

WHAT IN THE WORLD?



LEVEL 1 (GRADES 5 AND UP)

Russia versus Ukraine One Year In

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Sample

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SAMPLE EDITION
2022/2023: ISSUE 6



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NATIONAL

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INTERNATIONAL

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WHAT IN THE WORLD?

Level 1, 2022/2023: Issue 6

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HAY'SXW'QA!

LesPlan is grateful to the Lkwungen Peoples, the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, on whose unceded land we now live, and do our work.

We welcome your comments and appreciate your suggestions. Please contact us at any time.

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I have had many parents comment to me about how great they think *What in the World?* is, and they look forward to each month's issue coming home... This is a great resource for a small country school to explore the global issues that affect us all.

K. Camelon, Grade 7/8 teacher

Admaston, ON



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**BEFORE READING**

Please note: This article contains sensitive content. Please refer to the teacher resource page **Facilitating Discussions on Sensitive Topics** before approaching this topic with your class.

Sensitive Content	At a Glance	Learning Outcomes
<p>This article is about the year-long conflict that began after Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, and the apparent stalemate that has developed. Please note that the article details and the supporting resources are difficult and touch on the topics of human casualties (both military and civilian); Ukrainian citizens who have been tortured, violated, and displaced; and the devastating impact this war has had on the infrastructure and the economy of Ukraine. The article also discusses the ongoing international military and financial support for Ukraine, and the continuing sanctions levied against Russia. There are details of a possible dangerous new phase in Russia's aggression. It is normal for some students to feel a range of emotions when confronted with these topics. Encourage students to express any concerns they have about the material and discuss accommodations with them as needed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Russia-Ukraine war has been ongoing since February 24, 2022. • Russia continues to ignore international rules of conflict, attacking civilian sites and targeting civilians of all ages. • Russia's actions have been labelled war crimes by the UN. • According to the United Nations, by the end of 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7155 ordinary Ukrainians had died in the conflict and another 11,662 had been injured; - 40% of Ukraine's housing had been damaged; - about half of Ukraine's energy infrastructure had been destroyed or compromised; - 16 million Ukrainians have had to leave their homes; - Ukraine's economy had shrunk by 35%. • Ukraine is determined to defend itself against Russia. The international community continues to provide aid to Ukraine, including tanks. They also continue to levy economic sanctions against Russia. 	<p>After reading this article, students will...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand the most recent developments in the Russia-Ukraine war; • explain the devastating losses, both physical and human, suffered by Ukraine; • understand the importance of international aid and support for Ukraine during this unprovoked conflict; • consider the importance of democracy, international cooperation, and national sovereignty.



BEFORE READING

1. Share the title of the article with the class: **Russia Versus Ukraine: One Year and Counting.**
2. Provide small groups of students with a sheet of legal paper and have them draw a 2 x 3 chart, dividing the sheet into 6 sections that students will label with the following question words:
Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?
3. Provide a minute or two for groups to add key details related to the topic to each section of their page.
4. Post 6 chart papers around the room, each with one of these question words.
5. Have student groups rotate through each chart paper, recording their group's ideas. If another group has already noted one of their ideas, have them add a check mark to that idea to show similarities.
6. Once each group arrives at the last chart paper, have them summarize the key ideas noted and share with the class.

For example:

Who?	What?	When?
Vladimir Putin Volodymyr Zelenskyy Russian soldiers Ukrainian soldiers Ukrainian citizens NATO countries supporting Ukraine	Unprovoked Russian attack on Ukraine Destruction of many cities, civilian sites Many Ukrainians killed, displaced from their homes	Began February 24, 2022 Ongoing
Where?	Why?	How?
Ukraine Donbas region Kyiv	To take control of Ukraine which was once part of the USSR	Ground troops Missiles Tanks

7. Finally, invite students to set a purpose for reading the article, referring to the resource page **Setting A Purpose Before Reading** as needed.



INTERNATIONAL

RUSSIA VERSUS UKRAINE

– ONE YEAR AND COUNTING



February 24, 2023 marked one year since Russian President Vladimir Putin's army invaded Ukraine.

The **unprovoked** attack has caused great pain over the past 12 months. The conflict has damaged families, economies, and the **world order**. And it's still unclear when – or how – the war will end.

THE WAR RAGES ON

Mr. Putin had hoped to swiftly capture the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv, and to topple Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's government. After all, Russia's massive army far outnumbered Ukraine's military. Russia also had a greater **arsenal** of more powerful weapons.

But that's not what happened. Russian troops were surprisingly incompetent. By contrast, Ukrainians fought hard and well. So Russia quickly had to abandon plans to take the capital. Instead, it shifted its **offensive** to the south and east. There, its forces captured the city of Mariupol. It was all part of an effort to create a corridor along the Black Sea coast. The goal was to link the **Crimean peninsula** and the **Donbas region**. Those are areas Moscow invaded and **annexed** in 2014.

However, in late summer, Ukrainian forces struck back. They forced Russian troops from parts of the south and east of the country. Next, they liberated the key city of Kherson.

Since then, neither side has made big advances. Russia has kept up pressure by using missiles and drones to target Ukraine's cities and infrastructure. It has also engaged in a months-long campaign to capture the eastern city of Bakhmut. However, it is no closer than Ukraine to declaring military victory.

