

# Activities

## Activity 1

### *Arguments to Consider*

#### **Preparation:**

**Estimated time:** 1-2 class periods • **Materials:** Handout of the “True or False” page

**Background:** Some of the most controversial arguments about the Arab-Israeli conflict revolve around the 1967 War and its aftermath. The following activity first challenges students to determine whether a series of controversial statements are true or false and gives them an opportunity to check their knowledge.

#### **Activity:**

1. Give each student a copy of the “True or False?” handout on the following page. Have them fill it out without consulting *Israel 101* (about 15 minutes).
2. Have the students work in groups of two or three to check how their answers match the information in Unit 7 (pages 16-17) in *Israel 101* (about 20-30 minutes).
3. Discuss the students’ answers in class (about 20 minutes).

**Wrap-up:** This activity encourages students to test their knowledge about Israel’s policies in the territories and can ground them in some basic facts they may not get if they follow the issue in the media.



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### *True or False?*

**Instructions:** Tell students to answer “true” or “false” for each of the following statements and to give the reasons for their answers. (Teacher answer sheet is on the next page.)

Statement	True	False	Facts supporting my answer
In 1967, Israel took over the West Bank and Gaza in an act of pure aggression.			
Palestinians had sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza until 1967.			
After 1967, Israel tried to end its governance of the Palestinian population.			
During Israel’s administration of the territories (1967-1994), the lives of Palestinians deteriorated in terms of health, prosperity, and personal liberty.			
During the Oslo process, Israel turned civil governance of the Palestinians over to the Palestinian-elected government.			
Israel completely withdrew from all of Gaza and four communities in the northern West Bank, uprooting the Jewish settlements there.			
Israel has no historical claims to the West Bank.			
By 1997-8, Israel no longer occupied major population centers in the West Bank. Ninety-eight percent of Palestinians were self-governing under the PA.			
The pre-1967 borders pose no security threat to Israel.			
The pre-1967 boundary, also called the Green Line, is an internationally recognized border.			
The Israeli settlements in the West Bank are legal.			

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### *Teacher Answer Sheet with References*

Statement	True	False	Facts supporting my answer
In 1967, Israel took over the West Bank and Gaza in an act of pure aggression.		X	
Palestinians had sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza until 1967.		X	
After 1967, Israel tried to end its governance of the Palestinian population.	X		
During Israel's administration of the territories (1967-1994), the lives of Palestinians deteriorated in terms of health, prosperity, and personal liberty.		X	
During the Oslo process, Israel turned civil governance of the Palestinians over to the Palestinian-elected government.	X		
Israel completely withdrew from all of Gaza and four communities in the northern West Bank, uprooting the Jewish settlements there.	X		
Israel has no historical claims to the West Bank.		X	
By 1997-8, Israel no longer occupied major population centers in the West Bank. Ninety-eight percent of Palestinians were self-governing under the PA.	X		
The pre-1967 borders pose no security threat to Israel.		X	
The pre-1967 boundary, also called the Green Line, is an internationally recognized border.		X	
The Israeli settlements in the West Bank are legal.	X		