



# THE ART OF WAR SUN TZU

attacking an army drawn up in calm and confident array:—this is the art of studying circumstances.

33. It is a military axiom not to advance uphill against the enemy, nor to oppose him when he comes downhill.
34. Do not pursue an enemy who simulates flight; do not attack soldiers whose temper is keen.
35. Do not swallow bait offered by the enemy. Do not interfere with an army that is returning home.
36. When you surround an army, leave an outlet free. Do not press a desperate foe too hard.
37. Such is the art of warfare.

## VIII

### Variation in Tactics

1. Sun Tzu said: In war, the general receives his commands from the sovereign, collects his army and concentrates his forces
2. When in difficult country, do not encamp. In country where high roads intersect, join hands with your allies. Do not linger in dangerously isolated positions. In hemmed-in situations, you must resort to stratagem. In desperate position, you must fight.
3. There are roads which must not be followed, armies which must not be attacked, towns which must not be besieged, positions which must not be contested, commands of the sovereign which must not be obeyed.
4. The general who thoroughly understands the advantages that accompany variation of tactics knows how to handle his troops.

<div data-bbox="64 734 498 753" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 79</div> <div>XIII The Use of Spies</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 550 484 694" data-label="Text"> <p>23. It is owing to his information, again, that we can cause the doomed spy to carry false tidings to the enemy.</p> <p>24. Lastly, it is by his information that the surviving spy can be used on appointed occasions.</p> <p>25. The end and aim of spying in all its five varieties is knowledge of the enemy; and this knowledge can only be derived, in the first instance, from the converted spy. Hence it is essential that the converted spy be treated with the utmost liberality.</p> <p>26. Of old, the rise of the Yin dynasty was due to I Chih who had served under the Hsia. Likewise, the rise of the Chou dynasty was due to Lu Ya who had served under the Yin.</p> <p>27. Hence it is only the enlightened ruler and the wise general who will use the highest intelligence of the army for purposes of spying and thereby they achieve great results. Spies are a most important element in water, because on them depends an army's ability to move.</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="621 734 768 753" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 2</div> </div>
<div data-bbox="64 842 498 861" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 42</div> <div>VIII Variation in Tactics</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 901 498 1524" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. The general who does not understand these, may be well acquainted with the configuration of the country, yet he will not be able to turn his knowledge to practical account.</li> <li>6. So, the student of war who is unversed in the art of war of varying his plans, even though he be acquainted with the Five Advantages, will fail to make the best use of his men.</li> <li>7. Hence in the wise leader's plans, considerations of advantage and of disadvantage will be blended together.</li> <li>8. If our expectation of advantage be tempered in this way, we may succeed in accomplishing the essential part of our schemes.</li> <li>9. If, on the other hand, in the midst of difficulties we are always ready to seize an advantage, we may extricate ourselves from misfortune.</li> <li>10. Reduce the hostile chiefs by inflicting damage on them; and make trouble for them, and keep them constantly engaged; hold out specious allurements, and make them rush to any given point.</li> <li>11. The art of war teaches us to rely not on the likelihood of the enemy's not coming, but</li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="621 842 1055 861" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 39</div> <div>VII Maneuvering</div> </div> <div data-bbox="621 901 1055 1524" data-label="List-Group"> <p>day, of flags and banners, as a means of influencing the ears and eyes of your army.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27. A whole army may be robbed of its spirit; a commander-in-chief may be robbed of his presence of mind.</li> <li>28. Now a soldier's spirit is keenest in the morning; by noonday it has begun to flag; and in the evening, his mind is bent only on returning to camp.</li> <li>29. A clever general, therefore, avoids an army when its spirit is keen, but attacks it when it is sluggish and inclined to return. This is the art of studying moods.</li> <li>30. Disciplined and calm, to await the appearance of disorder and hubbub amongst the enemy:-this is the art of retaining self-possession.</li> <li>31. To be near the goal while the enemy is still far from it, to wait at ease while the enemy is toiling and struggling, to be well-fed while the enemy is famished:-this is the art of husbanding one's strength.</li> <li>32. To refrain from intercepting an enemy whose banners are in perfect order, to refrain from</li> </ol> </div>

<div data-bbox="64 71 498 359" data-label="Text"> <p> <a href="http://www.gutenberg.org/dirs/1/3/132">http://www.gutenberg.org/dirs/1/3/132</a>  of various formats can be found in:  The original ASCII document and all associated files  Gutenberg's eBook Number 132.]  It was extracted from Mr. Giles' complete work as titled  above. The commentary itself, of course includes  this work embedded within it, has been released as Project  [This is the basic text of Sun Tzu on the Art of War.  LIONEL GILES, M.A. (1910)  Translated from the Chinese By  THE OLDEST MILITARY TREATISE IN THE WORLD  ON THE ART OF WAR  SUN TZU  Language: English  Release Date: December 28, 2005 [eBook Number 17405]  Translator: Lionel Giles  Author: Sun Tzu  Subtitle: Text Only; no Commentary  Title: The Art of War  cost and with almost no restrictions whatsoever. You may  Project Gutenberg License included with this eBook or  online at <a href="http://www.gutenberg.org">www.gutenberg.org</a> </p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 446 498 702" data-label="Text"> <p> This is the Project Gutenberg eBook, The Art of War, by Sun Tzu.  This eBook is for the use of anyone anywhere at no  copy it, give it away or re-use it under the terms of the  Project Gutenberg License included with this eBook or  online at <a href="http://www.gutenberg.org">www.gutenberg.org</a>  Cover image: <a href="http://PostscriptDragonCurve">Postscript Dragon Curve</a>  <a href="http://mosttlymaths.net">mosttlymaths.net</a>, 2010.  LaTeX formatted by Ruben Berenguel, </p> </div>	<div data-bbox="621 71 1041 758" data-label="Text"> <p> XIII The Use of Spies  The Art of War, 78  17. Without subtle ingenuity of mind, one cannot make certain of the truth of their reports.  18. Be subtle; be subtle and use your spies for every kind of business.  19. If a secret piece of news is divulged by a spy before the time is ripe, he must be put to death together with the man to whom the secret was told.  20. Whether the object be to crush an army, to storm a city, or to assassinate an individual, it is always necessary to begin by finding out the names of the attendants, the aides-de-camp, and door-keepers and sentries of the general in command. Our spies must be commissioned to ascertain these.  21. The enemy's spies who have come to spy on us must be sought out, tempted with bribes, led away and comfortably housed. Thus they will become converted spies and available for our service.  22. It is through the information brought by the converted spy that we are able to acquire and employ local and inward spies. </p> </div>
<div data-bbox="64 837 498 869" data-label="Page-Header"> <p> VII Maneuvering THE ART OF WAR, 38 </p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 901 498 1532" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When you plunder a countryside, let the spoil be divided amongst your men; when you capture new territory, cut it up into allotments for the benefit of the soldiery.</li> <li>Ponder and deliberate before you make a move.</li> <li>He will conquer who has learnt the artifice of deviation. Such is the art of maneuvering.</li> <li>The Book of Army Management says: On the field of battle, the spoken word does not carry far enough: hence the institution of gongs and drums. Nor can ordinary objects be seen clearly enough: hence the institution of banners and flags.</li> <li>Gongs and drums, banners and flags, are means whereby the ears and eyes of the host may be focused on one particular point.</li> <li>The host thus forming a single united body, is it impossible either for the brave to advance alone, or for the cowardly to retreat alone. This is the art of handling large masses of men.</li> <li>In night-fighting, then, make much use of signal-fires and drums, and in fighting by</li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="621 837 1052 869" data-label="Page-Header"> <p> VIII Variation in Tactics THE ART OF WAR, 43 </p> </div> <div data-bbox="621 901 1052 1460" data-label="List-Group"> <p>on our own readiness to receive him; not on the chance of his not attacking, but rather on the fact that we have made our position unassailable.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are five dangerous faults which may affect a general: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recklessness, which leads to destruction;</li> <li>cowardice, which leads to capture;</li> <li>a hasty temper, which can be provoked by insults;</li> <li>a delicacy of honor which is sensitive to shame;</li> <li>over-solicitude for his men, which exposes him to worry and trouble.</li> </ol> </li> <li>These are the five besetting sins of a general, ruinous to the conduct of war.</li> <li>When an army is overthrown and its leader slain, the cause will surely be found among these five dangerous faults. Let them be a subject of meditation.</li> </ol> </div>