THE HUMAN TOLL

By late 2022, at least 100,000 Ukrainian military personnel and 200,000 Russian troops had been killed or wounded in the war. **Civilian casualties** have been high, too. The **United Nations (UN)** says that by the end of 2022, at least 7155 Ukrainians had died. Another 11,662 had been wounded.

DEFINITIONS

ANNEX: to take control of a country or region by force

ARSENAL: a large collection of weapons and military equipment

CIVILIAN: non-military citizen

CASUALTY: someone who is injured or killed in an accident or military action

CRIMEAN PENINSULA: a peninsula of southern Ukraine between the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov

DONBAS REGION: a historical, cultural, and economic region in eastern Ukraine

OFFENSIVE: the action of attacking an enemy

UNITED NATIONS (UN): organization of 193 independent states, formed in 1945 to promote international peace and security

UNPROVOKED: an action not caused by anything another party has said or done

WORLD ORDER: a system controlling events in the world, especially a set of arrangements established internationally for preserving global political stability



Many of these civilians were not just caught in the crossfire. The UN says that Russia has committed **war crimes**. How? By deliberately striking apartment buildings, schools, hospitals, factories, and shelters. The attacks injured women, children, and the elderly.

WIDESPREAD DAMAGE

Before the war, Ukraine had a population of 44 million. Roughly 16 million Ukrainians have had to leave their homes since the conflict began. Some have relocated within the country. Others have fled to nearby nations, elsewhere in Europe, or North America.

For those who have stayed, the situation is desperate. Up to 40 percent of the nation's housing has been damaged. As well, about half of Ukraine's energy infrastructure has been destroyed or damaged. That has left many civilians with limited power, water, and heat in bitter winter temperatures.

WHY DID RUSSIA INVADE UKRAINE?

President Putin said he ordered the invasion – what he called 'a special military operation' – to secure Russia's borders. He argued that after the **USSR dissolved** in 1991, the West promised not to expand NATO. Yet the organization has allowed six former **Warsaw Pact** members and three former **Soviet republics** to join since that pledge was made, and Ukraine wants to join, too.

Mr. Putin also said that he needed to stand up for pro-Russian Ukrainians and Ukrainians of Russian **ethnic** origin. He claimed they were being persecuted and even killed by the Ukrainian government, which he said was being run by **Nazis**.

The Russian President's critics and opponents say that these accusations are baseless. For one thing, the West never made a firm promise not to expand NATO. For another, no NATO country had shown any sign of wanting to attack Russia. Furthermore, NATO had indicated it had no plans to admit Ukraine anytime soon.

While it's true that tens of thousands of Ukrainians, many from the eastern and southern parts of Ukraine, support closer ties to Russia, there is no evidence that they were being harshly treated by the Ukrainian government. And the accusations of Nazis running the Ukrainian government? They were completely false.

Making matters worse, Ukraine's economy has also been hit hard. It shrank by 35 percent in 2022. That means many incomes are dropping below the **poverty line**. Up to 18 million Ukrainians will likely

need humanitarian aid in the near future.

NO BACKING DOWN

No question, the human toll is terrible. The war is the largest military conflict in Europe since World War II. Yet neither

DEFINITIONS

DISSOLVE: the process of officially ending the existence of a group or organization

ETHNIC: relating to a group of people with the same culture and traditions

NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization – a political and military alliance designed to defend democracy, created after World War II, that 30 countries currently belong to

NAZIS: people who adhere to the ideology and practice of Nazism, a body of political and economic beliefs put into effect in Germany from 1933 to 1945 by Adolf Hitler

POVERTY LINE: the official level of income that is necessary to be able to pay for the basic things you need to live

SOVIET REPUBLIC: a republic within the USSR

USSR: Union of Soviet Socialist republics, a former federal union of 15 nations in eastern Europe and western and northern Asia, comprising the larger part of the former Russian Empire: formed in 1921 and dissolved in December 1991.

WAR CRIME: a cruel act that is committed during a war and is against the international rules of war

WARSAW PACT: a treaty of mutual defense and military aid created in 1955 by communist states of Europe under Soviet influence. The alliance ended in 1991.



INTERNATIONAL RUSSIA VERSUS UKRAINE

– ONE YEAR AND COUNTING

Mr. Putin nor Mr. Zelenskyy shows any signs of giving up.

So what may happen next? On February 14, NATO **Secretary-General** Jens Stoltenberg said that Russia appeared to be preparing for a spring offensive. The move could usher in a dangerous new phase in the war.

Analysts say that Russia has adjusted its strategy and learned from its defeats over the last 12 months. As well, the military conducted a major **mobilization** in the fall. Some 300,000 troops have now joined the Russian side. Tens of thousands of well-trained **mercenaries** are also believed to be fighting for Russia in Ukraine.

True, Russia suffered heavy losses of military equipment and ammunition earlier in the war. However, domestic production of these materials has increased. As well, Russia's allies have stepped up to help. North Korea has been supplying rockets and artillery. Iran has been contributing drones. Chinese companies have been supplying non-lethal aid.

