

The Arab Spring

Between 2010 and 2011, there was a wave of protests and uprisings in the Arab states against authoritarian regimes. This uprising and protest movement is known as the "Arab Spring". This "Arab Spring" took place in 15 countries and had different consequences in each. These range from the overthrow of long-standing dictators, as in Egypt and Libya, to a seemingly resolved civil war through a military coup in Syria in 2024, to a return to autocratic practices, as in Tunisia.

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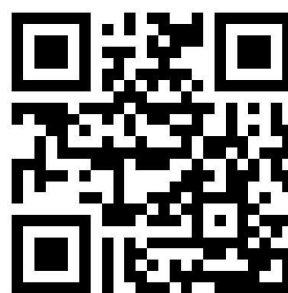
Choose a country in the Arab world that you have learnt about in your history lessons and write down 10 questions about the Arab Spring in that country. At least five of these questions should begin with Who?, What?, How? and Why?. Use a Word document to write down your questions. When you have finished, form pairs and ask each other your questions. If you need to, ask your teacher for help.

How it all began

Use your mobile device to scan the QR Code and learn more about the Arab Spring by watching the video "[How did the Arab Spring start in Tunisia?](#)" (3:13 min). Afterwards create a [mind map](#) with the most important facts mentioned in the video. When you are done, get together in pairs (find a new partner) and discuss your results.



How did the Arab spring start in Tunisia?



Mind map

Eyewitness of the Arab Spring

- a) Imagine you are an eyewitness of the Arab Spring in an Arab country of your choice. A historian wants to interview you about your experiences during the uprisings and protests in that country. Prepare some interesting insights into these events as well as some interview questions. You can either be the interviewer or the interviewee.
- b) Then get together in pairs (find a new partner) and practise the interview. After 10 minutes, swap roles.

I: The Arab Spring: a social media revolution?

Watch the video "[The Arab Spring: A social media revolution?](#)" (8:13 min) and create five true/false questions that summarise the core content of the video. Write down all your questions and the correct answers to all your "No-questions" in a Word file. When you have finished watching the video, form groups of four. In your group, discuss what role social media plays in your life and whether the Arab Spring could have happened without social media.



The Arab Spring: A social media revolution?

II: The Arab Spring: a social media revolution?

Write a short blog entry for an online youth blog summarising the role of social media in the Arab Spring. Try to find other examples in modern history where social media has played an important role in connecting people in a state controlling all other forms of communication. Write about 200 words using a Word file. Remember the layout of a blog post!