9. Having local spies means employing the services of the inhabitants of a district.
10. Having inward spies, making use of officials of the enemy.
11. Having converted spies, getting hold of the enemy's spies and using them for our own purposes.
12. Having doomed spies, doing certain things openly for purposes of deception, and allowing our spies to know of them and report them to the enemy.
13. Surviving spies, finally, are those who bring back news from the enemy's camp.
14. Hence it is that which none in the whole army are more intimate relations to be maintained than with spies. None should be more liberally rewarded. In no other business should greater secrecy be preserved.
15. Spies cannot be usefully employed without a certain intuitive sagacity.
16. They cannot be properly managed without benevolence and straightforwardness.

# IX

## The Army on the March

1. Sun Tzu said: We come now to the question of encamping the army, and observing signs of the enemy. Pass quickly over mountains, and keep in the neighborhood of valleys.
2. Camp in high places, facing the sun. Do not climb heights in order to fight. So much for mountain warfare.
3. After crossing a river, you should get far away from it.
4. When an invading force crosses a river in its onward march, do not advance to meet it in mid-stream. It will be best to let half the army get across, and then deliver your attack.
5. If you are anxious to fight, you should not go to meet the invader near a river which he has to cross.

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11. We may take it then that an army without its baggage-train is lost; without provisions it is lost; without bases of supply it is lost.
12. We cannot enter into alliances until we are acquainted with the designs of our neighbors.
13. We are not fit to lead an army on the march unless we are familiar with the face of the country—its mountains and forests, its pitfalls and precipices, its marshes and swamps.
14. We shall be unable to turn natural advantage to account unless we make use of local guides.
15. In war, practice dissimulation, and you will succeed.
16. Whether to concentrate or to divide your troops, must be decided by circumstances.
17. Let your rapidity be that of the wind, your compactness that of the forest.
18. In raiding and plundering be like fire, is immovability like a mountain.
19. Let your plans be dark and impenetrable as night, and when you move, fall like a thunderbolt.

victory.

4. Thus, what enables the wise sovereign and the good general to strike and conquer, and achieve things beyond the reach of ordinary men, is foreknowledge.

5. Now this foreknowledge cannot be elicited from spirits; it cannot be obtained inductively from experience, nor by any deductive calculation.

6. Knowledge of the enemy's dispositions can only be obtained from other men.

7. Hence the use of spies, of whom there are five classes:

a) Local spies;

b) inward spies;

c) converted spies;

d) doomed spies;

e) surviving spies.

8. When these five kinds of spy are all at work, none can discover the secret system. This is called "divine manipulation of the threads." It is the sovereign's most precious faculty.

## Laying Plans

# I

1

1. Sun Tzu said: The art of war is of vital importance to the State.

2. It is a matter of life and death, a road either to safety or to ruin. Hence it is a subject of inquiry which can on no account be neglected.

3. The art of war, then, is governed by five constant factors, to be taken into account in one's deliberations, when seeking to determine the conditions obtaining in the field.

4. These are:

a) The Moral Law;

b) Heaven;

c) Earth;

d) The Commander;

5. Maneuvering with an army is advantageous; with an undisciplined multitude, most dangerous.
6. If you set a fully equipped army in march in order to snatch an advantage, the chances are that you will be too late. On the other hand, to detach a flying column for the purpose involves the sacrifice of its baggage and stores.
7. Thus, if you order your men to roll up their buff-coats, and make forced marches without halting day or night, covering double the usual distance at a stretch, doing a hundred LI in order to wrest an advantage, the leaders of all your three divisions will fall into the hands of the enemy.
8. The stronger men will be in front, the jaded ones will fall behind, and on this plan only one-tenth of your army will reach its destination.
9. If you march fifty LI in order to outmaneuver the enemy, you will lose the leader of your first division, and only half your force will reach the goal.
10. If you march thirty LI with the same object, two-thirds of your army will arrive.

6. Moor your craft higher up than the enemy, and facing the sun. Do not move up-stream to meet the enemy. So much for river warfare.
7. In crossing salt-marshes, your sole concern should be to get over them quickly, without any delay.
8. If forced to fight in a salt-marsh, you should have water and grass near you, and get your back to a clump of trees. So much for operations in salt-marches.
9. In dry, level country, take up an easily accessible position with rising ground to your right and on your rear, so that the danger may be in front, and safety lie behind. So much for campaigning in flat country.
10. These are the four useful branches of military knowledge which enabled the Yellow Emperor to vanquish four several sovereigns.
11. All armies prefer high ground to low and sunny places to dark.
12. If you are careful of your men, and camp on hard ground, the army will be free from disease of every kind, and this will spell victory.

3. One who acts thus is no leader of men, no present help to his sovereign, no master of is the height of inhumanity.
2. Hostile armies may face each other for years, striving for the victory which is decided in a single day. This being so, to remain in ignorance of the enemy's condition simply because one grudges the outlay of a hundred ounces of silver in honors and emoluments, is the height of inhumanity.
1. Sun Tzu said: Raising a host of a hundred thousand men and marching them great distances entails heavy loss on the people and a drain on the resources of the State. The daily expenditure will amount to a thousand ounces of silver. There will be commotion at home and abroad, and men will drop down exhausted on the highways. As many as seven hundred thousand families will be impeded in their labor.

## The Use of Spies

# IIIX

13. When you come to a hill or a bank, occupy the sunny side, with the slope on your right rear. Thus you will at once act for the benefit of your soldiers and utilize the natural advantages of the ground.
14. When, in consequence of heavy rains up-country, a river which you wish to ford is swollen and flecked with foam, you must wait until it subsides.
15. Country in which there are precipitous cliffs with torrents running between, deep natural hollows, confined places, tangled thickets, quagmires and crevasses, should be left with all possible speed and not approached.
16. While we keep away from such places, we should get the enemy to approach them; while we face them, we should let the enemy have them on his rear.
17. If in the neighborhood of your camp there should be any hilly country, ponds surrounded by aquatic grass, hollow basins filled with reeds, or woods with thick undergrowth, they must be carefully routed out and searched; for these are places where men in ambush or insidious spies are likely to be lurking.