UKRAINE ASKS FOR HELP

Meanwhile, President Zelenskyy has been pleading with the West for more support.

Since the war began, the U.S., Canada, and Europe have been providing military intelligence, weapons, and financial aid to Ukraine. They have also levied crippling **sanctions** against Russia to try to damage Russia's economy.

This assistance has made a big difference. However, the Ukrainian army has used up much of its artillery shells, anti-tank weapons, and surface-to-air missiles. More supplies are urgently needed. Mr. Zelenskyy says his army also needs at least 300 advanced tanks, and fighter jets, too. And he wants them as quickly as possible.

WESTERN SUPPORT

In mid-February, NATO members pledged to supply more ammunition. As well, the U.S., UK, Canada, Germany, and other nations will send about 80 tanks. But it will take time before they reach the battlefield.

Then, on February 20, U.S. President Joe Biden made a

surprise visit to Kyiv. There, he meet with President Zelenskyy. He wanted to show the world that the U.S. is prepared to support Ukraine as long as necessary.

"One year later, Kyiv stands. And Ukraine stands. Democracy stands. The Americans stand with you, and the world stands with you," he stated.

He also promised an additional \$2.175 billion in aid. That's on top of the more than \$50 billion the U.S. has already provided.

AN URGENT SITUATION

Why is the West backing Ukraine so strongly? Because the outcome has global consequences. The war has fuelled a worldwide rise in inflation and energy prices. But there's an even more important reason. Since the end of World War II, global powers have lived by rules meant to avoid a third world war. A Russian victory could threaten that world order – and world peace.

"We've managed to avoid conflict directly between great powers," U.S. **Secretary of State** Antony Blinken said. "This system, for all its imperfections, works. But now, it's being challenged." ★

DEFINITIONS

MERCENARY: a soldier who fights for any country or group that offers payment

MOBILIZATION: the act of getting ready for war

SANCTIONS: an official order that limits trade, contact, etc. with a country to make it do something

SECRETARY-GENERAL: an official in charge of a large organization

SECRETARY OF STATE: the person who represents the U.S. to foreign countries



INTERNATIONAL
RUSSIA VERSUS UKRAINE
– ONE YEAR AND COUNTING

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. When did Russia invade Ukraine? What was the initial plan for this 'special military operation'?

2. What reason did President Putin give for this attack regarding NATO?

3. What reason did President Putin give for this attack regarding protecting pro-Russian Ukrainians?

4. Describe how this invasion progressed during the first few weeks.

5. Where did Russia shift its attention to in April?

6. How did many western countries respond to Russia's 'special military operation'?

7. What did Ukrainian military forces accomplish in late summer?

8. Describe what has happened militarily since this large counterattack.

9. Describe the human toll of this conflict.

10. What do many reports suggest will happen in the coming weeks?



QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER THOUGHT

1. As you see it, why are NATO's current members willing to pledge billions of dollars of their own country's resources to Ukraine who is not yet a member of NATO? Give reasons to support your response.

2. Respond to one of the quotes below. What is your understanding of this quote? For what reasons do you agree with the speaker? For what reasons do you disagree? What emotions does this quote evoke and what thoughts does it provoke? As you see it, what is the significance of this quote?

"I want the war to be finished as soon as possible, but I know it's just impossible... and the worst thing is that everybody is getting used to it, and the world as well." – Halyna Dmytryshyn, a Ukrainian refugee living in Ottawa

"Freedom is priceless. It's worth fighting for for as long as it takes." – U.S. President Joe Biden on the one-year anniversary of Ukraine's invasion

Mr. Putin has "complete control over the media. He can turn anything he wants into a victory." – Jack Watline, a senior researcher for land warfare at the Royal United Services Institute, a London think tank

"Russia is now a global pariah and the world remains inspired by Ukrainian bravery and resilience. In short, Russia has lost: they've lost strategically, operationally, and tactically." – top U.S. General Mark Milley



INTERNATIONAL
RUSSIA VERSUS UKRAINE
 – ONE YEAR AND COUNTING

QUESTIONS FOR ONLINE EXPLORATION

Note: The links below are listed at www.lesplan.com/links for easy access.

1. Listen to the following podcast that looks back and ahead at the conflict in Ukraine:
<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/frontburner/a-look-back-and-ahead-at-the-war-in-ukraine-1.6701916> [27:35]
 (podcast)

What did you learn? What questions do you still have?

2. Learn more about the most recent developments in this conflict:
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/russia-ukraine-war-1.6746242>
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/ukraine-war-russia-bakhmut-1.6670438>
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/ukraine-russia-bakhmut-military-aid-1.6736374>
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/russia-ukraine-war-bakhmut-1.6708783>
<https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2130974275851> [2:05]

What is the importance of the city of Bakhmut in this conflict?

