

Russia's Two Ivans Name: _____ Prd: ___ Score: _____ /20

Directions: Highlight the answer in the text on the left before answering the questions on the right.

Suddenly there was the sound of galloping horses. Then a crowd of horsemen thundered down upon the peaceful village. They slashed to the left & right as they galloped, striking down men, women & children! Then, as quickly as the invaders had come, they rode away. Every building had been burned to the ground!

That was what happened again & again in Russia in the Middle Ages. The villagers were Russians & the invaders were **Tartars**, a Mongol people from the plains of central Asia. Mongol warriors never attacked unless they were *sure* they could win. And they rarely left an enemy alive!

The Tartars came to Russia to expand their empire. In those days Russia was a slice of eastern Europe which stretched from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea. When the Mongols first arrived, Russia's leading city was Kiev. Under Mongol control, a smaller city began to grow in importance. This city was **Moscow**, capital of the state of Muscovy.

Moscow was governed by the Grand Princes of Muscovy. **Ivan III** was known as Ivan the Great. He became Grand Prince of Moscow in 1462. He added to the family land in every way possible ~ by war, purchase, treaty or marriage. Under Ivan, the region of Muscovy grew to be about three times the size of Texas.

In 1472, Ivan made a *very clever* marriage. He wed Zoe Paleologue, niece of the last Byzantine emperor. Byzantine rulers had **absolute power** over their subjects. After marrying Zoe, Ivan assumed the same kind of *total* power as the Byzantine rulers, & Zoe encouraged him in this. She also insisted that he call himself "czar of all Russia." The word **czar** (or **tsar**) was a Slavic form of the Latin word "caesar." It literally meant "king" or ruler with *supreme* worldly & spiritual power.



What was the ultimate plan of the Mongols?

- a. to leave no enemy alive
- b. to burn every building to the ground
- c. to kill men, women & children
- d. all the above
- e. a & c only
- f. b & c only

Tartars were invaders *from* _____.

- a. the Baltic & Black Seas
- b. the central Asia plains
- c. eastern Europe
- d. Russia

T or F (circle 1): Tartars would *never* attack unless they were positive they would win.

Ivan III was *nicknamed* _____

& was able to *increase* the size of his territory *called* _____.

Applying past knowledge:

A term for "absolute power" is

- a. totalitarian
- b. democracy
- c. monarchy
- d. republic

The word **czar** comes *from* the Latin word _____.

What great Roman general by the same name was *assassinated on the Senate steps*? _____



The Tartars continued to trouble Moscow. But by 1480, Ivan felt strong enough to defy them. He *refused* to pay them their usual **tribute**. Russian & Tartar armies started to march toward each other, meeting at the Ugra River, but neither side wanted to strike the 1st blow. In the end, both armies simply turned around & went home! Ivan claimed a victory, & the Tartars, for the time being, left Russia alone.

Besides expanding Russia, Ivan wanted to create political & religious order. He made laws which governed all of Russia. Although he refused an alliance with the pope, he was very **pious**. In Moscow, he built the **Kremlin**, an enclosed area holding six magnificent churches. The churches had onion-shaped roofs covered in gold leaf. Today, they still stand.

The Russian Church had grown out of the Orthodox Church of the Byzantine Empire. That empire collapsed when Constantinople fell to the Turks in 1453. The Russians believed that the leadership of the Church had been passed on to them. Later, Russian rulers made their conquests *in the name of Christianity*.

Most importantly, though, Ivan set up a social order (hierarchy) in Russia. It was to last for centuries. He granted land to nobles called boyars. In return, they had to give Ivan military service. The boyars mostly benefited from the arrangement. The peasants who worked their lands, however, did not. Before Ivan's rule, they rented land & were free to leave if they wished. Now they were **serfs** & *legally bound to the land*.

Ivan's grandson, **Ivan IV**, expanded Russia even further. He was determined to increase his own political authority. That meant destroying the power of the Russian nobles. Ivan had many members of the old nobility put to death! His use of terror earned him the title "Ivan the Terrible."

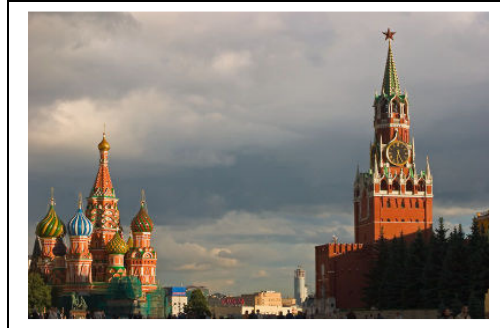
T or F (circle 1): **Tribute** is another word for **tax**.

