MISSION	Research and make a claim about the number one cause of war in the past and present. Support your claim with evidence using primary & secondary source documents.

STEP 1 : Build your background knowledge using secondary sources

History Study Center is an iTech Prep database found on the library's website. Search for "causes of war" in the "journals" section to find various historical analyses.

Syria: the Story of Conflict Explained by Lucy Rodgers This **BBC** photographic analysis examines several components of the war in Syria: protests, bombardment, refugees, bombings, massacres, and chemical attacks. What parallelisms can you draw to other conflicts you've studied?

"The Great War's Ominous Echoes" by Margaret MacMillian This **NY Times** opinion piece depicts how the threat of war will always haunt us because no one ever agrees on the actual cause.

http://ccrjustice.org/issues The **Center for Constitutional Rights** (CCR) database is organized and can be searched by issue, including: government abuse of power, human rights abuse, and international accountability. Primary documents are also available.

STEP 2: Research primary sources to formulate a claim with evidence

http://lcweb2.loc.gov/diglib/vhp/html/search/search.html The **Library of Congress** organizes several digital collections. The Veteran's History Project allows you to search their database by conflict, branch of service, and even if individuals were POWs (prisoners of war). Collection includes documents, audio/video interviews, photographs, etc. Another noteworthy collection is the Political Cartoon in U.S. History primary resource section.

www.ourdocuments.gov This website made by the **National Archives and Records Administration** provides primary source documents. The "100 Milestone Documents" section provides an interactive digital copy of the record itself, complete with description and background information.

http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/index.php The **American Presidency Project** provides a database of resources related to the presidency –speeches, presidential signing statements, video-clips showing presidential rhetoric, executive orders and much more.

http://www.history.army.mil/html/bookshelves/resmat/index.html The **U.S. Army Center of Military History** offers a number of online reference texts and documents, online finding aids for US Army archives, FAQs, links to other relevant sites, and a how-to page for people seeking historical information about American military history.

http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=1036

The Strategic Studies Institute provides United States Army publications. The document, "Defining War for the 21st Century", looks at whether the cause of war is shifting, whether all forms of war are organized, if politically focused violence constitutes war, and the distinction between passive and active war.

ALWAYS KEEP A RUNNING DOCUMENT OF SOURCE CITATIONS AS YOU RESEARCH TO ELIMINATE PAINFUL BACKTRACKING. YOU CAN AVOID THE INFAMOUS, "WHERE DID I FIND THAT??" SYNDROME. ☺