3. What could the promise of western tanks mean for Ukraine's fight against Russia?:
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/leopard-2-explainer-1.6724730>
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/ukraine-invasion-day-336-1.6725190>
<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/frontburner/will-tanks-end-or-escalate-the-war-in-ukraine-transcript-1.6731664> [26:47] (podcast)





KYIV UNBROKEN



YOUR TASK:

Examine the editorial cartoon, then answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper:

1. What do you *already know* about the impact of the Russian-Ukraine war on Ukraine?
2. Describe what you *see* and *read* in the cartoon.
3. As you see it, what might the cartoonist be saying the impact the war is having on Ukraine? Explain.
4. For what reasons do you agree with the cartoonist? For what reasons do you disagree? Explain. ★



INTERNATIONAL RUSSIA VERSUS UKRAINE

– ONE YEAR AND COUNTING

Photographs are useful sources of information. Learning to “read the clues” in photographs can help us learn about historical or contemporary events, time periods or people. The “5W” questions (Who, What, Where, When and Why) is a technique used by reporters when investigating an event – and may be helpful in interpreting a photograph. Each of the 5W questions can help us focus on **clues** (*hints or pieces of information that help us find out something*) or evidence in the picture. We can then use these clues to help us draw **conclusions** (*answers or ideas that we think of because of a clue*) about what is happening in a photograph.

Consider the picture below:



(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Joe_Biden_visit_to_Kyiv_05.jpg)



1. Use the chart below to help you interpret what is happening in the photograph. Record as much evidence as you can for each question.

	Clues <i>(what you see in the picture)</i>	Conclusions <i>(what you think about what you see)</i>
Who is in the photograph?		
What are the people doing?		
Where is the action taking place?		
When did the action in the photograph take place?		
Why is the action happening?		

2. **Write a caption:** Develop a complete and believable explanation (or caption) for the photograph. A good explanation answers all of the 5W questions, is supported with evidence, and leaves no doubts about the conclusions.





INTERNATIONAL RUSSIA VERSUS UKRAINE

– ONE YEAR AND COUNTING

INFOGRAPHIC

Ukraine war – one year on

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has become a grinding war of attrition that has killed thousands of people and displaced millions, ravaged cities and destroyed vital infrastructure across the country

FEBRUARY

- Feb 24, 2022: Russia invades Ukraine in what President **Vladimir Putin** calls "special military operation"
- Ukrainian President **Volodymyr Zelensky** declares martial law and general mobilisation
- Russia surrounds **Kyiv** but pulls back within weeks as troops are stalled by ferocious resistance

MARCH

- Russian forces take city of **Kherson** and shell **Zaporizhyya Nuclear Power Plant**, raising fears of nuclear disaster
- Moscow scales back ambitions in north to focus on "liberating" key separatist regions of **Donetsk** and **Luhansk**

APRIL

- Evidence of atrocities emerges in wake of Russian retreat from town of **Bucha**

DECEMBER

- Three drone strikes on air bases show Ukraine is able to attack hundreds of kilometres inside Russia
- Zelensky visits U.S. in first foreign trip since start of conflict – President **Joe Biden** announces U.S. will send **Patriot** air defence system to Ukraine

JANUARY

- Ukrainian forces strike **Donetsk** building housing Russian troops. Moscow admits deaths of 89 soldiers, **Kyiv** claims hundreds killed
- Russia captures salt mine town of **Soledar** amid long and bloody campaign to take city of **Bakhmut**

FEBRUARY

- After weeks of diplomatic deadlock, U.S., Germany and other NATO members agree to send heavy tanks

MAY

- Last Ukrainian fighters surrender in **Mariupol** as siege of **Azovstal** steelworks ends. Weeks of Russian bombardment of city kills thousands of civilians

JUNE

- Russian forces take control of industrial city of **Severodonetsk** after prolonged battle
- Ukrainian forces raise flag over **Snake Island**, easing threat to key port of **Odesa**

JULY

- Lysychansk**, last Ukrainian-held city in **Luhansk**, falls to Russians
- Russia and Ukraine sign UN-brokered deal allowing export of Ukrainian grain through Black Sea

AUGUST

- Ukraine counteroffensive to retake **Kherson** begins, deploying Western-supplied weapons including **HIMARS** rocket systems

SEPTEMBER

- Ukraine recaptures much of **Kharkiv** region in swift counteroffensive
- Putin** mobilises 300,000 conscripts, sparking protests across Russia
- Putin** formally annexes **Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson** and **Zaporizhyya** regions

OCTOBER

- Blast damages bridge linking **Crimea** with **Russia** in blow to Moscow's war effort

NOVEMBER

- Russia unleashes barrage of missiles on cities across Ukraine in bid to cripple vital infrastructure
- Moscow orders troops to withdraw from **Kherson** city and west bank of **Dnipro River**, in morale-boosting victory for Ukraine

MILITARY LOSSES, ESTIMATES (Killed or wounded)

Ukraine: 100,000+ (U.S. and other Western sources)	Russia: 180,000+ (U.S., UK, Norwegian Defence Ministry)
--	---

18,955
Total

Injured 11,756
Killed 7,199

CONFIRMED CIVILIAN CASUALTIES (UN figures)
Actual numbers thought to be far higher

Ukraine government says at least **20,000**, including **400** children, killed

Western sources estimate **30,000-40,000** deaths

REFUGEES

More than **8 million** have fled Ukraine. Over **5 million** displaced internally

