

**Enduring question:**

***Why is war a persistent feature of international relations?***

1. When was a time when your personal decision-making on an important decision was impacted by stress, groupthink, or overoptimism? Can you put yourself in the shoes of a leader and see how it might lead a country down the road to war?
2. Is it possible that war will become ‘outdated?’ If so, how would this happen, and what form might the international order have to take?
3. Under what conditions should individual states get involved with internal wars in other states to attempt to end the conflict? What about the international community as a whole?
4. To what extent are former colonial powers responsible for the war-prone nature of their former colonies? Do former colonizers have an obligation to attempt to prevent or end conflicts in their former colonies?
5. Which level of analysis do you think is the mosthelpful in understanding the underlying causes of war? Can you think of an example of a war for which one level of analysis or theoretical tradition is particularly compelling as an explanation for the cause of the war, then think of another example for which a different level/tradition is particularly compelling?
6. What do you think is the best way to get around differing perspectives that might lead to conflict? How might an international body like the UN approach the relevant parties over an issue like the Senkaku/Diaoyu islands?
7. What type of war do you think constitutes the most pressing danger to the world today: internal, interstate, or extra-state?
8. Do you think the world will ever see another general war? Why or why not?
9. How might changes in technology like cyber warfare and drone technology change the kinds of war fought?
10. What role do non-state actors have in the instigation of different kinds of war? How does their role shift depending on the kind of war being fought?