

# 16 Historical Wars

Humans have fought wars to expand their territory. In addition, tribes or nations may fight to gain access to resources. Many wars are caused by greed. People called World War I “The war to end all wars” because it was such a horrible and cruel conflict. Unfortunately, a worse war followed. The Geneva Conventions established international laws and treaties for the treatment of civilians and prisoners of war. The Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907 described war crimes. Some countries have taken steps to reject war. Article 9 of Japan’s constitution outlaws war as a means to solve international disputes; article 12 of Costa Rica’s constitution abolished its army. Meanwhile, the Panchsheel Treaty lists five principles to avoid war. They were agreed to by China and India in 1954. Because of the power of modern weapons, a major war could lead to great destruction and the extinction of many animals, including humans.

Read the above paragraph then brainstorm more vocabulary below.



conquer  
divine wind  
Genghis Khan



revolution  
bankrupt  
Napoleon



empire  
continent  
Alexander the Great



conflict  
Prince of Hungary  
World War I



invade  
surrender  
World War II



communism  
capitalism  
the Berlin Wall