



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Ukraine's Story

*An activity of "Ukraine's history of war".*

In February 2022, the invasion of Ukraine by Russia took many by surprise. However, these two countries have had a difficult relationship for centuries. Read "Ukraine's history of war" (pages 7–8, *What's Up* February 2026).

A) Using the *What's Up* story, write numbers 1 to 10 in the table below to trace Ukraine's history according to the sequence of events. The first one is done for you.

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Russia took over Crimea, an area in Southern Ukraine.   |          |
| On 24 February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine.  |          |
| In the 800s, a group of Vikings founded the kingdom of Kyivan Rus which included modern-day Kyiv and Moscow.                                | <b>1</b> |
| The Soviet Union collapsed, and Ukraine and Russia became independent countries.  |          |
| Kyivan Rus split up. Kyiv became part of a commonwealth that included today's Poland and Ukraine, while Moscow joined the Mongol Empire.    |          |
| Russia's leader, Czar Nicholas II, was forced from the throne and a revolution brought about a new empire called the Soviet Union.          |          |
| In the 1500s, imperial Russia was formed in Moscow. In 1654, it included Kyiv and its Ukrainian peoples along with other lands and peoples. |          |
| Some Ukrainians tried to form their own country but were defeated by the Soviets who then created the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.  |          |
| Mongol armies conquered Kyivan Rus in the year 1240.  |          |
| In 2013, Ukrainians kicked their president out of office and elected a government that favoured Europe rather than Russia.                  |          |

B) In small groups, read "People suffer when leaders can't make peace" (page 6, *What's Up* February 2026). Then, discuss the following:

- (i) How are the people in Ukraine and Russia affected by the present war?
- (ii) How do you think wars can be prevented?