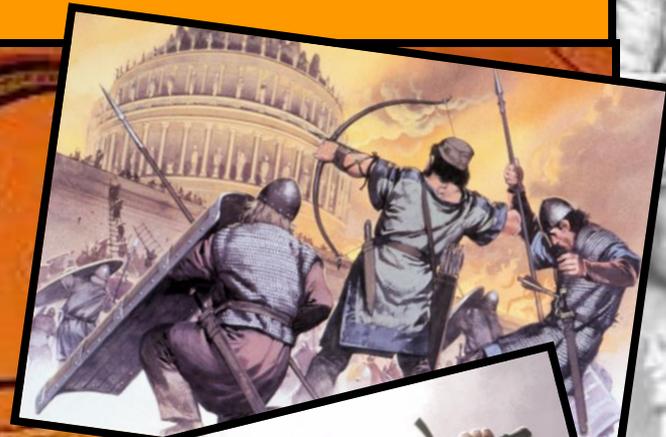
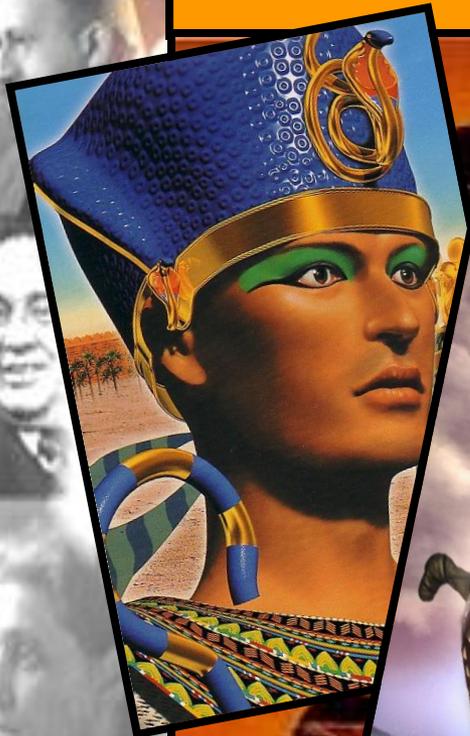


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Dawn of Dirt



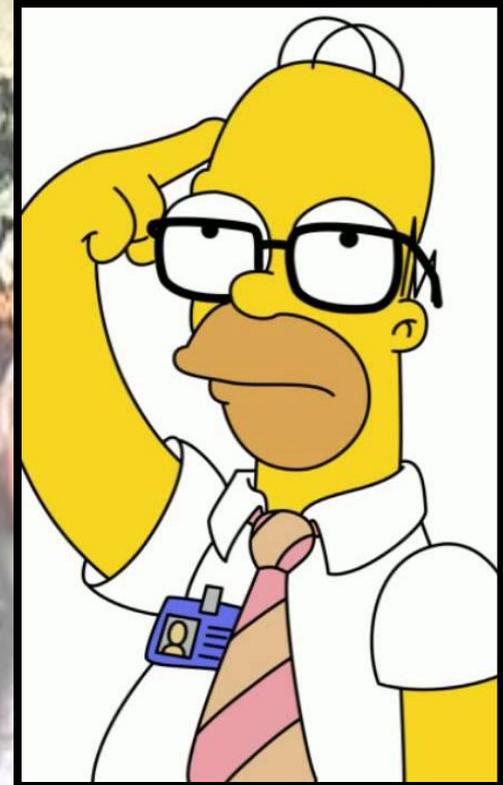


## TODAY'S UNIT & LESSON



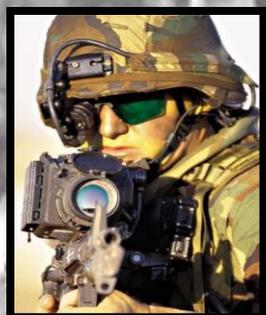
# Lesson 4

(MW 1.04)



ΜΟΛΩΝ ΛΑΒΕ ΜΟΛΩΝ ΛΑΒΕ ΜΟΛΩΝ ΛΑΒΕ

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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

If you asked society, you would probably find the theory that **most people** subscribe to places the **blame** for the cause of war on **human nature**.

The popularity of this theory is a **legacy of the Christian tradition**.