WAR CRIMES

Around **65,000** suspected war crimes reported to date

ECONOMIC IMPACT

World Bank expected Ukraine's economy to contract by **35%** in 2022

Rebuilding costs estimated at **\$349 billion**

WESTERN MILITARY AID (€ billion, Jan 24-Nov 20, 2022)*

U.S.	22.9
UK	4.1
Germany	2.3
Poland	1.8
Canada	1.4
Norway	0.6
Sweden	0.5
Denmark	0.5
Czech Rep.	0.5
France	0.5

*Excludes recent announcements to send heavy tanks

\$113bn
Total support†

U.S. 47.8
EU 51.8
Others 13.5

†Humanitarian, financial and military commitments

Sources: Institute for the Study of War, OHCHR, OCHA, Kiel Institute for the World Economy
Pictures: Getty Image
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LEVEL 1 • NO. 6

WHAT IN THE WORLD? • SAMPLE

PAGE 15



U.S., Germany ready to send tanks to Ukraine

Germany has agreed to send Leopard 2 tanks to Ukraine, and the U.S. is finalising plans to send M1 Abrams tanks, in what Kyiv hopes will be a game-changer on the battlefield

LEOPARD 2A4

Entered service: 1985

Crew: Four

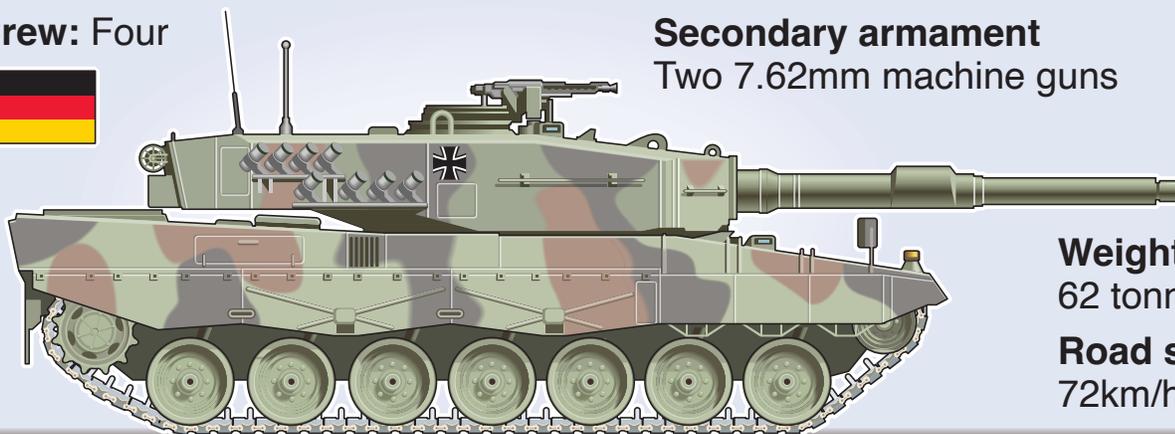


Manufacturer: Krauss-Maffei Wegmann

Main armament: 120mm L44 smoothbore gun

Secondary armament

Two 7.62mm machine guns



Weight

62 tonnes

Road speed

72km/h

Engine: 12-cylinder, 1,500hp
MTU MB 873 diesel

Protection: Spaced multi-layer armour,
optional anti-mine and anti-IED protection

