**Middle East Study Guide**

**Judaism**

* When did it begin?
* What is the name of their God?
* What is a Covenant?
* What promise do Jews make to God to identify them as Jews?
* What are the holy books of Judaism?
* What is moral behavior of Judaism based on?
* Why was Judaism different from other religions of the area at the time?
* What are the three sects of Judaism?
* What is the most holy site in Judaism?

**Christianity**

* When did the Religion begin?
* Whose teachings are the religion based on?
* What books does the religion use?
* What two main messages are taught through Christianity?
* What is the symbol of Christianity?
* What is the most holy site for the religion?
* What are the two main sects of the religion?

**Islam**

* When was the religion founded?
* Who was the founder of the religion?
* What is the Hejira?
* What is the name of their God?
* What is their holy book?
* What are the three most holy cities in order from most holy to least holy?
* What is the Kaaba
* What are the five Pillars of Islam?
* Who are the People of the Book?
* Explain the two forms of Jihad?
* What is the symbol of Islam?

**Shia/Sunni**

* Who did the Sunni believe should be the first Caliph?
* Who did the Shia believe should be the first Caliph?
* Who became the first Caliph?
* What percentages of Sunni, Shia, and Safi make up the Islamic world?
* What is unique about the Muslim countries of Iran, Iraq, and Bahrain?
* What is the most powerful Sunni and the most powerful Shia country in the Middle East?
* Where is Wahhabism most prevalent?
* Give on example of a Safi Islam religion and explain what they do.

**Iraq**

* What are the three largest groups in Iraq?
* Which group holds a majority in Iraq?
* Which group was granted power by the British following WWII?
* Who took power in Iraq in 1979?
* What country did Iraq invade in 1980?
* How did the Iraqi leader test his chemical weapons (on which people)?
* What country did Iraq invade in 1990?
* Why did many Muslims see American involvement in the 1990 Gulf War as an affront to Islam?
* Under what premise did the United States invade Iraq in 2003?

**Iran**

* Explain how the Rule of Shah Pahlavi affected US/Iran relations? **(Use Specifics)**
* Explain the Revolution of Iran. **(Reason, Who was involved, Events, Effect of US/Iran Relations)**
* Describe one reason why Iran claims that it is a democracy and provide three **examples** of how Iran is NOT a democracy.

**Israel/Palestine**

* What claims do Palestinians have to the land known as Israel or Palestine?
* What claims do Israelis have to the land known as Israel or Palestine?
* Name the 4 wars between Arabs and Israelis and the victors.
* What two countries have been involved in every Arab/Israeli War?
* Explain what happened at the Camp David Accords in 1979? **(Who met; Reason for meeting; goals of meeting; outcome)**
* Describe the events of the 2000 Camp David Summit **(Who met; Reason for meeting; Goals of meeting; outcome)**

**Terrorism**

* What three reasons have led to anger towards the United States from many in the Middle East?

* Who vowed revenge against the United States after the 1990 Gulf War?
* What was the name of his terrorist organization?
* What was their largest terrorist action?
* How did the overthrow of Saddam Hussein help lead to a rise in Islamic terrorist groups?
* What was the Arab Spring? What was the outcome?
* Who is the president of Syria?
* How do the Syrian government and ISIS make US involvement in the Syrian Civil War so difficult?
* What are the three names of ISIS and what do they stand for?
* What sect of Islam is ISIS?
* What is ISIS’s main goal?