

Lesson 2 – Religion, Peace & Conflict

Reasons for war - [Reasons for war \(thenational.academy\)](https://thenational.academy) Please use this link when completing your work.

At any point in time there is always a war happening somewhere in the world. We have fought wars throughout history and there is little sign of them stopping. Wars between nations, civil wars, etc have threatened our existence on a daily basis.

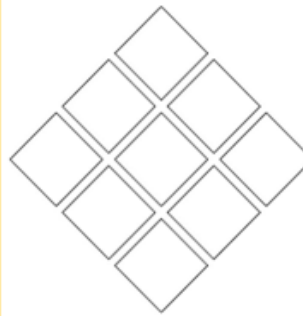
Task: Complete the diamond 9 on the diagram below. Write a sentence explaining which reason you think is the most important.

What are the causes of war?

Task: Complete the diamond nine on the different causes of war. Put your most important cause at the top and your least important at the bottom.

Explain why you have chosen your most important reason.

Aim high: Do you think any of these are a good reason to go to war? Explain your answer



- 1) Land
- 2) Oil & Minerals
- 3) Religion
- 4) Greed
- 5) Poverty
- 6) Racism
- 7) Politics
- 8) Building empires
- 9) Controlling population

I think the biggest cause of war is...

This is because...

Greed, Self-Defence and Retaliation

Greed – This is war to gain, for example, more land, more power or more resources. Most religious teachings would not support this as a reason.

Self-defence – If a country or religion is under attack, then conflicts can happen. It would be seen as entirely right and proper to defend your own country.

Retaliation – At times, a country will be attacked in a way which provokes retaliation. E.g. World War 1. Retaliation can lead to the escalation of a situation.

**Identify the reasons for each example. Greed? Retaliation? Self-defence?
Explain why it fits into that category.**

	Reason for war?
<p>World War 2 During the Second World War the UK fought to defend itself against Nazi invasion and to help defeat what they saw as an evil threat to the whole of Europe. In addition to defending their own country, many people believe that it is acceptable to fight to defend other nations under threat.</p>	
<p>Invasion of Afghanistan On 11 September 2001, terrorists from al-Qaeda hijacked four passenger aircraft in the US. Two were flown into the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York, and one into the Pentagon (the headquarters of the US Department of Defence). The fourth crashed in a field in Pennsylvania after the passengers tried to overcome the hijackers. 2996 people died, and many more were seriously injured. As a result, the US ordered military action against Afghanistan because they believed that the country was providing shelter for the al-Qaeada terrorist group. The UK supported the US action, and Bin Laden was eventually killed by US forces in May 2011.</p>	
<p>Pearl Harbour The Manchurian incident as it is now known refers to Japan's invasion of Manchuria in the 1930s and was in part because of demand for base metals. This invasion led the U.S. and other nations to embargo their oil shipments to Japan. The attack on Pearl Harbor was a direct result as Japan sought to Knock America out of the war quickly and seize oil, metal and food commodity assets in South Asia. Beyond the casualties of conflict, the Japanese enslaved millions of people to extract and refine these commodities resulting in much more suffering and death.</p>	

Explain which (if any) of these reasons you think is justifiable when starting a war.