M1A1 ABRAMS

Entered service: 1986

Crew: Four

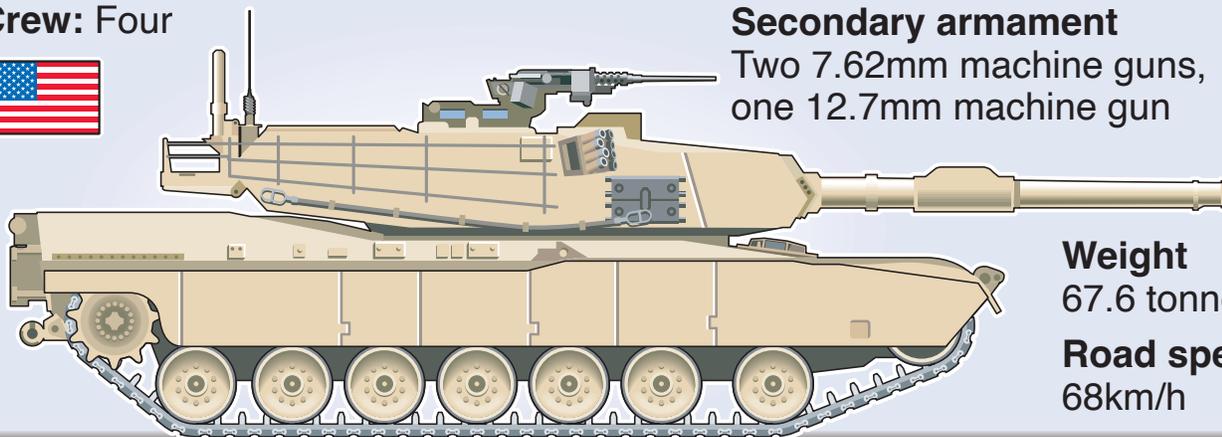


Manufacturer: General Dynamics

Main armament: 120mm M256 smoothbore gun

Secondary armament

Two 7.62mm machine guns,
one 12.7mm machine gun



Weight

67.6 tonnes

Road speed

68km/h

Engine: 1,500hp Honeywell
AGT1500 gas turbine

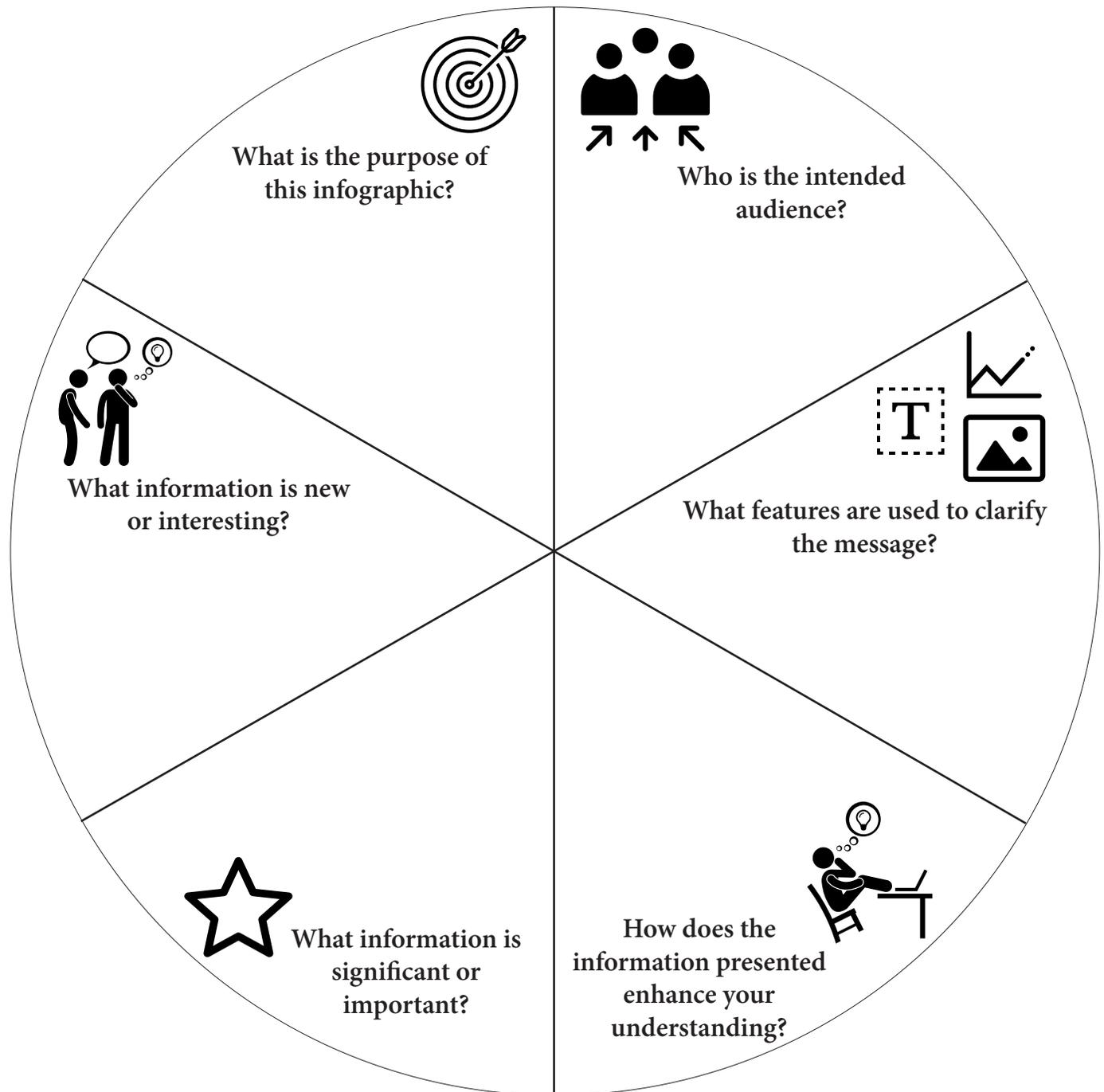
Protection: Composite armour
reinforced by depleted uranium mesh

Sources: BBC, Army Recognition, U.S. Army

© GRAPHIC NEWS



ANALYZING AN INFOGRAPHIC



What questions do you still have about the topic presented?

Complete this map assignment to better understand the article *Russia Versus Ukraine*.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Obtain the required resources and read all the instructions before starting.
2. Colour your map **after** all labelling is completed.
3. Print in pencil only first, then go over the printing in black ink.
4. Work carefully and neatly.

Resources Required: pencil, black pen, pencil crayons, ruler, eraser and an atlas.

Part A Locate and label Ukraine and Russia in CAPITAL letters. Shade Ukraine yellow and shade Russia red.

Part B Locate and label the capital of Ukraine and underline this city name.

Part C Locate and label the disputed pro-Russian region of Trans-Dniester¹ and shade it dark purple.

Part D Locate and label Russian-controlled Crimea² and shade it dark purple.

Part E Locate and label the territory in east Ukraine³ controlled by pro-Russian forces before Russia's 'Special Military Operation' began and shade it dark purple.

Part F Locate and label the territory in east Ukraine captured by Russia's army and shade it pink.