12. Therefore, in your deliberations, when seeking to determine the military conditions, let us: he who knows them not will fail.
11. These five heads should be familiar to every general: he who knows them will be victorious; he who knows them not will fail.
10. By method and discipline are to be understood the marshaling of the army in its proper subdivisions, the graduations of rank among the officers, the maintenance of roads by which supplies may reach the army, and the control of military expenditure.
9. The Commander stands for the virtues of wisdom, sincerity, benevolence, courage and strictness.
8. Earth comprises distances, great and small; danger and security; open ground and narrow passes; the chances of life and death.
7. Heaven signifies night and day, cold and heat, times and seasons.
- 5,6. The Moral Law causes the people to be in complete accord with their ruler, so that they will follow him regardless of their lives, undismayed by any danger.
- e) Method and discipline.

# VII

## Maneuvering

1. Sun Tzu said: In war, the general receives his commands from the sovereign.
2. Having collected an army and concentrated his forces, he must blend and harmonize the different elements thereof before pitching his camp.
3. After that, comes tactical maneuvering, than which there is nothing more difficult. The difficulty of tactical maneuvering consists in turning the devious into the direct, and misfortune into gain.
4. Thus, to take a long and circuitous route, after enticing the enemy out of the way, and though starting after him, to contrive to reach the goal before him, shows knowledge of the artifice of DEVIATION.

<div data-bbox="64 730 498 753" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>The Art of War, 7</div> <div>I Laying Plans</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 651 449 694" data-label="Text"> <p>them be made the basis of a comparison, in this wise:—</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 587 483 630" data-label="Text"> <p>13. a) Which of the two sovereigns is imbued with the Moral law?</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 531 433 574" data-label="Text"> <p>b) Which of the two generals has most ability?</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 475 433 518" data-label="Text"> <p>c) With whom lie the advantages derived from Heaven and Earth?</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 419 433 462" data-label="Text"> <p>d) On which side is discipline most rigorously enforced?</p> </div> <div data-bbox="188 387 433 410" data-label="Text"> <p>e) Which army is stronger?</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 331 433 375" data-label="Text"> <p>f) On which side are officers and men more highly trained?</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 276 433 319" data-label="Text"> <p>g) In which army is there the greater constancy both in reward and punishment?</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 220 483 263" data-label="Text"> <p>14. By means of these seven considerations I can forecast victory or defeat.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 68 483 199" data-label="Text"> <p>15. The general that hearkens to my counsel and acts upon it, will conquer: let such a one be retained in command! The general that hearkens not to my counsel nor acts upon it, will suffer defeat:—let such a one be dismissed!</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 730 1053 753" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>The Art of War, 74</div> <div>XII The Attack by Fire</div> </div> <div data-bbox="620 651 1039 694" data-label="Text"> <p>20. Anger may in time change to gladness; vexation may be succeeded by content.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 563 1039 630" data-label="Text"> <p>21. But a kingdom that has once been destroyed can never come again into being; nor can the dead ever be brought back to life.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 467 1039 550" data-label="Text"> <p>22. Hence the enlightened ruler is heedful, and the good general full of caution. This is the way to keep a country at peace and an army intact.</p> </div>
<div data-bbox="64 837 498 860" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>The Art of War, 34</div> <div>VI Weak Points and Strong</div> </div> <div data-bbox="79 898 498 1007" data-label="Text"> <p>34. The five elements (water, fire, wood, metal, earth) are not always equally predominant; the four seasons make way for each other in turn. There are short days and long; the moon has its periods of waning and waxing.</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 837 1053 860" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>The Art of War, 47</div> <div>IX The Army on the March</div> </div> <div data-bbox="635 898 1053 1524" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When the enemy is close at hand and remains quiet, he is relying on the natural strength of his position.</li> <li>When he keeps aloof and tries to provoke a battle, he is anxious for the other side to advance.</li> <li>If his place of encampment is easy of access, he is tendering a bait.</li> <li>Movement amongst the trees of a forest shows that the enemy is advancing. The appearance of a number of screens in the midst of thick grass means that the enemy wants to make us suspicious.</li> <li>The rising of birds in their flight is the sign of an ambushade. Startled beasts indicate that a sudden attack is coming.</li> <li>When there is dust rising in a high column, it is the sign of chariots advancing; when the dust is low, but spread over a wide area, it betokens the approach of infantry. When it branches out in different directions, it shows that parties have been sent to collect firewood. A few clouds of dust moving to and fro signify that the army is encamping.</li> </ol> </div>

<div data-bbox="64 734 498 758" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>IX The Army on the March</div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 48</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 901 498 1524" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Humble words and increased preparations are signs that the enemy is about to advance. Violent language and driving forward as if to the attack are signs that he will retreat.</li> <li>When the light chariots come out first and take up a position on the wings, it is a sign that the enemy is forming for battle.</li> <li>Peace proposals unaccompanied by a sworn covenant indicate a plot.</li> <li>When there is much running about and the soldiers fall into rank, it means that the critical moment has come.</li> <li>When some are seen advancing and some retreating, it is a lure.</li> <li>When the soldiers stand leaning on their spears, they are faint from want of food.</li> <li>If those who are sent to draw water begin by drinking themselves, the army is suffering from thirst.</li> <li>If the enemy sees an advantage to be gained and makes no effort to secure it, the soldiers are exhausted.</li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="621 734 1055 758" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>VI Weak Points and Strong</div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 33</div> </div> <div data-bbox="621 901 1055 1524" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How victory may be produced for them out of the enemy's own tactics—that is what the multitude cannot comprehend.</li> <li>All men can see the tactics whereby I conquer, but what none can see is the strategy out of which victory is evolved.</li> <li>Do not repeat the tactics which have gained you one victory, but let your methods be regulated by the infinite variety of circumstances.</li> <li>Military tactics are like unto water; for water in its natural course runs away from high places and hastens downwards.</li> <li>So in war, the way is to avoid what is strong and to strike at what is weak.</li> <li>Water shapes its course according to the nature of the ground over which it flows; the soldier works out his victory in relation to the foe whom he is facing.</li> <li>Therefore, just as water retains no constant shape, so in warfare there are no constant conditions.</li> <li>He who can modify his tactics in relation to his opponent and thereby succeed in winning, may be called a heaven-born captain.</li> </ol> </div>
<div data-bbox="64 734 498 758" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>IX The Army on the March</div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 48</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 901 498 1524" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the enemy sees an advantage to be gained and makes no effort to secure it, the soldiers are exhausted.</li> <li>If those who are sent to draw water begin by drinking themselves, the army is suffering from thirst.</li> <li>When some are seen advancing and some retreating, it is a lure.</li> <li>When the soldiers stand leaning on their spears, they are faint from want of food.</li> <li>When there is much running about and the soldiers fall into rank, it means that the critical moment has come.</li> <li>Peace proposals unaccompanied by a sworn covenant indicate a plot.</li> <li>When the light chariots come out first and take up a position on the wings, it is a sign that the enemy is forming for battle.</li> <li>Humble words and increased preparations are signs that the enemy is about to advance. Violent language and driving forward as if to the attack are signs that he will retreat.</li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="621 734 1055 758" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>VI Weak Points and Strong</div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 33</div> </div> <div data-bbox="621 901 1055 1524" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>He who can modify his tactics in relation to his opponent and thereby succeed in winning, may be called a heaven-born captain.</li> <li>Therefore, just as water retains no constant shape, so in warfare there are no constant conditions.</li> <li>Water shapes its course according to the nature of the ground over which it flows; the soldier works out his victory in relation to the foe whom he is facing.</li> <li>Military tactics are like unto water; for water in its natural course runs away from high places and hastens downwards.</li> <li>Do not repeat the tactics which have gained you one victory, but let your methods be regulated by the infinite variety of circumstances.</li> <li>All men can see the tactics whereby I conquer, but what none can see is the strategy out of which victory is evolved.</li> <li>How victory may be produced for them out of the enemy's own tactics—that is what the multitude cannot comprehend.</li> </ol> </div>



