

**Strathmore  
Elementary:  
5th Grade  
Reading and  
Social  
Studies  
at-home  
packet.**

# MILITARY POWERS

The U.S. Constitution grants military powers to Congress (the House of Representatives and the Senate) and to the President. Congress makes up the Legislative Branch of government. The President, Vice President and the Cabinet members make up the Executive Branch.

Read the passages below from the Constitution. Then answer the questions.

**From Article I, Section 8, the U.S. Constitution:**

**The Congress** shall have power to...

declare war...

raise and support armies...

provide and maintain a navy...

make rules for the government and regulation of land and naval forces...

**From Article II, Section 2, the U.S. Constitution:**

**The President** shall be Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into actual service of the United States...

1. The Constitution gives the power to declare war to what branch of government?

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2. Why do you think this branch of government was given the power to declare war?

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3. Which branch of government provides the money for military actions?

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4. What military power is the President given in the Constitution?

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5. Why is President Bush trying to get the approval of Congress before starting an attack against Iraq?

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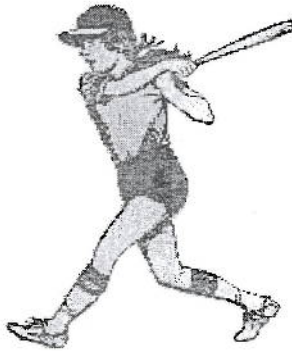
Read and discuss this week's cover story with a family member. Then on the back of this page, list two new things that each of you learned about Iraq.



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## MAKING THE TEAM



It has been my lifelong dream to play on the middle school softball team. I began playing softball when I was in the second grade. My older brother taught me to play. He is three years older than I am. He practices with me every afternoon and always attends my games with my parents.

This year, I started sixth grade. The middle school softball team tryouts were announced last month. I was enthusiastic to try out. Every day since the announcement, my brother has helped me prepare for the team tryouts. The tryouts were held last Saturday morning. Twenty-three students from my grade tried out for the team. The team only has spaces for five sixth grade students. I know I worked as hard as I could to prepare for the tryouts. I felt like I had done a good job at the tryouts, but I was still nervous on Saturday night and Sunday morning, waiting for the team list to be posted. On Sunday afternoon, my parents took me to the school to see who had made the team. I was so happy when I saw my name "Jennifer Medrano" on the list. It is so exciting to be a part of the team.

When we left the school, my parents said we should go out for pizza. It would just be a little family celebration in my honor. They called my brother, and he met us at the restaurant. He walked in with a big smile on his face. He was really proud of me. My parents were very proud too, although they warned me about keeping my grades up and making sure I did all my homework every day. I'm confident about keeping up. They do not need to worry about those things. I'll work very hard to stay on the team.

**1. Which statement from the selection best reflects the author's message?**

- a.  I was so happy when I saw my name on the list.
- b.  He was really proud of me.
- c.  I'll work very hard to stay on the team.
- d.  I began playing softball when I was in the second grade.

**2. In writing this selection, the author made most use of which of the following:**

- a.  Quotes from famous people
- b.  Specific details
- c.  Figurative language
- d.  Important questions

**3. Which of the following statements is an opinion?**

- a.  It is so exciting to be a part of the team.
- b.  They do not need to worry about those things.
- c.  I had done a good job at the tryouts.
- d.  All of the above

4. What is the overall mood of the story?

- a.  Nervous
- b.  Fearful
- c.  optimistic
- d.  Happy

5. Because Jennifer is the narrator of this story, a reader is better able to:

- a.  imagine Jennifer's appearance
- b.  understand Jennifer's feelings
- c.  predict Jennifer's movements
- d.  question Jennifer's actions

6. Details in the story suggest that the people in Jennifer's life are:

- a.  envious
- b.  cautious
- c.  selfish
- d.  supportive

**7. According to the story which of these statements is true?**

- a.  Jennifer's brother is 3 years younger than her.
- b.  Jennifer's brother would not help her get ready for tryouts.
- c.  When Jennifer got onto the team the family went out for Chinese food.
- d.  It was Jennifer's lifelong dream to be on the middle school softball team.

**8. Which of these sentences would make the best opening sentence for a summary of this story?**

- a.  Jennifer's family is very supportive.
- b.  After many years, Jennifer's dream of being on a softball team came true.
- c.  Softball is a difficult game to become skilled at.
- d.  Jennifer is going to continue getting good grades.



9. According to the story, we can most strongly infer that:

- a.  Jennifer is really tall.
- b.  Jennifer's brother is a high school student.
- c.  Jennifer's parents are not divorced.
- d.  Jennifer knows many other members of the softball team.

10. A synonym of "enthusiastic" is

- a.  happy
- b.  eager
- c.  relieved
- d.  bored







**BCR 2: How do Jennifer's feelings change throughout the story? Use examples to support your response.**

A large rectangular box containing ten horizontal lines for writing a response.

