

WAR IN EUROPE

Mar 3rd, 2022

WARM-UP QUESTIONS: *Discuss the following questions with your partner(s).*

1. Have you or anyone you know served in the military? When and where?
2. Read the headline above. Have you heard this news story? If so, say what you know. If not, can you guess what it's about?

VOCABULARY: *Match the following vocabulary words with a description. Use a dictionary if you need to.*

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|----------------------|--|
| 1. Invade | a) groups from the army, navy, or air force |
| 2. Forces | b) strongly feeling that you want to do something |
| 3. NATO | c) a strongly built shelter, often underground |
| 4. Prospect | d) an official order to limit trade with a country |
| 5. Determined | e) to enter a country to take control with force |
| 6. Call up | f) forward movement |
| 7. Reservist | g) to order people to join the military or report for active duty |
| 8. Advance | h) a military alliance made up of many of the countries of Europe plus the United States and Canada (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) |
| 9. Bunker | i) a soldier that is ready to fight if needed |
| 10. Sanction | j) the possibility that something will happen |

LISTEN: *Listen to the audio track on [eslnewsstories.com](https://www.eslnewsstories.com) or to a reader of the text. Try to fill in the missing words. Then check your answers with the full text.*

Last week, Russia invaded Ukraine, starting the biggest war in _____ since the end of World War Two. Russian forces, in large numbers, attacked from the north, east and south, coming by air, by sea, and over _____.

The Russian President, Vladimir Putin, has long complained about the _____ of NATO toward Russian territory. According to Putin, the prospect of Ukraine joining NATO is a threat to Russian security. He has also _____ that Ukraine is rightfully a part of Russia.

Ukrainians are determined to defend their country. The Ukrainian President, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, is visible in the _____ and has made frequent requests to the international community for help. The Ukrainian military called up reservists aged 18 to 60, and along with the air force, has been slowing the Russian _____. Ukrainian civilians have moved into subway stations and bunkers for protection.

People have expressed shock at the outbreak of war in Europe after a long period of _____. The European Union, the United States, and other countries have reacted with financial sanctions on Russian banks, certain industries, and key individuals. As well, several countries are sending supplies and _____ to assist Ukraine. However, not wanting to directly go to war with Russia, other countries are not sending their own soldiers to fight alongside Ukrainians.

There have already been civilian and military _____ in the conflict, and there are expected to be many more. An already tragic situation has the potential to become far worse if other countries join the conflict, _____ considering Russia is a nuclear-armed power.

WORD FORMS: *Fill in different forms for the vocabulary from the article. Use a dictionary if you need to. Where there is an x, the word is uncommon, has a different meaning, or doesn't exist. Sometimes there are multiple possible answers, and sometimes the adjective form is a past or present participle.*

VERB	ADJECTIVE	ADVERB	NOUN
invade			
x			prospect
	determined		
			advance
		x	sanction

Last week, Russia invaded Ukraine, starting the biggest war in Europe since the end of World War Two. Russian forces, in large numbers, attacked from the north, east and south, coming by air, by sea, and over land.

The Russian President, Vladimir Putin, has long complained about the expansion of NATO toward Russian territory. According to Putin, the prospect of Ukraine joining NATO is a threat to Russian security. He has also argued that Ukraine is rightfully a part of Russia.

Ukrainians are determined to defend their country. The Ukrainian President, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, is visible in the media and has made frequent requests to the international community for help. The

Ukrainian military called up reservists aged 18 to 60, and along with the air force, has been slowing the Russian advance. Ukrainian civilians have moved into subway stations and bunkers for protection.

People have expressed shock at the outbreak of war in Europe after a long period of peace. The European Union, the United States, and other countries have reacted with financial sanctions on Russian banks, certain industries, and key individuals. As well, several countries are sending supplies and weapons to assist Ukraine. However, not wanting to directly go to war with Russia, other countries are not sending their own soldiers to fight alongside Ukrainians.

There have already been civilian and military deaths in the conflict, and there are expected to be many more. An already tragic situation has the potential to become far worse if other countries join the conflict, especially considering Russia is a nuclear-armed power.

Sources: bbc.com, aljazeera.com

For source links, see the article on ESLNewsStories.com

COMPREHENSION: *Decide if the following are true (T) or false (F), and then discuss your answers with your partner(s).*

1. Ukraine invaded Russia. (T / F)
2. President Putin says NATO is a threat to Russia. (T / F)
3. Ukrainians is a member of NATO. (T / F)
4. Some Ukrainians are taking shelter in bunkers. (T / F)
5. European countries want to fight with Russia. (T / F)

COMPLETE: *Re-order the following sentences. Capitalize certain words and add punctuation.*

1. ukraine / is / there / war / a / in
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2. russian / will / economy / sanctions / the / damage
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DISCUSSION: *Discuss the following questions with your partner(s). Try to speak in sentences and ask follow-up questions.*

1. How do you feel about war?
2. When was the last war or serious conflict that affected your part of the world?
3. Do you know any Ukrainians or people in Ukraine? How are you feeling about their situation?
4. Is a peaceful solution to conflict always possible? Or is war sometimes unavoidable?
5. President Putin seems to think that Ukraine should not be an independent nation. Does he have the right to say this? Is history on his side?