<div data-bbox="64 734 212 751" data-label="Page-Header"> <p>The Art of War, 9</p> </div> <div data-bbox="380 734 497 751" data-label="Page-Header"> <p>I Laying Plans</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 438 484 691" data-label="Text"> <p>25. These military devices, leading to victory, must not be divulged beforehand.</p> <p>26. Now the general who wins a battle makes many calculations in his temple ere the battle is fought. The general who loses a battle makes but few calculations beforehand. Thus do many calculations lead to victory, and few calculations to defeat: how much more no calculation at all! It is by attention to this point that I can foresee who is likely to win or lose.</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 734 1052 751" data-label="Page-Header"> <p>XII The Attack by Fire</p> </div> <div data-bbox="756 734 777 751" data-label="Page-Header"> <p>72</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 68 1040 691" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. In attacking with fire, one should be prepared to meet five possible developments:</li> <li>6. (1) When fire breaks out inside to enemy's camp, respond at once with an attack from without.</li> <li>7. (2) If there is an outbreak of fire, but the enemy's soldiers remain quiet, bide your time and do not attack.</li> <li>8. (3) When the force of the flames has reached its height, follow it up with an attack, if that is practicable; if not, stay where you are.</li> <li>9. (4) If it is possible to make an assault with fire from without, do not wait for it to break out within, but deliver your attack at a favorable moment.</li> <li>10. (5) When you start a fire, be to windward of it. Do not attack from the leeward.</li> <li>11. A wind that rises in the daytime lasts long, but a night breeze soon falls.</li> <li>12. In every army, the five developments connected with fire must be known, the movements of the stars calculated, and a watch kept for the proper days.</li> </ol> </div>
<div data-bbox="64 842 282 860" data-label="Page-Header"> <p>VI Weak Points and Strong</p> </div> <div data-bbox="341 842 497 860" data-label="Page-Header"> <p>THE ART OF WAR, 32</p> </div> <div data-bbox="115 901 497 943" data-label="Text"> <p>are anything under a hundred LI apart, and even the nearest are separated by several LI!</p> </div> <div data-bbox="79 968 500 1525" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>21. Though according to my estimate the soldiers of Yueh exceed our own in number, that shall advantage them nothing in the matter of victory. I say then that victory can be achieved.</li> <li>22. Though the enemy be stronger in numbers, we may prevent him from fighting. Scheme so as to discover his plans and the likelihood of their success.</li> <li>23. Rouse him, and learn the principle of his activity or inactivity. Force him to reveal himself, so as to find out his vulnerable spots.</li> <li>24. Carefully compare the opposing army with your own, so that you may know where strength is superabundant and where it is deficient.</li> <li>25. In making tactical dispositions, the highest pitch you can attain is to conceal them; conceal your dispositions, and you will be safe from the prying of the subtlest spies, from the machinations of the wisest brains.</li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 842 840 860" data-label="Page-Header"> <p>IX The Army on the March</p> </div> <div data-bbox="897 842 1052 860" data-label="Page-Header"> <p>THE ART OF WAR, 49</p> </div> <div data-bbox="633 901 1057 1525" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>32. If birds gather on any spot, it is unoccupied. Clamor by night betokens nervousness.</li> <li>33. If there is disturbance in the camp, the general's authority is weak. If the banners and flags are shifted about, sedition is afoot. If the officers are angry, it means that the men are weary.</li> <li>34. When an army feeds its horses with grain and kills its cattle for food, and when the men do not hang their cooking-pots over the camp-fires, showing that they will not return to their tents, you may know that they are determined to fight to the death.</li> <li>35. The sight of men whispering together in small knots or speaking in subdued tones points to disaffection amongst the rank and file.</li> <li>36. Too frequent rewards signify that the enemy is at the end of his resources; too many punishments betray a condition of dire distress.</li> <li>37. To begin by bluster, but afterwards to take fright at the enemy's numbers, shows a supreme lack of intelligence.</li> </ol> </div>

1. Sun Tzu said: In the operations of war, where there are in the field a thousand swift chariots, as many heavy chariots, and a hundred thousand mailed soldiers, with provisions enough to carry them a thousand li, the expenditure at home and at the front, including entertainment of guests, small items such as glue and paint, and sums spent on chariots and armor, will reach the total of a thousand ounces of silver per day. Such is the cost of raising an army of 100,000 men.
2. When you engage in actual fighting, if victory is long in coming, then men's weapons will grow dull and their ardor will be damped. If you lay siege to a town, you will exhaust your strength.
3. Again, if the campaign is protracted, the resources of the State will not be equal to the strain.

## Waging War

# II

- have to prepare against a possible attack at several different points; and his forces being thus distributed in many directions, the numbers we shall have to face at any given point will be proportionately few.
17. For should the enemy strengthen his van, he will weaken his rear; should he strengthen his rear, he will weaken his van; should he strengthen his left, he will weaken his right; should he strengthen his right, he will weaken his left. If he sends reinforcements everywhere, he will everywhere be weak.
  18. Numerical weakness comes from having to prepare against possible attacks; numerical strength, from compelling our adversary to make these preparations against us.
  19. Knowing the place and the time of the coming battle, we may concentrate from the greatest distances in order to fight.
  20. But if neither time nor place be known, then the left wing will be impotent to succor the right, the right equally impotent to succor the left, the van unable to relieve the rear, or the rear to support the van. How much more so if the furthest portions of the army

1. Sun Tzu said: There are five ways of attacking with fire. The first is to burn soldiers in their camp; the second is to burn stores; the third is to burn baggage trains; the fourth is to burn arsenals and magazines; the fifth is to hurl dropping fire amongst the enemy.
2. In order to carry out an attack, we must have means available. The material for raising fire should always be kept in readiness.
3. There is a proper season for making attacks with fire, and special days for starting a conflagration.
4. The proper season is when the weather is very dry; the special days are those when the moon is in the constellations of the Sieve, the Wall, the Wing or the Cross-bar; for these four are all days of rising wind.

## The Attack by Fire

# III

38. When envoys are sent with compliments in their mouths, it is a sign that the enemy wishes for a truce.
39. If the enemy's troops march up angrily and remain facing ours for a long time without either joining battle or taking themselves off again, the situation is one that demands great vigilance and circumspection.
40. If our troops are no more in number than the enemy, that is amply sufficient; it only means that no direct attack can be made. What we can do is simply to concentrate all our available strength, keep a close watch on the enemy, and obtain reinforcements.
41. He who exercises no forethought but makes light of his opponents is sure to be captured by them.
42. If soldiers are punished before they have grown attached to you, they will not prove submissive; and, unless submissive, then will be practically useless. If, when the soldiers have become attached to you, punishments are not enforced, they will still be useless.
43. Therefore soldiers must be treated in the first instance with humanity, but kept under