What was the *actual* outcome of the battle between the Russian & Tartar armies?

- a. Russians won c. "a draw"
b. Tartars won d. none of the above

A **synonym** for "**pious**" is _____. (*Don't know? Look it up!*)

- a. disrespectful c. rude
b. religious d. flippant



↑ The Kremlin

BONUS: During the Middle Ages, the *exchange of* "a land grant for military service" was called _____.

Recalling past knowledge: What other period of time had "**serfs tied to the land**"?

- a. Egypt c. Greece
b. Middle Ages d. Rome

How did **Ivan IV** come to be known as "**Ivan the Terrible**"?



To some Russians, though, Ivan IV was a hero. He ruled a vast territory to the east & southeast of Moscow. During his reign, contact was made with the West. The English opened a route to Moscow by way of the Arctic Ocean & the White Sea.

In 1584, Queen Elizabeth of England sent several representatives to Ivan IV. *Suppose* that one of them recorded his impressions in a letter to his wife. *It might have gone this way...*



My dearest Rosalind, May 9th, 1584

Today we met with **Czar Ivan** for the first time. He seems to be a rather old, tired man. But he was very glad to see us. He spoke of how he wants to trade with England. He is especially interested in buying weapons from us.

I am lucky that I managed to learn some Russian on the ship coming here. The court gossip is very exciting. Everyone is nervous. They say that the czar is crazy! No one can predict what he'll do next.

Today I overheard some old servants talking about Ivan's life. They say he had a very unhappy childhood. After his father & mother died, the boyars took power. They mistreated Ivan till he was 14. Then, he had himself crowned czar! Ever since then, he has mistrusted the boyars.

But Ivan was happy after he married for the first time. His wife was a noble-woman named **Anastasia**. They say he loved her very much. While they were married, Ivan was a very successful ruler. The serfs liked him because he cut their taxes. He let towns & villages choose their own officials. And he organized a good army. He also conquered many lands & protected Moscow from the Tartars.

Everything changed when his wife died. The nobles say that she died naturally. But Ivan was convinced that she was poisoned. That was when he started to earn the title "**Ivan the Terrible**." He dismissed his good advisors as he trusted no one! He *married* six different women & *divorced them all!*

Why was Ivan IV considered a hero to some?

1) _____

2) _____

(There are more answers than 2.)



What childhood events helped shape Ivan IV into "Ivan the Terrible"?

1) _____

2) _____

(There are 3 answers; pick 2.)

Ivan married a woman of noble birth named _____ & became a successful ruler because 1) _____

& 2) _____

What do you assume caused Ivan IV's change in personality?



At one point, he threatened to abandon the throne. When the people begged him to return, he began to act like a madman. He started to make fun of the Church. He hired 6,000 men & dressed them as monks. But instead of doing *good* deeds & praying, Ivan's "monks" did nothing but steal from & terrorize Russians. They killed & tortured many boyars as well as the clergy!

Tartars took advantage of this disorder to attack Russian cities & towns. They even *burned down most of Moscow*. At least the beautiful Kremlin was saved!

But the most terrible thing was yet to come. Two years ago, Ivan's son & heir got his father angry... & Ivan hit the boy over the head with a heavy stick! He was sorry afterwards, *but his son died!!* Now everyone is worried about what will happen after Ivan dies. His other son, **Fedor**, appears to be **simpleminded**. They say he could *never* rule Russia!

I predict that there will be a great deal of unrest here very soon. Ivan looks like he will not live much longer. I only hope that we can make a trade agreement quickly.

Your loyal husband,
William



Ivan died the same year as the visit of Queen Elizabeth's representatives. Under his leadership, Russia doubled in size. But a great deal of blood was spilled.

As many people predicted, Fedor could not rule Russia. The crown went through many different hands in the years to follow. And the Russian people would wait years for another strong ruler.



← Throne of Ivan IV
How were Ivan's monks different from other monks of his time period?

How did Ivan IV's son die?

To be **simpleminded** is to be:

(Look it up in a thesaurus!)



➔ Ivan with his dying son

What happened to Russia *after Fedor failed to lead it well?* _____
