BLOGS

Sample Vocabulary Questions for CLAT 2024

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Read the passages and answer the following questions.

A. The victory of the small Greek democracy of Athens **[1]** the mighty Persian Empire in 490 B.C. is one of the most famous events in history. Darius, king of the Persian Empire, was furious because Athens had interceded for the other Greek city-states in revolt against Persian domination. In anger, the king sent an enormous army to defeat Athens. He thought it would take drastic steps to pacify the rebellious part of the empire.

Persia was ruled by one man. In Athens, however, all citizens helped to rule. Ennobled by this participation, Athenians were prepared to die for their city-state. Perhaps this was the secret of the remarkable victory at Marathon, which freed them from Persian rule. On their way to Marathon, the Persians tried to fool some Greek city-states by claiming to have come in peace. The frightened citizens of Delos refused to believe this. Not wanting to abet the conquest of Greece, they fled from their city and did not return until the Persians had left. They were wise, for the Persians next conquered the city of Eritrea and captured its people.

Tiny Athens stood alone against Persia. The Athenian people went to their sanctuaries. There they prayed for deliverance. They asked their gods to expedite their victory. The Athenians refurbished their weapons and moved to the plain of Marathon, where their little band would meet the Persians. At the last moment, soldiers from Plataea reinforced the Athenian troops.

The Athenian army attacked, and Greek citizens fought bravely. The power of the mighty Persians was offset by the love that the Athenians had for their city. Athenians defeated the Persians in both archery and hand combat. Greek soldiers seized Persian ships and burned them, and the Persians fled in terror. Herodotus, a famous historian, reports that 6,400 Persians died, compared to only 192 Athenians.

1. The people of Delos did not want to _____ the conquest of Greece.

a. end
b. encourage

c. assist

d. orchestrate

2. Athens had _____ the other Greek city-states against the Persians.

a. assisted

b. intervened on behalf of

c. fought

d. defeated

3. What can be written in place of [1]?

a. on

b. over

c. against

d. from

4. Which word is the closest in meaning to the term ‘enormous’?

a. small

b. huge

c. incomparable

d. undefeatable

5. Which word is the closest in meaning to the term ‘expedite’?

a. speed up

b. ensure

c. guarantee

d. bring about

Answers

1. c
2. b
3. b
4. b
5. a

B. King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette ruled France from 1774 to 1789, a time when the country was fighting bankruptcy. The royal couple did not let France's insecure financial situation limit their immoderate spending, however. Even though the minister of finance repeatedly warned the king and queen against wasting money, they continued to spend great fortunes on their personal pleasure. This lavish spending greatly enraged the people of France. They felt that the royal couple bought its luxurious lifestyle at the poor people's expense.

Marie Antoinette, the beautiful but exceedingly impractical queen, seemed uncaring about her subjects' misery. While French citizens begged for lower taxes, the queen embellished her palace with extravagant works of art. She also surrounded herself with artists, writers, and musicians, who encouraged the queen to spend money even more profusely.

While the queen's favorites glutted themselves on huge feasts at the royal table, many people in France were starving. The French government taxed the citizens outrageously. These high taxes paid for the entertainments the queen and her court so enjoyed. When the minister of finance tried to stop these royal spendthrifts, the queen replaced him. The intense hatred that the people felt for Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette kept building until it led to the French Revolution. During this time of struggle and violence (1789-1799), thousands of aristocrats, as well as the king and queen themselves, lost their lives at the guillotine. Perhaps if Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette had reined **[1]** their extravagant spending, the events that rocked France would not have occurred.

1. What can be written in place of [1] in the passage?

a. in
b. on
c. over
d. none of the above

2. The people surrounding the queen encouraged her to spend money _____.

a. wisely
b. abundantly
c. carefully
d. joyfully

3. Which word is the closest in meaning to the term 'immoderate'?

a. lavish

b. unrestricted

c. unassuming

d. cheap

4. Fill in the blank- “…..minister of finance repeatedly warned the king and queen _____ wasting money”.

a. to

b. from

c. against

d. about

5. Which word is the closest in meaning to the term ‘profusely’?

a. severely

b. abundantly

c. without restraint

d. wanting

Answers

1. a
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. c

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