<div data-bbox="64 732 498 751" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 11</div> <div><i>II Waging War</i></div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 561 476 694" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Now, when your weapons are dulled, your armor damaged, your strength exhausted and your treasure spent, other chieftains will spring up to take advantage of your extremity. Then no man, however wise, will be able to avert the consequences that must ensue.</li> <li>5. Thus, though we have heard of stupid haste in war, cleverness has never been seen associated with long delays.</li> <li>6. There is no instance of a country having benefited from prolonged warfare.</li> <li>7. It is only one who is thoroughly acquainted with the evils of war that can thoroughly understand the profitable way of carrying it on.</li> <li>8. The skillful soldier does not raise a second levy, neither are his supply-wagons loaded more than twice.</li> <li>9. Bring war material with you from home, but have food enough for its needs.</li> <li>10. Poverty of the State exchequer causes an army to be maintained by contributions from a distance. Contributing to maintain an</li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 732 1053 751" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 70</div> <div><i>XI The Nine Situations</i></div> </div> <div data-bbox="620 363 1039 694" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>65. If the enemy leaves a door open, you must rush in.</li> <li>66. Forestall your opponent by seizing what he holds dear, and subtly contrive to time his arrival on the ground.</li> <li>67. Walk in the path defined by rule, and accommodate yourself to the enemy until you can fight a decisive battle.</li> <li>68. At first, then, exhibit the coyness of a maiden; afterwards emulate the rapidity of opening; afterwards emulate the rapidity of a running hare; and it will be too late for the enemy to oppose you.</li> </ol> </div>
<div data-bbox="64 842 498 861" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 30</div> <div><i>VI Weak Points and Strong</i></div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 901 498 1524" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. If we wish to fight, the enemy can be forced to an engagement even though he be sheltered behind a high rampart and a deep ditch. All we need do is attack some other place that he will be obliged to relieve.</li> <li>12. If we do not wish to fight, we can prevent the enemy from engaging us even though the lines of our encampment be merely traced out on the ground. All we need do is to throw something odd and unaccountable in his way.</li> <li>13. By discovering the enemy's dispositions and remaining invisible ourselves, we can keep our forces concentrated, while the enemy's must be divided.</li> <li>14. We can form a single united body, while the enemy must split up into fractions. Hence there will be a whole pitted against separate parts of a whole, which means that we shall be many to the enemy's few.</li> <li>15. And if we are able thus to attack an inferior force with a superior one, our opponents will be in dire straits.</li> <li>16. The spot where we intend to fight must not be made known; for then the enemy will</li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 842 1053 861" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 51</div> <div><i>IX The Army on the March</i></div> </div> <div data-bbox="620 901 1053 1129" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>control by means of iron discipline. This is a certain road to victory.</li> <li>44. If in training soldiers commands are habitually enforced, the army will be well-disciplined; if not, its discipline will be bad.</li> <li>45. If a general shows confidence in his men but always insists on his orders being obeyed, the gain will be mutual.</li> </ol> </div>

<div data-bbox="64 732 497 751" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>XI The Nine Situations</div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 69</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 67 483 692" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>57. Confront your soldiers with the deed itself; never let them know your design. When the outlook is bright, bring it before their eyes; but tell them nothing when the situation is gloomy.</li> <li>58. Place your army in deadly peril, and it will survive; plunge it into desperate straits, and it will come off in safety.</li> <li>59. For it is precisely when a force has fallen into harm's way that is capable of striking a blow for victory.</li> <li>60. Success in warfare is gained by carefully accommodating ourselves to the enemy's purpose.</li> <li>61. By persistently hanging on the enemy's flank, we shall succeed in the long run in killing the commander-in-chief.</li> <li>62. This is called ability to accomplish a thing by sheer cunning.</li> <li>63. On the day that you take up your command, block the frontier passes, destroy the official tallies, and stop the passage of all emissaries.</li> <li>64. Be stern in the council-chamber, so that you may control the situation.</li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 732 1052 751" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>II Waging War</div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 12</div> </div> <div data-bbox="620 67 1039 692" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. On the other hand, the proximity of an army causes prices to go up; and high prices cause the people's substance to be drained away.</li> <li>12. When their substance is drained away, the peasantry will be afflicted by heavy exactions.</li> <li>13,14. With this loss of substance and exhaustion of strength, the homes of the people will be stripped bare, and three-tenths of their income will be dissipated; while government expenses for broken chariots, worn-out horses, breast-plates and helmets, bows and arrows, spears and shields, protective mantles, draught-oxen and heavy wagons, will amount to four-tenths of its total revenue.</li> <li>13. Hence a wise general makes a point of foraging on the enemy. One cartload of the enemy's provisions is equivalent to twenty of one's own, and likewise a single picul of his provender is equivalent to twenty from one's own store.</li> <li>14. Now in order to kill the enemy, our men must be roused to anger; that there may be</li> </ol> </div>
<div data-bbox="64 892 497 1038" data-label="Section-Header"> <div>X</div> <div>Terrain</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 1070 497 1525" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sun Tzu said: We may distinguish six kinds of terrain, to wit: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Accessible ground;</li> <li>b) entangling ground;</li> <li>c) temporizing ground;</li> <li>d) narrow passes;</li> <li>e) precipitous heights;</li> <li>f) positions at a great distance from the enemy.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Ground which can be freely traversed by both sides is called accessible.</li> <li>3. With regard to ground of this nature, be before the enemy in occupying the raised and sunny spots, and carefully guard your line of supplies. Then you will be able to fight with advantage.</li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 839 1052 858" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>VI Weak Points and Strong</div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 29</div> </div> <div data-bbox="620 898 1052 1525" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Appear at points which the enemy must hasten to defend; march swiftly to places where you are not expected.</li> <li>6. An army may march great distances without distress, if it marches through country where the enemy is not.</li> <li>7. You can be sure of succeeding in your attacks if you only attack places which are undefended. You can ensure the safety of your defense if you only hold positions that cannot be attacked.</li> <li>8. Hence that general is skillful in attack whose opponent does not know what to defend; and he is skillful in defense whose opponent does not know what to attack.</li> <li>9. O divine art of subtlety and secrecy! Through you we learn to be invisible, through you inaudible; and hence we can hold the enemy's fate in our hands.</li> <li>10. You may advance and be absolutely irresistible, if you make for the enemy's weak points; you may retire and be safe from pursuit if your movements are more rapid than those of the enemy.</li> </ol> </div>

