

Name:

Day Two

Life in Iraq

Part 1: Tricky phrases and words



→ Read these phrases and words **out loud** to your partner.

- who worked as a computer programmer
 - Like many young Iraqis
 - and liked to hear her neighbors joke about the Iraqi soccer team
 - But other brutal leaders
 - those rules were enforced
 - She kept her stylish clothes put away
-
- Riverbend **RIH** | ver | bend
 - Iraqis ih | **RA** | keez
 - neighbors **NAY** | burz
 - Baghdad **BAG** | dad
 - wardrobe **WAR** | drohb



Decoding practice:

We break words into syllables where we see two consonants in the middle of words.

- Underline the middle two consonants
- Draw a line between the two consonants
- Put a short vowel sign \checkmark over the first vowel
- Say the word with your partner

The first one is done for you.

after

computer

public

enforced

discuss

weblog



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// one minute

Part 2: Last read

WPM _____

Riverbend was a 25-year-old Iraqi woman who worked as a computer programmer. Like many young Iraqis, she lived with her parents. She liked shopping for makeup and bright scarves.

In public, she wore loose tops and long skirts. But when she wanted to go out at night to see friends, she put on jeans and took the car. She loved to drive. She followed sports and liked to hear her neighbors joke about the Iraqi soccer team. 50 68 79

All this was before 2003. After the war, things changed. Riverbend is not her real name. It is the name she uses on her weblog, *Baghdad Burning*. She started the blog to discuss her own experience living in Iraq during the war. 95 114 121

Riverbend was glad to see the end of Saddam. But other brutal leaders quickly rose to power. They did not allow soccer, makeup, and colorful clothing. There had always been rules against women driving. Now, those rules were enforced. Masked men with guns began stopping cars in Riverbend’s neighborhood. She began sitting in the back seat. She kept her stylish clothes put away, out of sight. 137 151 164 178 187

In 2006, Riverbend wrote in her blog, “I look at my older clothes—the jeans and T-shirts and colorful skirts—and it’s like I’m studying a wardrobe from another country, another lifetime.” 205 219 210

In 2007, Riverbend and her family moved to Syria. They survived the war, but their lives would never be the same. 236 241

Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

During the Iraq War, new rules banned soccer, makeup, colorful clothes, and women driving. Which one of these rules do you feel was the most unfair? Why?

Check with your partner. Which rule did your partner think was the most unfair?
