

Name:

## Day One

# Public Opinion and the War

### Part 1: Silent read

➔ Most Americans backed the Iraq War at the beginning. Why did feelings change?  
Read silently.

Most Americans supported President Bush's declaration of war in March 2003. At that time, most Americans thought Iraq was hiding dangerous weapons. The memory of terrorist attacks in New York and Washington was fresh. People also believed the U.S. would be able to quickly win the war.

However, public opinion changed as the war dragged on. In 2004, a large anti-war protest took place in New York City. Hundreds of thousands of people attended. Protestor Rebecca Nellenback spoke to the *Chicago Tribune* about the New York protest. "This is very inspiring, and gives me some hope. I was really angry at my country. But right now I really love it."

In 2005, the CIA admitted that no weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) were found in Iraq. President Bush had claimed that Saddam Hussein had WMDs, but now this claim had been proved false. That year, for the first time, more than half of Americans were opposed to continuing the war.

By 2008, sixty percent of Americans believed the war had been a mistake. The public was still divided about the U.S. role, with some people supporting a continued combat force in Iraq. Others wanted U.S. troops out immediately. Still, some thought the U.S. should help Iraq become more stable before removing troops.

In November 2008, Barack Obama was elected president. In August 2010, he announced the end of America's combat role in Iraq. Some U.S. troops still remained in Iraq until 2012 to support Iraq's military.

Source: "Massive protest mostly peaceful," *Chicago Tribune*, August 30, 2004.



# Public Opinion and the War

## Part 2: First timed read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

Most Americans supported President Bush's declaration of war in March 2003. At that time, most Americans thought Iraq was hiding dangerous weapons. The memory of terrorist attacks in New York and Washington was fresh. People also believed the U.S. would be able to quickly win the war. 47

However, public opinion changed as the war dragged on. In 2004, a large anti-war protest took place in New York City. Hundreds of thousands of people attended. 62  
 Protestor Rebecca Nellenback spoke to the *Chicago Tribune* about the New York protest. "This is very inspiring, and gives me some hope. I was really angry at my country. But right now I really love it." 87 103 111

In 2005, the CIA admitted that no weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) were found in Iraq. President Bush had claimed that Saddam Hussein had WMDs, but now this claim had been proved false. That year, for the first time, more than half of Americans were opposed to continuing the war. 125 139 154 161

By 2008, sixty percent of Americans believed the war had been a mistake. The public was still divided about the U.S. role, with some people supporting a continued combat force in Iraq. Others wanted U.S. troops out immediately. Still, some thought the U.S. should help Iraq become more stable before removing troops. 175 189 202 213

In November 2008, Barack Obama was elected president. In August 2010, he announced the end of America's combat role in Iraq. Some U.S. troops still remained in Iraq until 2012 to support Iraq's military. 225 239 247

## Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

How did public opinion of the Iraq War change?

---

In 2005, what did the CIA say about weapons of mass destruction, WMDs?

---

---

## Day One

# Public Opinion and the War

### 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.

Most Americans supported President Bush's declaration of war / in March 2003. // At that time, / most Americans thought Iraq was hiding dangerous weapons. // The memory of terrorist attacks in New York and Washington / was fresh. // People also believed / the U.S. would be able to quickly win the war. //

However, / public opinion changed as the war dragged on. // In 2004, / a large anti-war protest took place in New York City. // Hundreds of thousands of people attended. // Protestor Rebecca Nellenback spoke to the *Chicago Tribune* / about the New York protest. // "This is very inspiring, / and gives me some hope. // I was really angry at my country. // But right now I really love it." //

In 2005, / the CIA admitted / that no weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) were found in Iraq. // President Bush had claimed that Saddam Hussein had WMDs, / but now this claim had been proved false. // That year, / for the first time, / more than half of Americans were opposed to continuing the war. //

By 2008, / sixty percent of Americans believed the war had been a mistake. // The public was still divided about the U.S. role, / with some people supporting a continued combat force in Iraq. // Others wanted U.S. troops out immediately. // Still, / some thought the U.S. should help Iraq become more stable / before removing troops. //

In November 2008, / Barack Obama was elected president. // In August 2010, / he announced the end of America's combat role in Iraq. // Some U.S. troops still remained in Iraq until 2012 / to support Iraq's military. //

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