Part G Locate and label the following countries in CAPITAL letters and shade each as indicated:

Belarus (green)	Poland (orange)	Slovakia (red)
Hungary (brown)	Romania (green)	Moldova (orange)
Bulgaria (orange)	Serbia (light purple)	Kosovo (yellow)
North Macedonia (red)	Turkey (brown)	Georgia (light purple)

Part H Draw and label the following rivers and shade each one light blue:

Dnieper	Dniester	Danube
---------	----------	--------

Part I Locate and label the following Ukrainian cities:

Kharkiv	Donetsk	Odesa
Dnipro	Lviv	Mariupol

Part J Locate and label the following and shade all salt water dark blue:

Black Sea	Sea of Azov
-----------	-------------

Part K Shade all remaining territory grey.

Part L Complete your map with a frame, title and compass. ★



Ukraine

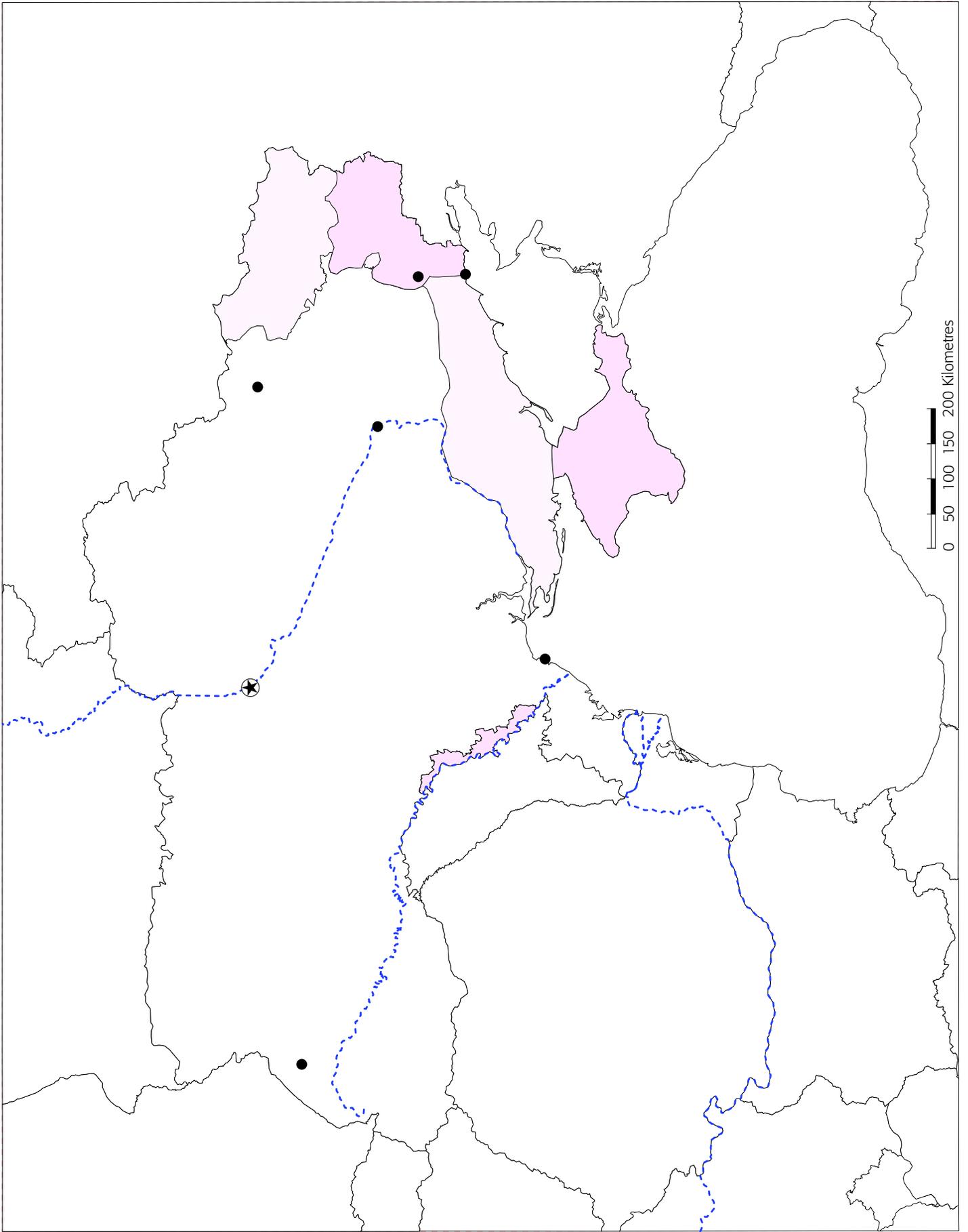


Russia

1. The pro-Moscow separatist region of Trans-Dniester broke away from Moldova in 1992.

2. Russia annexed the Crimean Peninsula by force in 2014.

3. Moscow-backed separatists have controlled the regions of Donetsk and Luhansk in east Ukraine since 2014.





SETTING A PURPOSE BEFORE READING

There are a number of reasons we read, and setting a purpose for reading – knowing WHY we are reading – helps us to focus on important information and to better understand and remember what we read. It also helps us decide HOW we will read the text.

