

Joan of Arc: Maid of Lorraine Name: _____ Prd: ____ Score: ____ / 20

Directions: *As you read, highlight answers in text* on the left in order to answer the questions on the right. *Then* complete the questions using the information that you have highlighted! *Practice this highlighting skill!*

Legends of **chivalry** became popular in France in the late Middle Ages. ***One of them predicted that France would be saved by a maiden. She would come from an oak forest & would dress in a man's clothes...**

At some point in French history, this story might have been shrugged off as silly...However, in 1429, it had great meaning ~ *a legend come true!* It looked as though a *teenage girl* might save France!

France had been waging an on-again/off-again war with England since 1337. This conflict was started by the English. King Edward III claimed the French crown to protect his land in France. The struggle was later known as the **100 Years' War**.

By 1429, the French *needed* to be saved. The English held all of France north of the Loire River. Furthermore, King Charles VI of France had died in 1422, leaving his crown to the English king... *NOT* his son, the **dauphin** (eldest son of a French king) Charles.

In May 1428, a girl of 16 walked into a French stronghold by the name of Vaucouleurs. She asked to see the captain. Standing before him she told him that God had sent her. She asked him to write the dauphin saying, "Joan will lead you to your crowning."

The French captain listened politely as the girl's story seemed fantastic, even in the "age of religious faith." So the captain sent the girl back to her village...but that was NOT the end of Jeannette ~ or **Joan of Arc**, as she would later be known as...

Joan had come from the gentle, rolling countryside of eastern France. Near her village in the region of Lorraine there rose a dark forest called the Wood of Oaks. One day in her father's garden a great light burst forth...or so she later claimed! She believed that the **Archangel Michael** had appeared to her, urging her to have great faith...

Chivalry is defined as: _____

(Look this one up in the dictionary if you don't know!!!)

Applying past knowledge: Which Egyptian pharaoh "**dressed as a man & ruled as a man**"? _____

What was the **prophecy** that would soon **come true**?

- | | |
|--|---|
| a. King Charles VII would rule France. | c. A teen-aged woman would save France. |
| b. King Edward III would rule France. | d. Chivalry would prevail over war. |

Why did France need to be saved?

1) _____

2) _____

High-level Thinking Skills:

True or False (← circle 1):

Joan of Arc believed she had been **sent by God**. It could be said she believed in **divine** intervention.



Making inferences: ***How** did France's legendary **prophecy** (see paragraph 1) **come true**? (Look for the *.)

Joan followed this advice. She kept hearing voices & seeing visions. Finally, she claimed that, again, the Archangel Michael appeared to her. This time he told her to go to the aid of her king! So, Joan chose to aid the French dauphin.

A few months after Joan's first trip to Vaucouleurs, English forces laid siege to Orleans. This city on the Loire River was critical. If it fell to the English, the French would probably lose the war. But, as long as the French held the city, a glimmer of hope remained.

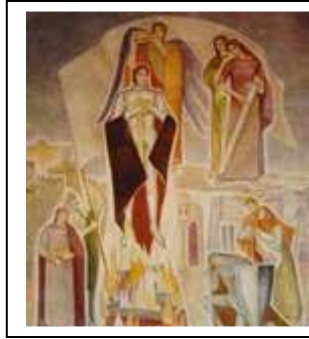
At this important moment, Joan went back to Vaucouleurs. In January of 1429, the captain gave in to her wish to see the dauphin. Joan & a few friends arrived at the royal palace at Chinon in March. Soon after their arrival, members of the clergy questioned Joan. She told them that she had two goals. The first was to see the crowning of the dauphin as king of France.

The clergy must have been astonished. Some of them may have noticed the differences between Joan & the dauphin Charles. Joan was healthy, strong & good-looking with an open, smiling face. Charles was sickly, homely, & afraid for his life.

The dauphin agreed to see Joan. She was shown to a room where he & his court were gathered. There was no way for Joan to tell which of these people was the dauphin. Yet legend has it that Joan picked Charles out of the group. "Most noble prince," she said, "I have come from God to help you & your kingdom." Joan later claimed that her voices had guided her to the dauphin.

Charles decided to let Joan have her way. He had her fitted for a suit of armor & chose one of his most powerful dukes to help her assemble an army. Joan gave the French hope. They were not afraid to volunteer in her service. By the last week of April, her army numbered between 3,000 & 4,000 men.

On April 29, Joan & her troops snuck past the English & entered Orleans. Until their arrival, the city's mood had been close to despair. The English siege had been going on for several months.



Joan claimed that ____ appeared to her.