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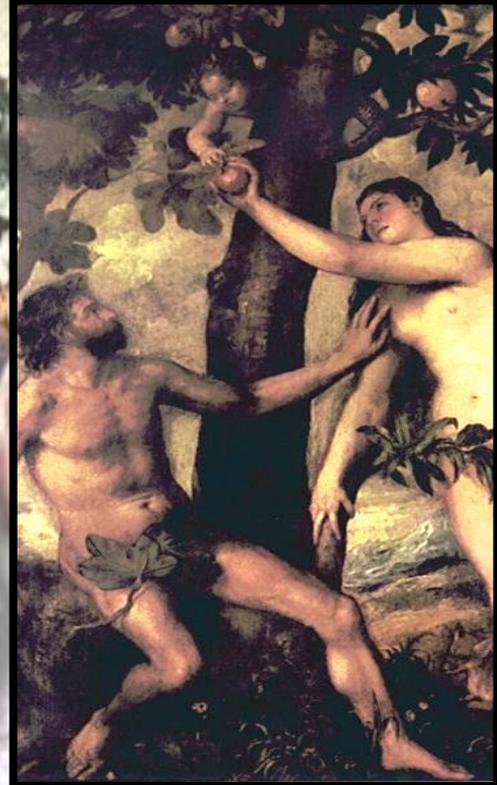
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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

Christian teachers have held that **human nature is not good nor capable of becoming good** (because of our inability to live in harmony with one another).

**All people have inherent evil desires** (“original sin”), which stems from Adam’s fall from grace in the Garden of Eden.



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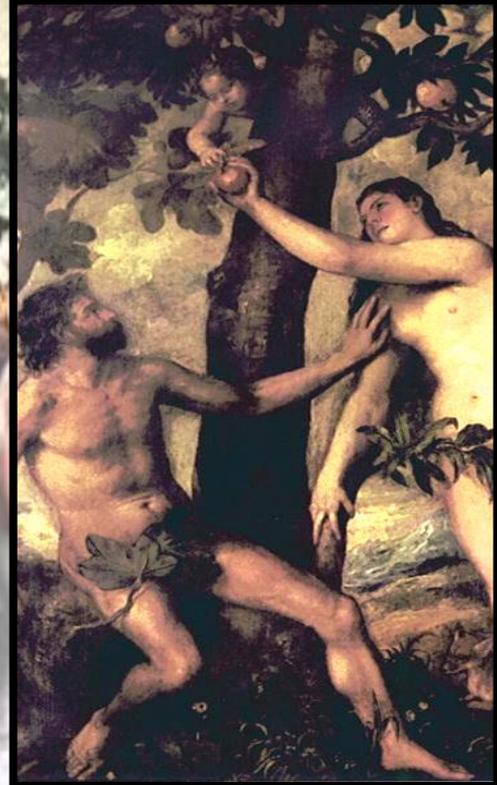
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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

These desires make **people** want what they have no business wanting and prompt them to **use violence to fulfill** these **desires**.

As a result, **wars are a growth from our evil individual nature**, because states are composed of individuals.



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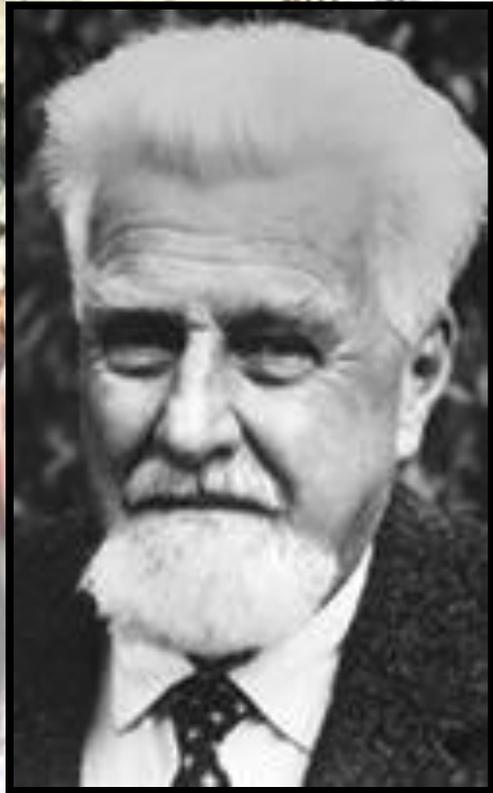
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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

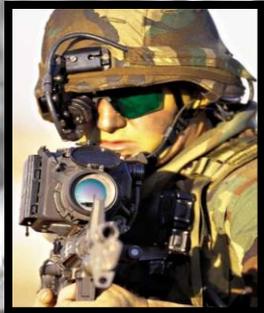
*“The drives to live, to propagate, and to dominate are common to all men.”*

Many people agree with this statement, as do ethologists (biologists who study the animal kingdom). One such famous ethologist is Konrad Lorenz.