We don't read all texts for the same purposes or in the same way. For example, we read an instruction manual for a new Blu-ray player for a different reason than we read a book or a website. How we will read it – the strategies we use – will also differ. We are more likely to skim to find the information we need in a manual. Once we find what we need, we might read the instructions carefully to figure out what to do. Then, we stop reading, put the manual down, and carry out the steps. We may have to reread if we get confused or forget what to do.

This is a very different approach than the one we would use to read a book. When we read a book, we usually read cover-to-cover. We read carefully so we don't miss any details because we want to understand the whole story. Sometimes we make connections or create images in our minds as we read to help us better understand what we are reading. Depending on its length, we may put the book down before we finish reading it but we will start reading where we left off.

Good readers are flexible and responsive. This means that they match their reading strategies to their purpose for reading. What types of text do you read? Why do you read them? What strategies do you use to read each of these texts? The chart below is a summary of the main purposes for reading and what each entails.

Purpose for reading	What it looks like
For enjoyment	Usually student-selected. Allows students to choose a variety of genres and forms. Allows students to pursue what interests them while developing reading skills.
To experience something new	Students make connections between their personal experiences and those of people around the world.
To learn more about themselves and others	Students reflect on what they've read and express opinions and perspectives. Students develop a sense of their personal values and make sense of the world around them.
To gain information	Students use the features of informational texts to gather, analyse and apply what they've learned.
To understand issues	Students develop a sense of perspective. Students pose questions, acknowledge other points of view, critique the opinions presented and support opinions with evidence.
To appreciate writing	Students respond to text in ways other than written answers to apply what they've learned in new contexts.
To appreciate use of media to communicate	Students respond to a variety of media formats (e.g., infographics, political cartoons, videos, etc.) and react to how the format supports the meaning of the message.

* Chart adapted from: A Guide to Effective Literacy Instruction, Grades 4-6, p. 11.

Current Events, Clearly Explained



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Currents4Kids.com News4Youth.com

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- ✓ Auto-graded quizzes
- ✓ Comment page for students to respond to the stories
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- ✓ Extension activities



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What in the World?

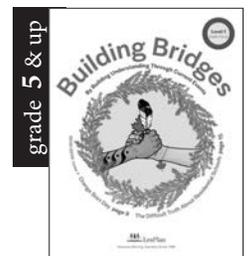
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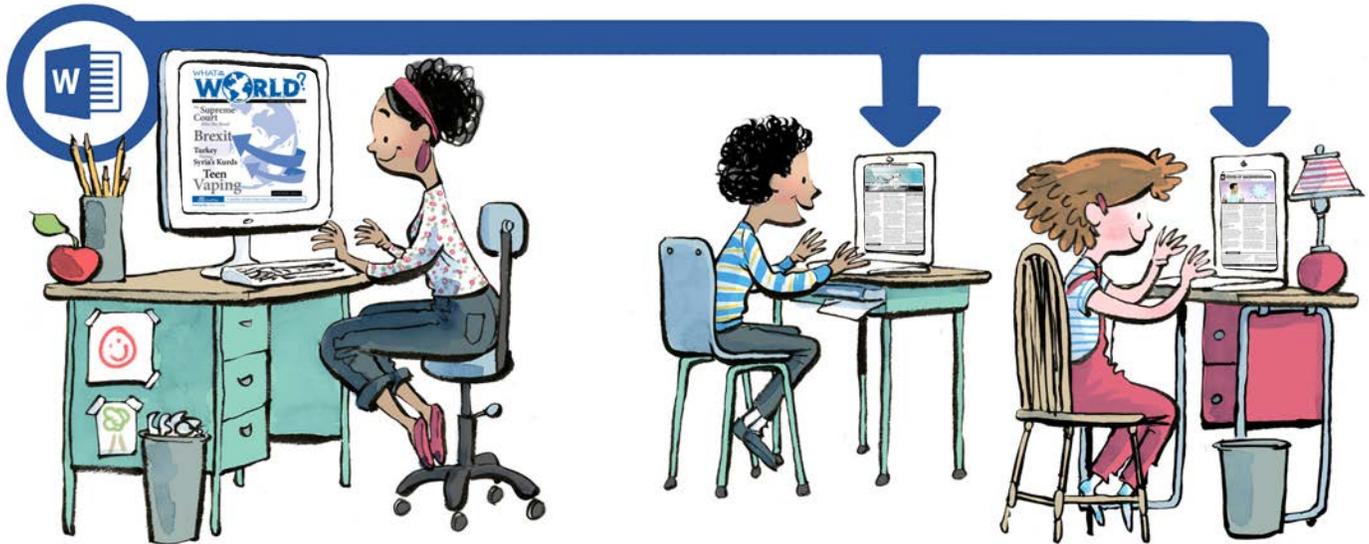
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- **LibreOffice** is a free alternate to **Microsoft Office** and offers the same functionality. It's easy to install and use. See: www.libreoffice.org

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2022/2023: ISSUE 5

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 Sample Pages

The sample pages show various content from the magazine, including a feature on the Notre-Dame de Paris fire, an article about Uighurs in China, and an answer key for a map of Europe. The pages are labeled 'WHAT IN THE WORLD? - LEVEL 1'.

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