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**Cooperation or Conflict—A Document Analysis Activity**

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| **Source 1: The Crusades**  The Crusades were a series of wars during the Middle Ages (500-1500 CE) where the Christians of Europe tried to regain control of Jerusalem and the Holy Land from the Muslims…Jerusalem was important to several religions during this time... Jerusalem was important to Jewish people as it was the site of the original temple to God built by King Solomon... Jerusalem was important to the Muslims because it was where they believe Muhammad rose to heaven…It was important to Christians as it is where they believe Jesus Christ was crucified and rose again.   Excerpt adapted from ducksters.com |

1. Historically, do you think that the information provided in Source 1 has **fostered** (encouraged) cooperation and/or conflict? Why?

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| **Source 2: A Muslim Letter to Christians**  On this basis, the letter, entitled “A Common Word Between Us and You,” reasons that harmony between the two religions is not only necessary for world peace, it is natural. “As Muslims, we say to Christians that we are not against them and that Islam is not against them—so long as they do not wage war against Muslims on account of their religion, oppress them and drive them out of their homes … Our very eternal souls are all at stake if we fail to sincerely make every effort to make peace,” the letter reads. “It’s an astonishing achievement of solidarity,” says David Ford, director of the Cambridge University’s Interfaith Program. “I hope it will be able to set the right key note for relations between Muslims and Christians in the 21st century, which have been lacking since September 11” (a tragic event whereby four coordinated terrorist attacks carried out by al-Qaeda, an Islamist extremist group, killed 2,977 people on American soil).  Excerpt adapted from *A Muslim Letter to Christians (2007);*cnpublications.net |

1. Do you think that the information provided in Source 2 has **fostered** (encouraged) cooperation and/or conflict? Why?