<div data-bbox="64 735 497 754" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>II</div> <div> <i>Waiting War</i> </div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 13</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 260 483 694" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15. Therefore in chariot fighting, when ten or more chariots have been taken, those should be rewarded who took the first. Our own flags should be substituted for those of the enemy, and the chariots mingled and used in conjunction with ours. The captured soldiers should be kindly treated and kept.</li> <li>16. This is called, using the conquered foe to augment one's own strength.</li> <li>17. In war, then, let your great object be victory, not lengthy campaigns.</li> <li>18. Thus it may be known that the leader of armies is the arbiter of the people's fate, the man on whom it depends whether the nation shall be in peace or in peril.</li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 735 1052 754" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>XI</div> <div> <i>The Nine Situations</i> </div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 68</div> </div> <div data-bbox="620 585 1039 694" data-label="Text"> <p>face of the country—its mountains and forests, its pitfalls and precipices, its marshes and swamps. We shall be unable to turn natural advantages to account unless we make use of local guides.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 494 1039 561" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>53. To be ignored of any one of the following four or five principles does not beth a warlike prince.</li> <li>54. When a warlike prince attacks a powerful state, his generalship shows itself in preventing the concentration of the enemy's forces. He overawes his opponents, and their allies are prevented from joining against him.</li> </ol> </div> <div data-bbox="620 202 1039 335" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>55. Hence he does not strive to ally himself with all and sundry, nor does he foster the power of other states. He carries out his own secret designs, keeping his antagonists in awe. Thus he is able to capture their cities and overthrow their kingdoms.</li> <li>56. Bestow rewards without regard to rule, issue orders without regard to previous arrangements; and you will be able to handle a whole army as though you had to do with but a single man.</li> </ol> </div>
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<div data-bbox="116 895 443 1031" data-label="Section-Header"> <div>VI</div> <div>Weak Points and Strong</div> </div> <div data-bbox="90 1077 497 1525" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sun Tzu said: Whoever is first in the field and awaits the coming of the enemy, will be fresh for the fight; whoever is second in the field and has to hasten to battle will arrive exhausted.</li> <li>2. Therefore the clever combatant imposes his will on the enemy, but does not allow the enemy's will to be imposed on him.</li> <li>3. By holding out advantages to him, he can cause the enemy to approach of his own accord; or, by inflicting damage, he can make it impossible for the enemy to draw near.</li> <li>4. If the enemy is taking his ease, he can harass him; if well supplied with food, he can starve him out; if quietly encamped, he can force him to move.</li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 842 1052 861" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>X</div> <div> <i>Terrain</i> </div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 53</div> </div> <div data-bbox="636 901 1052 1525" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Ground which can be abandoned but is hard to re-occupy is called entangling.</li> <li>5. From a position of this sort, if the enemy is unprepared, you may sally forth and defeat him. But if the enemy is prepared for his turn; return being impossible, disaster will ensue.</li> <li>6. When the position is such that neither side will gain by making the first move, it is called temporizing ground.</li> <li>7. In a position of this sort, even though the enemy should offer us an attractive bait, it will be advisable not to stir forth, but rather to retreat, thus enticing the enemy in his turn; then, when part of his army has come out, we may deliver our attack with advantage.</li> <li>8. With regard to narrow passes, if you can occupy them first, let them be strongly garrisoned and await the advent of the enemy.</li> <li>9. Should the army forestall you in occupying a pass, do not go after him if the pass is fully garrisoned, but only if it is weakly garrisoned.</li> <li>10. With regard to precipitous heights, if you are beforehand with your adversary, you should</li> </ol> </div>
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<div data-bbox="64 734 498 758" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 67</div> <div><i>XI The Nine Situations</i></div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 651 448 699" data-label="Text"> <p>facile ground, I would see that there is close connection between all parts of my army.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 590 483 638" data-label="Text"> <p>47. On contentious ground, I would hurry up my rear.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 507 483 582" data-label="Text"> <p>48. On open ground, I would keep a vigilant eye on my defenses. On ground of intersecting highways, I would consolidate my alliances.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 403 483 494" data-label="Text"> <p>49. On serious ground, I would try to ensure a continuous stream of supplies. On difficult ground, I would keep pushing on along the road.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 300 483 391" data-label="Text"> <p>50. On hemmed-in ground, I would block any way of retreat. On desperate ground, I would proclaim to my soldiers the hopelessness of saving their lives.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 196 483 287" data-label="Text"> <p>51. For it is the soldier's disposition to offer an obstinate resistance when surrounded, to fight hard when he cannot help himself, and to obey promptly when he has fallen into danger.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 68 483 159" data-label="Text"> <p>52. We cannot enter into alliance with neighboring princes until we are acquainted with their designs. We are not fit to lead an army on the march unless we are familiar with the</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="696 563 980 598" data-label="Section-Header"> <h2>Attack by Stratagem</h2> </div> <div data-bbox="781 619 890 702" data-label="Section-Header"> <h1>III</h1> </div> <div data-bbox="619 68 1030 523" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sun Tzu said: In the practical art of war, the best thing of all is to take the enemy's country whole and intact; to shatter and destroy it is not so good. So, too, it is better to recapture an army entire than to destroy it, to capture a regiment, a detachment or a company entire than to destroy them.</li> <li>2. Hence to fight and conquer in all your battles is not supreme excellence; supreme excellence consists in breaking the enemy's resistance without fighting.</li> <li>3. Thus the highest form of generalship is to baffle the enemy's plans; the next best is to prevent the junction of the enemy's forces; the next in order is to attack the enemy's army in the field; and the worst policy of all is to besiege walled cities.</li> <li>4. The rule is, not to besiege walled cities if it can possibly be avoided. The prepar-</li> </ol> </div>
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<div data-bbox="64 842 498 866" data-label="Page-Header"> <div><i>X Terrain</i></div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 54</div> </div> <div data-bbox="115 901 498 949" data-label="Text"> <p>occupy the raised and sunny spots, and there wait for him to come up.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="81 962 498 1528" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. If the enemy has occupied them before you, do not follow him, but retreat and try to entice him away.</li> <li>12. If you are situated at a great distance from the enemy, and the strength of the two armies is equal, it is not easy to provoke a battle, and fighting will be to your disadvantage.</li> <li>13. These six are the principles connected with Earth. The general who has attained a responsible post must be careful to study them.</li> <li>14. Now an army is exposed to six several calamities, not arising from natural causes, but from faults for which the general is responsible. These are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Flight;</li> <li>b) insubordination;</li> <li>c) collapse;</li> <li>d) ruin;</li> <li>e) disorganization;</li> <li>f) rout.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </div>	<div data-bbox="619 842 1052 866" data-label="Page-Header"> <div><i>V Energy</i></div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 27</div> </div> <div data-bbox="636 901 1052 992" data-label="List-Group"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23. Thus the energy developed by good fighting men is as the momentum of a round stone rolled down a mountain thousands of feet in height. So much on the subject of energy.</li> </ol> </div>
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<div data-bbox="64 734 498 758" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 15</div> <div>III Attack by Stratagem</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 582 498 726" data-label="Text"> <p>tion of mantlets, movable shelters, and various implements of war, will take up three whole months; and the piling up of mounds over against the walls will take three months more.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 438 498 566" data-label="Text"> <p>5. The general, unable to control his irritation, will launch his men to the assault like swarming ants, with the result that one-third of his men are slain, while the town still remains untaken. Such are the disastrous effects of a siege.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 295 498 406" data-label="Text"> <p>6. Therefore the skillful leader subdues the enemy's troops without any fighting; he captures their cities without laying siege to them; he overthrows their kingdom without lengthy operations in the field.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 151 498 279" data-label="Text"> <p>7. With his forces intact he will dispute the mastery of the Empire, and thus, without losing a man, his triumph will be complete. This is the method of attacking by stratagem.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 71 498 151" data-label="Text"> <p>8. It is the rule in war, if our forces are ten to one, to surround him; if five to one, to divide our army into two.</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="621 734 1055 758" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 66</div> <div>XI The Nine Situations</div> </div> <div data-bbox="621 582 1055 694" data-label="Text"> <p>41. The different measures suited to the nine varieties of ground; the expediency of aggressive or defensive tactics; and the fundamental laws of human nature: these are things that must most certainly be studied.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="621 438 1055 566" data-label="Text"> <p>42. When invading hostile territory, the general principle is, that penetrating deeply brings cohesion, penetrating but a short way means dispersion.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="621 295 1055 454" data-label="Text"> <p>43. When you leave your own country behind, and take your army across neighborhood territory, you find yourself on critical ground. When there are means of communication on all four sides, the ground is one of intersecting highways.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="621 151 1055 311" data-label="Text"> <p>44. When you penetrate deeply into a country, it is serious ground. When you penetrate but a little way, it is facile ground.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="621 71 1055 151" data-label="Text"> <p>45. When you have the enemy's strongholds on your rear, and narrow passes in front, it is hemmed-in ground. When there is no place of refuge at all, it is desperate ground.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="621 71 1055 119" data-label="Text"> <p>46. Therefore, on dispersive ground, I would inspire my men with unity of purpose. On-</p> </div>
<div data-bbox="64 837 498 861" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>V Energy</div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 26</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 901 498 1037" data-label="Text"> <p>18. Hiding order beneath the cloak of disorder is simply a question of subdivision; concealing courage under a show of timidity presupposes a fund of latent energy; masking strength with weakness is to be effected by tactical dispositions.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 1045 498 1157" data-label="Text"> <p>19. Thus one who is skillful at keeping the enemy on the move maintains deceitful appearances, according to which the enemy will act. He sacrifices something, that the enemy may snatch at it.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 1165 498 1236" data-label="Text"> <p>20. By holding out baits, he keeps him on the march; then with a body of picked men he lies in wait for him.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 1244 498 1364" data-label="Text"> <p>21. The clever combatant looks to the effect of combined energy, and does not require too much from individuals. Hence his ability to pick out the right men and utilize combined energy.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 1372 498 1532" data-label="Text"> <p>22. When he utilizes combined energy, his fighting men become as it were like unto rolling logs or stones. For it is the nature of a log or stone to remain motionless on level ground, and to move when on a slope; if four-cornered, to come to a standstill, but if round-shaped, to go rolling down.</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="621 837 1055 861" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>X Terrain</div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 55</div> </div> <div data-bbox="621 901 1055 965" data-label="Text"> <p>15. Other conditions being equal, if one force is hurled against another ten times its size, the result will be the flight of the former.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="621 973 1055 1093" data-label="Text"> <p>16. When the common soldiers are too strong and their officers too weak, the result is insubordination. When the officers are too strong and the common soldiers too weak, the result is collapse.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="621 1101 1055 1236" data-label="Text"> <p>17. When the higher officers are angry and insubordinate, and on meeting the enemy give battle on their own account from a feeling of resentment, before the commander-in-chief can tell whether or not he is in a position to fight, the result is ruin.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="621 1244 1055 1380" data-label="Text"> <p>18. When the general is weak and without authority; when his orders are not clear and distinct; when there are no fixed duties assigned to officers and men, and the ranks are formed in a slovenly haphazard manner, the result is utter disorganization.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="621 1388 1055 1532" data-label="Text"> <p>19. When a general, unable to estimate the enemy's strength, allows an inferior force to engage a larger one, or hurls a weak detachment against a powerful one, and neglects to place picked soldiers in the front rank, the result must be rout.</p> </div>

