



Trade and Conflict in Ancient Egypt

The Battle of Megiddo

1. Complete this cloze passage activity to demonstrate your understanding of the key facts from the Battle of Megiddo. Choose the correct terms from the word bank to write in each space.

tribute	horsemen	gods	single-file	Thutmose III	broke
gates	vassal states	garments	Amun	animals	12 000
Egyptian	watching	desert	moat	dangerous	walls

With _____ men under his command, Thutmose set off across the _____. It took weeks to cross. They had 2500 _____ with them for transportation and food.

Meanwhile at Megiddo the king of Kadesh had raised an army of 10 to 15 000 men. Thutmose had a choice of three routes into Megiddo. He chose the most _____ route through a valley so narrow that his troops would have to walk _____. His generals pleaded with him to take a less dangerous path. But, figuring his enemy would use this same logic, Thutmose took the risk.

Thutmose was right in his assessment - the king of Kadesh had placed his infantry along the two easier routes and a few scouts on the path from the south. Thutmose sent _____ ahead to take out the enemy scouts that were _____ the path. Thutmose's army met little resistance on the way to Megiddo, advancing quickly. With most of the king of Kadesh's army far away, his remaining troops hastily organised themselves to defend Megiddo.

The next morning the Egyptians attacked. Their superior numbers and efficient organisation meant they _____ the enemy line almost immediately. The Kadesh Coalition fighters retreated into the walled city, closing the _____ behind them. Instead of continuing the attack, the Egyptian army ransacked the abandoned camps. After the gates were closed, people and chariots were pulled over the fortified _____ using ropes made from _____ that had been tied together.

Thutmose's army, missing the opportunity to take the city quickly, laid siege to the city. It





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would last for seven long months. Thutmose built a _____ and a barricade around Megiddo, trapping the people inside the city walls. When the starving inhabitants finally surrendered, the Egyptians looted the city. Thutmose's army took about 350 prisoners, almost 1000 chariots, weapons, and over 25 000 head of livestock. The city itself and its citizens were spared.

Thutmose demanded that the sons of the defeated kings from the coalition of _____ be sent to Egypt to be educated in the ways of the Egyptians. So when they returned to their homeland, these princes would govern in a manner that favoured _____ interests. Egypt also imposed their system of _____ – or taxes – on conquered peoples to boost the Egyptian economy and to prevent defeated enemies from rebuilding their armies.

Thutmose gave gifts to the _____ to thank them for a successful war campaign. Offerings, which included gold, gems and other costly items, were collected on behalf of the gods by the powerful priests of _____. We need to keep in mind that this account is given from the Egyptian perspective and seeks to glorify the reign of _____.

