

4000 Essential English Words 2 Unit 3: The Battle of Thermopylae

1.

Choose the word that is a better fit for each sentence.

Please put another ____ on the fire; it's getting cold in here.

The woman shot the arrows with a ____.

- A) bow / log
- B) log / bow

2.

Choose the word that is a better fit for each sentence.

If our country's army is weak, our ____ might attack us.

Long ago, Greece had the most powerful ____ in the world.

- A) enemy / military
- B) military / enemy

3.

Choose the word that is a better fit for each sentence.

Because I respect my parents, I ____ their rules.
We cannot ____ Bob because he often doesn't do what he says he'll do.

- A) obey / trust
- B) trust / obey

4.

Choose the word that is a better fit for each sentence.

I ____ a job with a big company yesterday.
I ____ to go to the store, but I didn't have time.

- A) intended / secured
- B) secured / intended

5.

Choose the word that is a better fit for each sentence.

The rain was a ____ for the other soccer team.
During the ____ at sea, many ships sank.

- A) battle / disadvantage
- B) disadvantage / battle

6.

Choose the right word for the given definition.

a person of the highest rank

- A) brave
- B) obey
- C) chief
- D) trust

7.

Choose the right word for the given definition.

barely or almost unable to do

- A) hardly
- B) unless
- C) secure
- D) disadvantage

8.

Choose the right word for the given definition.

to wrap around itself or another thing

- A) steady
- B) arrow
- C) bow
- D) twist

9.

Choose the right word for the given definition.

to plan to do

- A) laughter
- B) intend
- C) battle
- D) military

10.

Choose the right word for the given definition.

space used to go into an area

- A) enemy
- B) entrance
- C) log
- D) weapon



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11. THE BATTLE OF THERMOPYLAE

This is a true story. It happened long ago in Greece....

"We must fight," the Spartan* **chief** told his small army of **brave** men. They were at a great **disadvantage**. There were only three hundred of them. The Persian **military** had hundreds of thousands of men.

They were going to lose **unless** they could **secure** a small **entrance**. The **enemy** couldn't move through it easily. They **intended** to stop the enemy here. The chief and his men got ready for the **battle**.

Soon, long lines of the enemy's army **twisted** around the hills. The chief met the enemy with **laughter**. He knew that his men's **weapons** and skills were better. The Spartans **trusted** their leader and **obeyed** him.

First, the enemy soldiers shot **arrows** from their **bows**. The chief told his men to lift their shields*. The arrows stuck into the shields but did not hurt any of the men.

Then the enemy's soldiers attacked the Spartans with long spears. The chief surprised them. His troops rolled **logs** down on the enemy.

They fought for three days. Though they **hardly** slept at all, the chief and his men remained **steady**.

But the enemy found a way to beat the Spartans. The chief and all of his men were killed. Even though they lost, the Battle of Thermopylae is one of the most famous battles in history.

* Spartan - a soldier from the city of Sparta in Greece

* shield - a piece of wood or metal that soldiers carried to protect themselves

What is this story about?

- A) How an enemy made an attack against shields
- B) Why logs were rolled down on soldiers
- C) How a small disadvantaged army nearly beat a large military
- D) Why good soldiers obey their leaders

12. THE BATTLE OF THERMOPYLAE

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Why was the smaller army not afraid of the larger one

- A) The larger army didn't have any weapons.
- B) unless they secured the narrow entrance
- C) against the other army's bows and arrows
- D) hardly any men fighting the large army



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The brave men knew they would lose _____.

- A) because they heard the soldiers' laughter
- B) unless they secured the narrow entrance
- C) against the other army's bows and arrows
- D) hardly any men fighting the large army

14. THE BATTLE OF THERMOPYLAE

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According to the passage, all the following are true about the Persian army EXCEPT _____.

- A) their long lines of soldiers twisted around the hills
- B) they used bows and arrows
- C) they had a steady three-day attack against the Spartans
- D) they used fire to defeat the Spartans



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Answer Key:

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1: B | 8: D |
| 2: A | 9: B |
| 3: A | 10: B |
| 4: B | 11: C |
| 5: B | 12: B |
| 6: C | 13: B |
| 7: A | 14: D |

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