



Vocabulary

Have you ever heard these words on the news and wondered what they mean?

Al-Qaeda: a worldwide terrorist network

civil war: a war between people of the same country

coalition: a combination of two or more groups working toward a common goal

extremist: a person who holds radical or extreme views that are far from normal views (may also be called a fanatic)

insurgent: a person who takes part in an armed rebellion against a government or the people in charge

Islam: the religion Muslims practice

jihad: war supposedly fought for a "holy" purpose

militant: a person involved in war or violence to achieve a goal

Muslim: a person who practices Islam

Osama bin Laden: the terrorist believed to have planned the September 11, 2001 attack on America

patriotism: to have great pride in your country

Taliban: group of extremist Islamic religious leaders who claimed to be the leaders of Afghanistan; they were not chosen by the people and were not recognized as the official government by other countries

terrorist: a person who does violent things with no warning to frighten innocent people

weapons of mass destruction: chemical, nuclear, germ-warfare, or explosive devices designed to kill or injure a large number of people

