



## How Well Do You Know Israel?!

By Mrs. Esther Tokayer

1. UNSCOP stands for:
  - a. UN Special Committee on Partition
  - b. UN Special Committee on Palestine
  - c. UN Standard Criteria on Partition
  - d. UN Standard Criteria on Palestine
2. How many countries were part of UNSCOP?
  - a. 4
  - b. 7
  - c. 11
  - d. 12
3. Who refused to meet with the members of UNSCOP?
  - a. The British
  - b. The Jewish Agency
  - c. The Arab Agency
  - d. All of the above
4. According to the UN Partition Plan, what was to be the fate of Jerusalem?
  - a. An international city
  - b. Jewish capital
  - c. Arab capital
  - d. A capital for both countries
5. How did the British vote on partition?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Abstain
6. What was the date that partition passed?
  - a. November 29, 1947
  - b. November 30, 1947
  - c. May 15, 1948
  - d. January 6, 1949
7. How many Jews lived in Arab countries and Iran in 1947?
  - a. 20,000
  - b. 300,000
  - c. 850,000
  - d. 2,000,000
8. Who said, "I do not care. If the vote is positive, the Arabs will make war on us...And if the vote is negative, then it is we who shall make war on the Arabs...My friends, you might as well toast all the votes."
  - a. Yitzhak Sadeh
  - b. Yitzhak Rabin
  - c. Yitzhak Shamir
  - d. Yigal Allon

### Answers:

1. **(b)** England handed over decision making for the mandate in Palestine to the United Nations in May 1947. In the aftermath of World War II, the Holocaust, and the increasing impatience of both Arabs and Jews in Palestine. The British were not able to maintain their hold on the country and enforce their policies.
2. **(c)** 11 countries who were deemed to not have a vested interest in the outcome of the decision making about Palestine. They were: Australia, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Guatemala, India, Iran, the Netherlands, Peru, Sweden (chair), Uruguay, and Yugoslavia.
3. **(c)** The Arab Agency refused to cooperate with UNSCOP, however UNSCOP did meet with Arab heads of state in Lebanon.
4. **(a)** According to the UN Partition Plan, Jerusalem and its suburbs were to be an international zone administered by the United Nations.
5. **(c)** England did not believe that there was a solution to the Palestine problem and therefore abstained on the vote.
6. **(a)** The resolution to partition Palestine passed on November 29, 1947, a Saturday evening. The vote was 33-13 with 10 abstentions.
7. **(c)** There were 850,000 Jews living in Arab countries before the Partition vote. In most countries there were riots against their local Jewish populations as a result of the vote. Many Jews began to leave those Arab countries to escape the violence. Approximately 500,000 went to Israel.
8. **(a)** Yitzhak Sadeh, the founder of the elite unit of the Palmach, said this, as they were listening to the votes on the radio.

**Food for thought @ your Shabbat table:** The United States and the Soviet Union both voted for partition. This was unusual. Why did both world powers agree on this item?