<div data-bbox="61 71 484 694" data-label="List-Group"> <p>35. It is the business of a general to be quiet and thus ensure secrecy; upright and just, and thus maintain order.</p> <p>36. He must be able to mystify his officers and men by false reports and appearances, and thus keep them in total ignorance.</p> <p>37. By altering his arrangements and changing his plans, he keeps the enemy without definite knowledge. By shifting his camp and taking circuitous routes, he prevents the enemy from anticipating his purpose.</p> <p>38. At the critical moment, the leader of an army acts like one who has climbed up a height and then kicks away the ladder behind him. He carries his men deep into hostile territory before he shows his hand.</p> <p>39. He burns his boats and breaks his cooking-pots: like a shepherd driving a flock of sheep, he drives his men this way and that, and nothing knows whether he is going.</p> <p>40. To muster his host and bring it into danger—this may be termed the business of the general.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="61 726 498 758" data-label="Page-Footer"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 65</div> <div><i>XI The Nine Situations</i></div> </div>	<div data-bbox="621 71 1044 694" data-label="List-Group"> <p>9. If equally matched, we can offer battle; if slightly inferior in numbers, we can avoid the enemy; if quite unequal in every way, we can flee from him.</p> <p>10. Hence, though an obstinate fight may be made by a small force, in the end it must be captured by the larger force.</p> <p>11. Now the general is the bulwark of the State; if the bulwark is complete at all points; the State will be strong; if the bulwark is defective, the State will be weak.</p> <p>12. There are three ways in which a ruler can bring misfortune upon his army:—</p> <p>13. (1) By commanding the army to advance or to retreat, being ignorant of the fact that it cannot obey. This is called hobbling the army.</p> <p>14. (2) By attempting to govern an army in the same way as he administers a kingdom, being ignorant of the conditions which obtain in an army. This causes restlessness in the soldier's minds.</p> <p>15. (3) By employing the officers of his army without discrimination, through ignorance</p> </div> <div data-bbox="621 726 1058 758" data-label="Page-Footer"> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 16</div> <div><i>III Attack by Stratagem</i></div> </div>
<div data-bbox="61 837 498 869" data-label="Page-Header"> <div><i>X Terrain</i></div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 56</div> </div> <div data-bbox="61 901 498 1524" data-label="List-Group"> <p>20. These are six ways of courting defeat, which must be carefully noted by the general who has attained a responsible post.</p> <p>21. The natural formation of the country is the soldier's best ally; but a power of estimating the adversary, of controlling the forces of victory, and of shrewdly calculating difficulties, dangers and distances, constitutes the test of a great general.</p> <p>22. He who knows these things, and in fighting puts his knowledge into practice, will win his battles. He who knows them not, nor practices them, will surely be defeated.</p> <p>23. If fighting is sure to result in victory, then you must fight, even though the ruler forbid it; if fighting will not result in victory, then you must not fight even at the ruler's bidding.</p> <p>24. The general who advances without coveting fame and retreats without fearing disgrace, whose only thought is to protect his country and do good service for his sovereign, is the jewel of the kingdom.</p> <p>25. Regard your soldiers as your children, and they will follow you into the deepest valleys;</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="621 837 1058 869" data-label="Page-Header"> <div><i>V Energy</i></div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 25</div> </div> <div data-bbox="621 901 1058 1524" data-label="List-Group"> <p>11. The direct and the indirect lead on to each other in turn. It is like moving in a circle—you never come to an end. Who can exhaust the possibilities of their combination?</p> <p>12. The onset of troops is like the rush of a torrent which will even roll stones along in its course.</p> <p>13. The quality of decision is like the well-timed swoop of a falcon which enables it to strike and destroy its victim.</p> <p>14. Therefore the good fighter will be terrible in his onset, and prompt in his decision.</p> <p>15. Energy may be likened to the bending of a crossbow; decision, to the releasing of a trigger.</p> <p>16. Amid the turmoil and tumult of battle, there may be seeming disorder and yet no real disorder at all; amid confusion and chaos, your array may be without head or tail, yet it will be proof against defeat.</p> <p>17. Simulated disorder postulates perfect discipline, simulated fear postulates courage; simulated weakness postulates strength.</p> </div>



