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### Section A

In this investigation, several methodologies will be utilized to thoroughly examine the question of whether the Arab Israeli War of 1948 was a defensive war on the part of the Israelis. The primary method of investigation will be the analysis of conflicting historiographies, generally taken from Israel's perspective and the Arabs' perspective. In order to ensure a comprehensive analysis of these competing historiographies, a combination of primary and secondary sources will be used. For secondary sources, the date of publication will be considered, as, in accordance with the “thirty-year rule” in both the United Kingdom and the state of Israel, secondary sources published before 1978 will not take into account information that was declassified after 1978.