

Writing Prompts – Terrorism and the World

- If the U.S. finds and incarcerates or kills Osama bin Laden, would the terrorist threat end? Why or why not? (This is specially recommended for use with "Hunting bin Laden" or "Looking for Answers.")
 - Should the CIA have been able to prevent the attacks on Sept. 11? If so, how? How far should the CIA go to prevent terrorism? Can they use assassination? Bombing raids? Should they be allowed to organize protests to undermine validly elected governments? What are the broader consequences of such methods? (This is especially recommended for use with "Looking for Answers.")
 - Given that 15 of 19 perpetrators of the Sept. 11 attacks were Saudi, should the U.S. go to war against Saudi Arabia? Why didn't the U.S. go to war against Saudi Arabia? (This is especially recommended for use with "Saudi Time Bomb?")
 - Is the use of military force the only way to prevent terrorism? What are the other possible alternatives? Which strategy is best and why? (This is especially recommended for use with "Target America," but will work with any of the programs.)
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- Look at the map of the region. Which countries does the U.S. support and why? Within each country, who does the U.S. support and why?
 - What does the U.S. expect from an ally? What should the U.S. expect? What is the U.S. getting?
 - Can one be critical of an ally? If so, how? And how do we criticize actions while respecting cultures different from our own?
 - Looking at the region as a whole, who would you select as an ally and why? What does the U.S. need in the region (consider U.S. energy policy, military sales, and foreign policy in your answer)? What might change our needs? How would those changes influence the allies we choose?