

Hannibal Against Rome

Name: _____ Prd: ____ Score: ____ /20__

Directions: **As you read, highlight answers in text to the ?s.** Then answer the questions on the right.

A great army was marching *against* Rome! It had about 50,000 foot soldiers & 9,000 soldiers on horseback. As it marched, the army was seven miles long! Behind the soldiers were **37 huge war elephants!!** And behind them were many animals that carried supplies.

The leader of this army was a young general named **Hannibal** Barca. Hannibal, as history would remember him, came from Carthage, a rich & powerful city-state in North Africa. Rome & Carthage had fought a long war for control of the island of Sicily. Finally, Carthage was forced to give up Sicily & two other islands to Rome.

Hannibal was only a boy when this happened. But his father, Hamilcar Carthage, made him take an oath that he, Hannibal, would swear to get revenge against their enemy Rome... *some day...some how!*

Carthage began to rebuild its armies in Spain, one of its colonies. It hired professional soldiers from North Africa, Spain, & islands in the Mediterranean. Hannibal became the commander of these soldiers when he was *ONLY* 26 years old. His men were all for him. They knew he was a great soldier & afraid of nothing. He wore a simple officer's uniform & often slept on the ground near them & could count on their loyalty to the very end.

Hannibal had a daring & secret plan of war against Rome. He wanted to fight the Romans *on their own ground!* The Roman navy was too strong for him to risk moving his army to Italy in ships.

But there was another way for him to reach Italy...he could march his army 1,500 miles

overland to get there. This meant that his army would have to cross the Alps, the *highest* mountains in Europe.

It would be dangerous, but Hannibal was not afraid of danger!



Making Inferences: **Why** would the sight of this great **army** *startle* or *surprise* the Roman people? (↓)

 _____ (→)



Hannibal's home city was _____.

- a. Barca
- b. Carthage
- c. Sicily
- d. Rome

What were the *results of the war between* Carthage & Rome? _____

What does it *mean* to seek "revenge"? _____

What then, did Hannibal *swear to do* for his father? _____

BONUS: "Hired professional soldiers" are called _____.

Making comparisons & analogies:

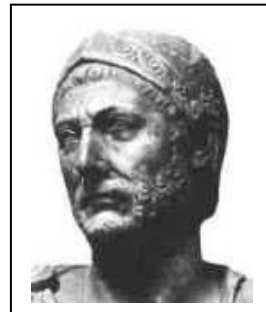
Hannibal : _____ :: Alexander : Macedonia

Why did Hannibal's **soldiers** *respect* him so much?

1) _____

2) _____

Hannibal →



How did the Alps *compare to* other mountain ranges in Europe?

- a. shortest
- b. tallest
- c. longest
- d. widest

The long march began in May of 218 B.C. From Spain, Hannibal's army moved across the south of France. One of Hannibal's first problems was to get his elephants across a wide river. Big rafts were built to ferry them across, but some of the elephants panicked on the rafts. They began to stamp & scream with fear. Some fell into the river, but they did not drown. They simply walked across with only their trunks sticking up above the water.

Finally, Hannibal's army reached the Alps! The mountains were covered with snow & ice, & the wind chilled the men to their bones. Many became sick & were left behind.

The path through the Alps was narrow, twisting & very steep. Men & animals slipped & sadly fell thousands of feet to their deaths! Often they could not see ahead of them due to the heavy snowstorms. Blinded by snow, exhausted & dizzy from hunger, the men stumbled on.

But then one day the men looked down & saw a green valley below them. They had made it across the Alps to Italy! The long march had taken 5 months! Nearly half of those who had started out the march had died!!! Those who made it were worn out. But after a long rest, they got back their strength.

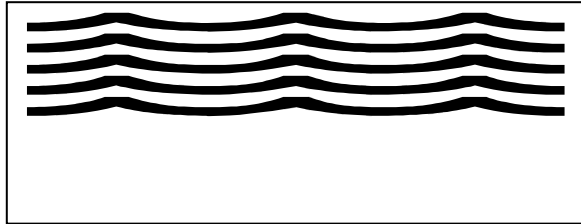
The Romans *were amazed* when they learned that Hannibal was in Italy! They sent one army after another to capture him. Usually, the Roman armies were much larger than Hannibal's. But Hannibal was such a clever general, he defeated them all! In one battle, he led the Roman army into a trap. They were then surrounded & easily wiped out.

Hannibal could defeat Roman armies, but he could *not* attack the city of Rome itself. His army was not strong enough for that. So...the war dragged on for 15 years! Meanwhile, Hannibal's army burned & destroyed much of their land. If he could not defeat them directly, he would make their life miserable by limiting their food source & lifestyle.

"...to **ferry**" means to _____.

- a. chase wood nymphs
- b. flit & fly about
- c. carry across
- d. toss over

Draw a picture of what these elephants may have looked like *while IN the water!*



Describe the *affects of traveling through the Alps* had on man & beast. _____

(2 pts.)

Applying math to history: *Approximately what % of men & animals survived the march?*

- a. 25%
- b. 50%
- c. 65%
- d. 75%

How was Hannibal eventually *able to defeat one Roman army?* _____



What did Hannibal's army do to Rome *even though* he could not *defeat* them?

Finally, the Romans found a way to get rid of Hannibal. They sent an army to North Africa to attack *his* city of Carthage! This army was led by a young general by the name of Scipio. And he knew all of Hannibal's tricks! Carthage, then, called Hannibal home to defend it against Scipio. This is what Rome wanted!

In 202 B.C. Scipio finally defeated Hannibal. Carthage had to make peace with Rome & was forced to give up Spain.

What ultimately happened to Hannibal, then? He ran away to the Middle East where he tried to stir up trouble for Rome. Years later, Roman agents closed in on him! Hannibal, now 65 years of age, *swallowed poison & died!!*

What, then, happened to Carthage? The Romans always feared that Carthage might become dangerous again. A Roman senator named Cato said over & over & over again, "Carthage must be destroyed!"

Finally in 146 B.C., a Roman army completely destroyed the city of Carthage. North Africa became a part of Rome's growing empire.

How was Scipio able to lure Hannibal from Rome?

What were the ***results of the war?***

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| a. Carthage won | d. Carthage gave up Spain |
| b. Rome won | e. a & c only |
| c. Rome gave up Spain | f. b & d only |

Higher level thinking skills: Why would Hannibal choose suicide over capture? _____

_____ (2 pts)

Applying past knowledge: What great, young king from Macedonia spread Greek culture throughout his conquered Persian Empire?

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| a. Akhenaten | c. King Arthur |
| b. Constantine | d. Alexander the Great |

Hannibal crossing the Alps by elephant ↓

