

Name:

## Day One

# Life in Iraq

### Part 1: Silent read

➔ How did life change for young women in Iraq? Read silently.

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.

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.

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.

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."

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

Source: "Summer of goodbyes," *Baghdad Burning*, August 5, 2006.



# Day One Life in Iraq

// one minute

## Part 2: First timed read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

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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

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## Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

How did Riverbend’s life change after the war began?

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How do we know about Riverbend’s life during the war?

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## Day One

# Life in Iraq

### 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.

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. //

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. //

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. //

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." //

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

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