

Vocabulary Chapter 8

Victory or Death

1. accost(ed)
2. clemency
3. *en masse*
4. expediency
5. furlough
6. Gothic
7. impetuous
8. machinations
9. malignant
10. perfidy
11. privations
12. satiate
13. stoicism
14. subversive
15. vacillated

Questions Chapter 8 Victory or Death

1. To what position was Sam Houston elected under the auspices of Texas' provisional government?
2. List two of the problems besetting the Volunteer Army of Texas as it besieged San Antonio.
3. What did the Texans hope would happen in Mexico when they heard of the defeat of General Cos at San Antonio?
4. Why didn't Houston take Governor Smith's suggestion and gather troops himself and disperse the subversive General Council?
5. Why did Dr. Grant want to invade Mexico?
6. What order did Houston send to Neill regarding the Alamo?
7. Why was Santa Anna's arrival in February somewhat of a surprise?
8. For what purpose(s) were delegates gathered in Washington-on-the-Brazos in late February?
9. Why did Bowie eventually relinquish full command of the Alamo to Travis?
10. How did Travis answer Santa Anna's demand to surrender?
11. Why did Fannin give up in his attempt to aid the men at the Alamo?
12. Why were Santa Anna's officers horrified when they heard their leader's plan to attack the Alamo?
13. On the morning of March 7, 1836, how did Houston discern that the Alamo had probably fallen?

Discussion/Essay Questions Chapter 8

Victory or Death

1. Describe the difficulties General Houston experienced in trying to do his job as Commander-in-Chief. What was his main obstacle, and how did he respond to the situation?
2. Briefly describe Dr. James Grant and James Walker Fannin. What were their primary motivations?
3. Why was General Cos' defeat at the hands of the Texans humiliating to the Mexicans?
4. Why was it wrong for Fannin to promise the volunteers that they would be paid out of the "spoils" of the enemy?
5. Explain what Houston meant when he said to the delegates in Washington that "Without it [a government] we would be nothing but outlaws, . . ."

Test Chapter 8 Victory or Death

Name _____

Matching

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| _____1. machination | A. rash; impulsive |
| _____2. impetuous | B. barbarous; uncivilized |
| _____3. <i>en masse</i> | C. secret plot, scheme, or intrigue |
| _____4. privations | D. lack of the ordinary necessities or comforts of life |
| _____5. perfidy | E. betrayal of trust; treachery |
| | F. as a group, as a whole |

Multiple Choice

- _____1. William Travis answered Santa Anna's demand for surrender
- A. by sending Juan Seguin as a messenger
 - B. by a volley from Crockett's riflemen
 - C. by raising a flag
 - D. by a cannon shot
- _____2. In late February of 1836, delegates gathered in Washington-on-the-Brazos
- A. to impeach Governor Smith
 - B. to create a new state government
 - C. to declare Texas independent of Mexico and create a new government
 - D. to hold a council of war
- _____3. Sam Houston sent an order to Commander Neill at the Alamo
- A. telling him to demolish the place and evacuate, but leaving the final decision to him
 - B. encouraging him to continue fortifying the structure
 - C. telling him to never surrender or retreat
 - D. telling him that he would be bringing a group of men from Gonzales

- _____4. When Mexico heard of Cos' defeat at San Antonio, Texans hoped that
- A. Many Mexicans would come north and join them
 - B. The Mexicans would be encouraged and rise up and depose Santa Anna
 - C. The Mexicans would not join Santa Anna and increase his numbers
 - D. The Mexicans would pay no attention
- _____5. Sam Houston did not take Governor Smith's suggestion to raise his own troops and disperse the subversive Council because
- A. He believed in the rule of law
 - B. It would have put Governor Smith and himself on the same level as Santa Anna
 - C. It would not have been honorable conduct
 - D. All of the above

Essay:

1. Briefly describe Dr. James Grant and James Walker Fannin. What were their primary motivations?

2. Why was General Cos' defeat at the hands of the Texans so humiliating to the Mexicans?

3. Explain what Houston meant when he said to the delegates that "Without it [a government] we would be nothing but outlaws, . . ."