Staff Sergeant Gilbert Ayala, had lost many friends in Iraq already. He told *The Washington Post* that this loss was the worst. He felt forgotten. He said the war was still not over. “It can’t be, because things like this are still going down,” he said. “Boom, and my friend is gone.”

Sources: “Dangers of war persist for soldiers left behind,” *The Washington Post*, August 28, 2010.

“U.S. troops in Iraq see highest injury toll yet,” *The Washington Post*, September 5, 2004.



## Day One

// one minute

# Dangers for Soldiers

### Part 2: First timed read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

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45  
58  
61

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73  
86  
98

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113  
131  
142

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157  
171  
187  
201  
220  
237  
238

### Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What made the Iraq War an unconventional war?

Why were U.S. soldiers told to never stop their trucks?

## Day One

# Dangers for Soldiers

### Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Conventional warfare takes place on a battlefield. // Two armies fight each other / until one overpowers the other. //

The Iraq War, / however, / quickly became an unconventional war. // It was fought by many different insurgent groups / with different goals. // It was fought in cities and towns, / among civilians. // “You’re going literally building to building,” / a U.S. soldier told *The Washington Post* in 2004. //

The Iraqi insurgents used unconventional tactics. // To get money, / they kidnapped people for ransom. // To fight, / they used snipers, / ambushes, / and homemade bombs called IEDs. // Their goals were to terrorize their enemies / and catch them off guard. //

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I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.