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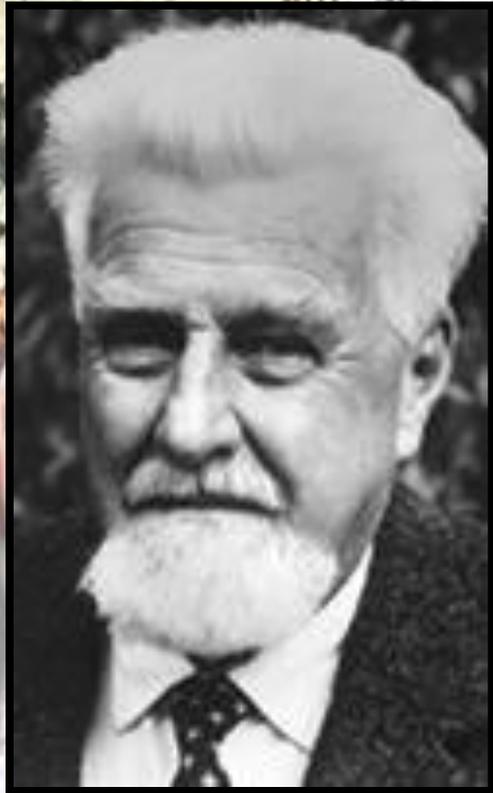
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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

**Konrad Lorenz argued that human beings, like other animals, have instincts.**

**Instincts are inherited** (as opposed to learned) behavior patterns. Their presence has been demonstrated in animals: a bird raised in isolation will still try to fly south in the fall.



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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

Among the instincts **Lorenz finds in human beings is the aggressive instinct.** This means that one human being, when challenged by another, will react with anger and stand to fight (rather than turn and flee in terror).



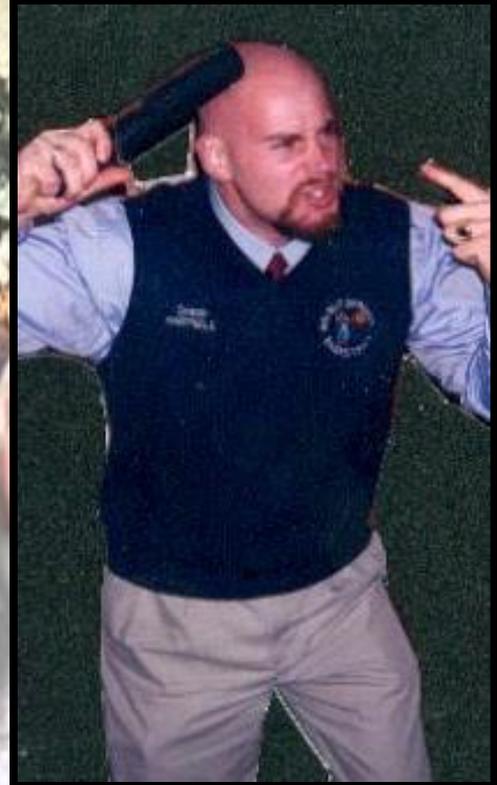
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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

**Evidence** that this behavior is inherited **is found in measurable physiological changes** that take place when someone becomes angry (such as an increase in the pulse rate and blood pressure and a rise in the level of blood sugar). These changes **are the same in all humans and all animals.**



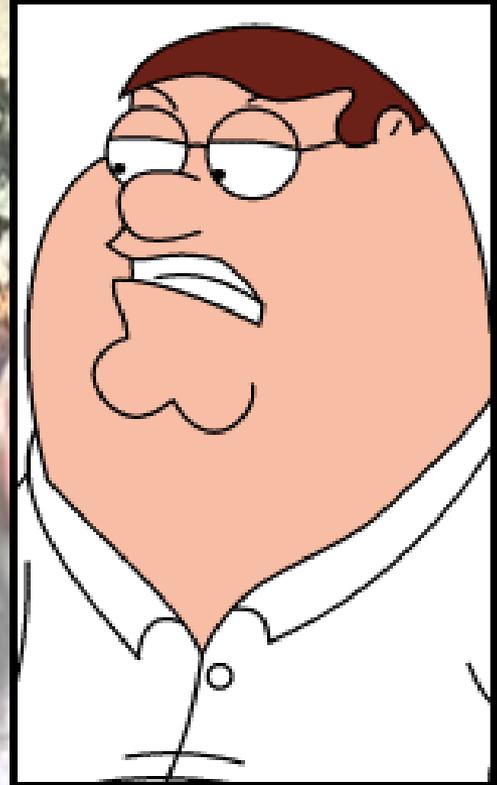
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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

Lorenz argues that this **aggressive instinct is the product of evolution**. Traits that survive from generation to generation do so because they are “functional”; that is, they enhance the ability of organisms possession them to survive.