<div data-bbox="64 735 497 754" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>III</div> <div><i>Attach by Stratagem</i></div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 17</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 628 497 692" data-label="Text"> <p>of the military principle of adaptation to circumstances. This shakes the confidence of the soldiers.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 588 497 614" data-label="Text"> <p>16. But when the army is restless and distrustful,</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 525 497 550" data-label="Text"> <p>princes. This is simply bringing anarchy into the army, and flinging victory away.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 469 497 509" data-label="Text"> <p>17. Thus we may know that there are five essential for victory:</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 405 497 453" data-label="List-Group"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) He will know when to fight and when not to fight.</li> </ul> </div> <div data-bbox="64 373 497 399" data-label="Text"> <p>b) He will know how to handle both superior and inferior forces.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 325 497 351" data-label="Text"> <p>c) He will win whose army is animated by the same spirit throughout all its ranks.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 277 497 303" data-label="Text"> <p>d) He will win who, prepared himself, waits to take the enemy unprepared.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 229 497 255" data-label="Text"> <p>e) He will win who has military capacity and is not interfered with by the sovereign.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 70 497 159" data-label="Text"> <p>18. Hence the saying: If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 735 1052 754" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>XI</div> <div><i>The Nine Situations</i></div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 64</div> </div> <div data-bbox="620 676 1052 700" data-label="Text"> <p>29. The skillful tactician may be likened to the shuai-jan. Now the shuai-jan is a snake that is found in the Chung mountains. Strike at its head, and you will be attacked by its tail; strike at its tail, and you will be attacked by its head; strike at its middle, and you will be attacked by head and tail both.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 541 1052 533" data-label="Text"> <p>30. Asked if an army can be made to imitate the shuai-jan, I should answer, Yes. For the men of Wu and the men of Yueh are enemies; yet if they are crossing a river in the same boat and are caught by a storm, they will come to each other's assistance just as the left hand helps the right.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 341 1052 367" data-label="Text"> <p>31. Hence it is not enough to put one's trust in the tethering of horses, and the buying of chariot wheels in the ground</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 293 1052 303" data-label="Text"> <p>32. The principle on which to manage an army is to set up one standard of courage which all must reach.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 245 1052 255" data-label="Text"> <p>33. How to make the best of both strong and weak—that is a question involving the proper use of ground.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 70 1052 135" data-label="Text"> <p>34. Thus the skillful general conducts his army just as though he were leading a single man, wily-ly, by the hand.</p> </div>
<div data-bbox="64 844 497 863" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>V</div> <div><i>Energy</i></div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 24</div> </div> <div data-bbox="64 900 497 965" data-label="Text"> <p>5. In all fighting, the direct method may be used for joining battle, but indirect methods will be needed in order to secure victory.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 987 497 1117" data-label="Text"> <p>6. Indirect tactics, efficiently applied, are inexhaustible as Heaven and Earth, unending as the flow of rivers and streams; like the sun and moon, they end but to begin anew; like the four seasons, they pass away to return once more.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 1139 497 1204" data-label="Text"> <p>7. There are not more than five musical notes, yet the combinations of these five give rise to more melodies than can ever be heard.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 1227 497 1308" data-label="Text"> <p>8. There are not more than five primary colors (blue, yellow, red, white, and black), yet in combination they produce more hues than can ever been seen.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 1331 497 1420" data-label="Text"> <p>9. There are not more than five cardinal tastes (sour, acrid, salt, sweet, bitter), yet combinations of them yield more flavors than can ever be tasted.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="64 1442 497 1524" data-label="Text"> <p>10. In battle, there are not more than two methods of attack—the direct and indirect; yet these two in combination give rise to an endless series of maneuvers.</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="620 844 1052 863" data-label="Page-Header"> <div>X</div> <div><i>Terrain</i></div> <div>THE ART OF WAR, 57</div> </div> <div data-bbox="620 900 1052 949" data-label="Text"> <p>look upon them as your own beloved sons, and they will stand by you even unto death.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 963 1052 1109" data-label="Text"> <p>26. If, however, you are indulgent, but unable to make your authority felt; kind-hearted, but unable to enforce your commands; and incapable, moreover, of quelling disorder: then your soldiers must be likened to spoilt children; they are useless for any practical purpose.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 1123 1052 1204" data-label="Text"> <p>27. If we know that our own men are in a condition to attack, but are unaware that the enemy is not open to attack, we have gone only halfway towards victory.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 1219 1052 1300" data-label="Text"> <p>28. If we know that the enemy is open to attack, but are unaware that our own men are not in a condition to attack, we have gone only halfway towards victory.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 1315 1052 1444" data-label="Text"> <p>29. If we know that the enemy is open to attack, and also know that our men are in a condition to attack, but are unaware that the nature of the ground makes fighting impracticable, we have still gone only halfway towards victory.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="620 1458 1052 1524" data-label="Text"> <p>30. Hence the experienced soldier, once in motion, is never bewildered; once he has broken camp, he is never at a loss.</p> </div>

will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle.

*III Attack by Stratagem*      THE ART OF WAR, 18

24. Soldiers when in desperate straits lose the sense of fear. If there is no place of refuge, they will stand firm. If they are in hostile country, they will show a stubborn front. If there is no help for it, they will fight hard.
25. Thus, without waiting to be marshaled, the soldiers will be constantly on the qui vive; without waiting to be asked, they will do your will; without restrictions, they will be faithful; without giving orders, they can be trusted.
26. Prohibit the taking of omens, and do away with superstitious doubts. Then, until death itself comes, no calamity need be feared.
27. If our soldiers are not overburdened with money, it is not because they have a distaste for riches; if their lives are not unduly long, it is not because they are disinclined to longevity.
28. On the day they are ordered out to battle, your soldiers may weep, those sitting up bedewing their garments, and those lying down letting the tears run down their cheeks. But let them once be brought to bay, and they will display the courage of a Chu or a Kuei.

*XI The Nine Situations*      THE ART OF WAR, 63

# V

## Energy

1. Sun Tzu said: The control of a large force is the same principle as the control of a few men: it is merely a question of dividing up their numbers.
2. Fighting with a large army under your command is nowise different from fighting with a small one: it is merely a question of instituting signs and signals.
3. To ensure that your whole host may withstand the brunt of the enemy's attack and remain unshaken— this is effected by maneuvers direct and indirect.
4. That the impact of your army may be like a grindstone dashed against an egg—this is effected by the science of weak points and strong.

*X Terrain*      THE ART OF WAR, 58

31. Hence the saying: If you know the enemy and know yourself, your victory will not stand in doubt; if you know Heaven and know Earth, you may make your victory complete.

## ΛΙ

- #### IV Tactical Dispositions

THE ART OF WAR, 22

# XI

## The Nine Situations

1. Sun Tzu said: The art of war recognizes nine varieties of ground:
  - a) Dispersive ground;
  - b) facile ground;
  - c) contentious ground;
  - d) open ground;
  - e) ground of intersecting highways;
  - f) serious ground;
  - g) difficult ground;
  - h) hemmed-in ground;
  - i) desperate ground.
2. When a chieftain is fighting in his own territory, it is dispersive ground.
3. When he has penetrated into hostile territory, but to no great distance, it is facile ground.

XI *The Nine Situations*  
THE ART OF WAR, 62

by seizing something which your opponent holds dear; then he will be amenable to your will."

19. Rapidity is the essence of war: take advantage of the enemy's unreadiness, make your way by unexpected routes, and attack unguarded spots.

20. The following are the principles to be observed by an invading force: The further you penetrate into a country, the greater will be the solidarity of your troops, and thus the defenders will not prevail against you.

22. Carefully study the well-being of your men, and do not overtax them. Concentrate your energy and hoard your strength. Keep your army continually on the move, and devise unfathomable plans.

23. Throw your soldiers into positions whence there is no escape, and they will prefer death to flight. If they will face death, there is nothing they will not achieve. Officers and men alike will put forth their uttermost strength.

