

Name:

Debating the Iraq War

Jenny and Shane are 8th graders studying the Iraq War. They have different ideas about the war. Both Jenny and Shane give facts to back up their opinions.

Underline the fact you feel is Jenny's best point. Also underline the fact you feel is Shane's best point.

→ Jenny

I feel the Iraq War was a big mistake. Because of all the bombing, 200,000 Iraqis were killed. Those people hadn't done anything wrong. A lot of the Iraqi people killed were children. People our age were killed or lost arms and legs. And because of the war, many Iraqis lost their homes.

→ Shane

I think the U.S. had no choice. We had to invade Iraq. We knew that Saddam Hussein was torturing his people. If he really had weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), he could have killed millions. We had to stop him. The U.S. had to lead the war because we have the best military.

→ Jenny

I don't think Iraq is a better place now. Iraqi people are killing each other over religion. We didn't get rid of the terrorists. Al Qaeda is in Iraq. Terrorists bomb people in Iraq all the time. And they never found WMDs in Iraq.

→ Shane

At least Iraq doesn't have a dictator now. Because of the war, people in Iraq can vote for their government. The new Iraq government isn't a threat to the rest of the world. Iraqi people can live their lives freely now.

Debating the Iraq War, continued



Use *War in Afghanistan and Iraq* to find facts that back up Jenny's position and facts that back up Shane's position. Use the index, pictures, captions, and headings. Skim and scan to find your facts.

For each fact you find, write the page number and the fact in your own words.

→ **Jenny's position:** The Iraq War was a mistake.

Fact:	Page number:
After the war, bombings were common.	31

→ **Shane's position:** The Iraq War was the right thing to do.

Fact:	Page number:
Saddam used poison gas on his own people.	26



Share your facts with your partner.