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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

In the case of the aggressive instinct, it **serves 3 functions:**



**1.** The aggressive instinct is **stronger in** the center of an animal's **home territory** and grows weaker as the animal moves away from that center.



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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

2. Aggression makes it more likely that the **strongest members** of the species **will breed** and produce offspring.



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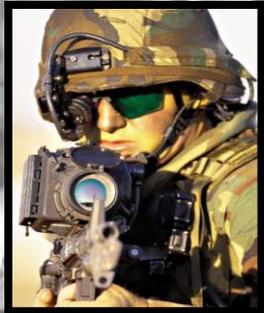
## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

**3.** It makes it more likely that the **parents will** be able to **protect their offspring** while they are still young. (If animals fled rather than fought, they would desert their young whenever danger threatened...)



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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

Lorenz put mammals into 2 groups:

1. Those that are **NOT** particularly **dangerous** to each other **physically** (like rabbits).



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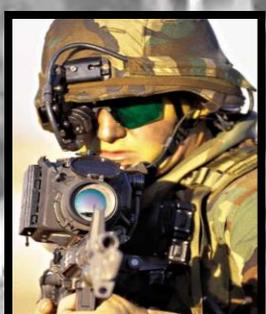
## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

2. Those that **ARE dangerous** to each other **physically** because of their fangs and claws (**like wolves**).



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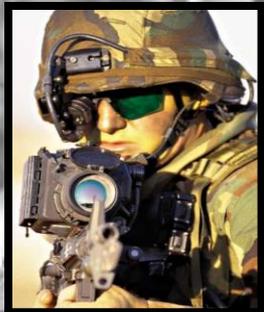
## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

**Rabbits display as much aggression as wolves...** but there is no danger that fighting will have fatal consequences. The **natural defense of a rabbit is to run away** (the weaker will flee from the stronger). However, **should rabbits be put in cages and provoked, they will tear each other to pieces.**



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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

When wolves fight, the possibility of fatalities is there, yet they rarely occur. **Wolves** show aggression but **do not kill each other any more often than rabbits do.** (They'll kill other things, however, just not necessarily each other.)



*Why?*

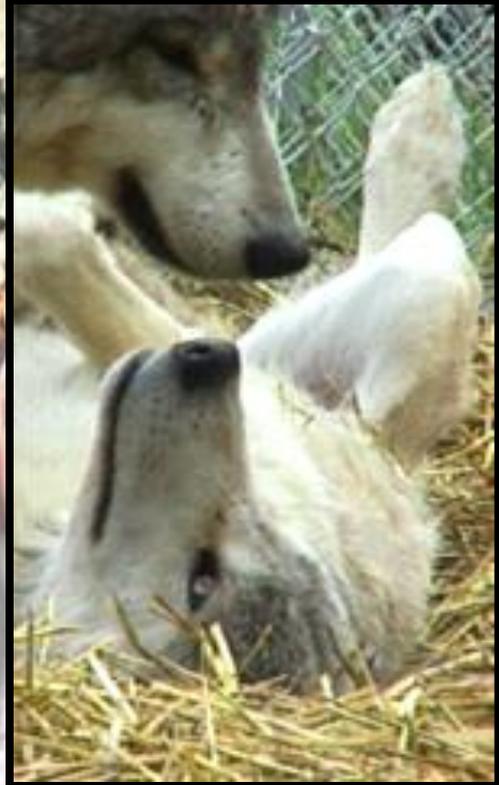
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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

According to Lorenz, **wolves have evolved an inhibiting mechanism that checks the aggressive instinct at the crucial moment. Called the appeasement gesture, the losing wolf turns over on its back**, exposing its throat in such a way that it would be easy for the winner to kill it.