- God
- Archangel Michael
- King Arthur
- the dauphin

Making Analogies:

Loire River : _____ :: Nile River : Egypt



Noticing differences: How were Joan & Charles noticeably different? _____

 _____ (2 pts.)



How did Charles assist Joan in letting her "have her way"? _____

Thinking Beyond the Text: Why was it unusual that Joan of Arc became an influential person during the Middle Ages? _____

There seemed no way to lift it. Now Joan's clear, direct leadership sparked enthusiasm. Many of the townspeople believed she had indeed been sent by god.

First, Joan asked the English to surrender...& they laughed at the idea of surrendering to a woman! So, Joan & her troops met the English in several battles. The most important one was on May 7th. Joan was wounded in the shoulder by an arrow, but the English were defeated & driven from the city's gates. Soon the French took several other towns as well.

Joan had succeeded in the first of her two goals. Fresh from victory, she became impatient to win the second. She told the dauphin that the time was right for his crowning. *As king*, Charles would get more respect from his subjects.

By custom, French kings were crowned in a majestic cathedral in the northern town of Reims. To get there, the king's party would have to travel through enemy territory. Joan & the army led the way. They won several military victories along the route. On July 16th, the dauphin became King Charles VII. Joan stood at his side, her banner in her hand. "Gentle king," she said, "the will of God is now fulfilled."

Once Charles became king, he showed a will of his own. Joan wanted him to drive the enemy from Paris, but Charles refused. Joan, meanwhile, began to feel that she did not have long to live. Impatient to complete her mission, she went to Paris herself. While fighting in a nearby town in May of 1430, she was captured by the enemy.

They could have killed her on the spot. Instead, they decided to make use of her. Though Joan had been fighting only a year, she had become important to the French. The English wanted to weaken French faith in her.

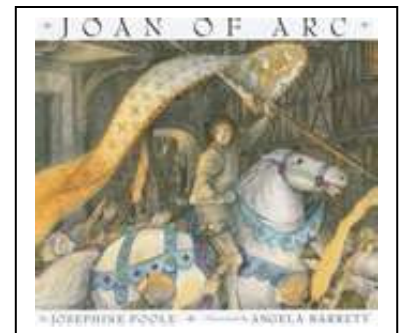
They moved Joan from castle to castle. Finally, they imprisoned her in the town of Rouen near the coast. They left her in the hands of a French bishop who was bitterly opposed to Charles VII. The bishop assembled a Church court which held views similar to his.



*How did Joan **do** in battle? Explain.*

Drawing Conclusions:

How was the "will of God now fulfilled"? _____



How did King Charles show that he had a "will of his own"? _____

*Why did Joan's enemies **NOT** immediately kill her?*

- They were mesmerized by her beauty.
- They wished to use her & weaken French faith in her.
- They wanted her skill & knowledge of warfare
- OH! But they did!*

From February to May 1431, Joan was questioned, *heckled* & threatened. She was told that she could not claim she knew God's will better than the clergy did. She was called a sinner. Her captors would not allow her to attend mass unless she wore women's clothing. But Joan stubbornly refused to back down. She would *not* wear women's clothes because she wanted to be treated as a warrior. She would not renounce her voices, for that would be a lie.

It soon became clear that Joan was to be burned at the stake as a witch. After several months of torment, she wavered in her thinking. She gave in to the Church court. She even put on women's clothes. But her change of heart lasted only a few days. Finally, she informed her judge that she was sorry that she had given in. She was *now* ready to die for her beliefs!

On May 30, 1431, Joan was taken to the old market square in Rouen. She was chained to a stake in the middle of some firewood. A torch was put to the wood & a wisp of smoke rose. Then the smoke turned to flame, & Joan cried out, "Jesus!" Within a few minutes, she was dead.

King Charles had *not lifted a finger to save her*... Joan became a folk heroine to the French. Yet, her victories did not end the Hundred Year's War. In 1436, Charles VII won by treaty what Joan had not won in battle ~ the city of Paris. Still, the war dragged on.

It did not come to an end until 1453. In that year the French drove the English from the coastal city of Bordeaux. Now, the English were left with only one last foothold on French soil. This was the port city of Calais.

The war broke the ties between France & England. Back in 1337, the English had been near-relatives to the French. Now England began to think of itself as England. And France came to think of itself as France.

Finding synonyms: "To **heckle**" is to be ____.

- a. jeered
- b. booed
- c. taunted
- d. all the above
- e. a & b only
- f. only a & c



Why did Joan refuse to wear women's clothes? _____

Higher Level Thinking Vocabulary: True or False?

To be ready to "**die for a higher cause**" would make Joan of Arc a **martyr**.

(Don't know the word? Please look it up!)

Joan ultimately **died by:**

- a. the slings & arrows of love.
- b. hanging.
- c. burning at the stake.
- d. imprisonment in a castle.



BONUS: Why do you think the French king *didn't* do more to save Joan? _____

