

# STUDENT'S HANDOUT



## Background Information



The United States, Great Britain, and a coalition of other countries began a war against Iraq on the 20th of March, 2003, despite the official opposition of the United Nations (UN) and numerous other countries, including France, Germany, and Russia. Ever since the beginning, the motivation for the war as well as its legitimacy have been hotly debated all over the world, and still remain controversial. In Canada, and especially in Quebec, thousands of people gathered in the streets to display their disagreement with the war and to demand that the Canadian Government not be involved.



## Instructions

As a strong defender of peace, write a short text that expresses a pacifist view opposing the war. Your opinion must include arguments to convince readers of the rationale of your point of view.



## A Few Reminders:

- The motivations expressed by the United States, Great Britain, and others in the war included the possession of weapons of mass destruction by the Iraqi dictatorship as well as presumed links between the government and international terrorist networks.
- Canada refused to side with the United States and the international coalition supporting them.
- The Canadian government stands on values that are dear to Canadians, such as humanitarianism, social justice, generosity, and peace. The government works through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to support development initiatives in dozens of developing countries around the world.

AN INITIATIVE OF THE  
In-Terre-Actif Network of the Comité de Solidarité/Trois-Rivières



PRODUCED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA  
THROUGH THE



Canadian  
International  
Development  
Agency