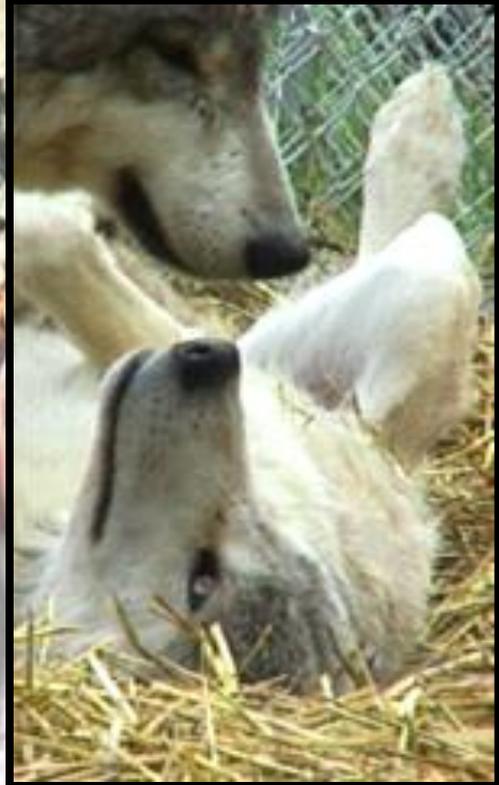
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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

The appeasement gesture is a sign that the **loser accepts an inferior status... and** by doing so, **saves its own life.** If the wolf does not show this sign, then it may be killed. Still, once shown, the winning wolf backs off. (This is seen in combat between two male wolves for dominance in a pack.)



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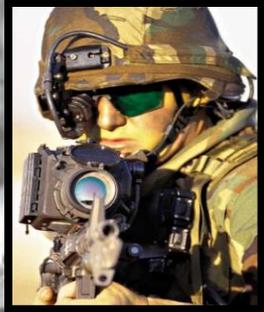


## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

*Humans belong in which category?*



**We are in the category of those harmless to each other.**

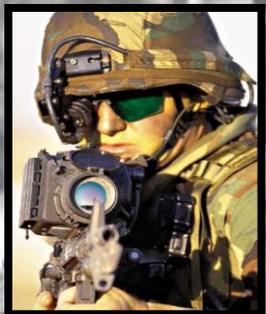


Our natural equipment of short, blunt teeth and stubby, brittle fingernails puts us in this category.



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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

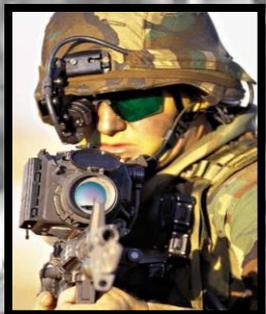
Thus, **humans have NOT evolved the inhibiting instinct**, as have the wolves, because it was not necessary.

Then, at some point, one human picked up a rock and at that moment became as dangerous to other humans as one wolf to another.



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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

From that point, progress from a sharp rock to firearms was extraordinarily short.

**Humans are now far more dangerous to each other than wolves are to each other, but we still have NOT evolved the mechanism to inhibit aggression.**



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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

The problem is NOT aggression, that is, that humans fight. After all, wolves do too. The problem is that **humans fight to the death. We intentionally kill members of our species** and wolves do not.



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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

As victors, **humans kill helpless victims**. As losers, we choose to not give up and fight to the “last man”. **Humans can die for abstract causes** whereas wolves would never fight a Battle of the Alamo.



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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

Chimpanzees will kill other chimpanzees. Gorillas will kill other gorillas. These are the “more advanced” animals... the primates that resemble human beings in many ways. So, unlike the wolf, it is possible that they, too, have not evolved mechanisms to inhibit aggression.



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## WHY DO WE FIGHT?

Even if human nature turns out to be not so different from animal nature, the **willingness to kill members of our own species must be considered a cause of war**, in the sense that it permits wars to happen.



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WHAT  
DID WE  
LEARN  
TODAY?



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**FAST 5: UNIT 1, LESSON 4 (MW 1.04)**

**QUESTION 1** 

1. TBA



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**FAST 5: UNIT 1, LESSON 4 (MW 1.04)**

**QUESTION 2** 

2. TBA



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**FAST 5: UNIT 1, LESSON 4 (MW 1.04)**

**QUESTION 3** 

3. TBA



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**FAST 5: UNIT 1, LESSON 4 (MW 1.04)**

**QUESTION 4** 

**4 . TBA**



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**FAST 5: UNIT 1, LESSON 4 (MW 1.04)**

**QUESTION 5**

5. TBA



- ! THINK
- ✓ CHECK
- > SUBMIT



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