

PAGE ENDEAVOR I & CHALLENGE II: A Damsel's Distress

KING LEXICON is a simulation set in the Age of Chivalry to involve students in interesting and challenging dictionary work. Just as knights relied on their weapons for survival and victory, students learn to rely on their dictionaries. Your knights-in-training practice the skills of alphabetizing, pronouncing, determining multiple meanings of a word, recognizing inflected forms of words, and studying word origins.

Preparation

- Obtain a set of dictionaries, one for each student. Find a good dictionary that contains biographical and geographical entries. Most intermediate dictionaries are suitable. Beginning dictionaries are usually too limited in scope and are not recommended.

Materials

- PAGE ENDEAVOR I — *class set + transparency (optional)*
- CHALLENGE II — *class set + transparency (optional)*
- Dictionaries — *class set*

Procedure

1. Distribute PAGE ENDEAVOR I. Suggest that students read the paragraph backward to discover the errors. When they do, they are to **circle** each spelling error, **underline** each capitalization error, and **insert or remove** punctuation marks where necessary.
2. Allow students 5–8 minutes to proofread PAGE ENDEAVOR I. Collect and correct or use the transparency to allow students to self-correct, then collect. Award points before the next class.
 - a. They earn 1 point for every error that they find.
 - b. They lose 1 point for every error that they create!

Answers:

Sentence	Error
----------	-------

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | <i>spelling</i> becomming/ becoming |
| 5 | <i>punctuation</i> missing period (.) after <i>write</i> |
| 6 | <i>spelling</i> eldarly/ elderly |
| 9 | <i>capitalization</i> need capital T for <i>they</i> (<i>They learned</i>) |
| 11 | <i>punctuation</i> needs period (.) after <i>squire</i> |



As a resource, we used both the Macmillan Dictionary for Students, Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers ©1984 and Scott, Foresman Intermediate Dictionary, Scott Foresman and Company ©1988. We only used a word in an activity if it appeared in both dictionaries.



PAGE ENDEAVOR I

7. Distribute a dictionary to every student and hand out CHALLENGE II: A Damsel's Distress. Students complete the Challenge *individually*. Read the directions, answer any questions, and have them begin work. Answers are:

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. H anise | 2. M dram |
| P toadstool | A medulla |
| H tansy | M scruple |
| P belladonna | M peck |
| H wormwood | A offal |
| P jimsonweed | M hogshead |



*CHALLENGE II:
A Damsel's Distress*

PAGE ENDEAVOR I

Name _____ Team Name _____

Directions: In Dictopolis while you are a page, you study words and practice alphabetizing them. You also learn to spot errors in spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. In each *Endeavor* there are five errors you must find. You may use your dictionary to help you. Circle each spelling error, underline each capitalization error, and insert or remove punctuation marks where needed. Work quickly. This endeavor is timed!

Page Training

The first step to becoming a knight is to be accepted as a page. Between the ages of seven and nine a page's training began. Women taught the boys manners, courtly conduct, and the refined graces of gentlemen. The boys waited on the ladies of the castle and ran errands. Some pages were even taught to read and write

After a few years of training the page would be assigned to an elderly knight. This assignment began his serious study of combat. All games the pages played helped them become skilled warriors. They learned to ride and how to use a crossbow, sword, and lance. They studied battle tactics and carried their knight's helmet, but they never went into battle. Upon completion of training, a page was given the silver spurs of a squire

Proof reading _____

CHALLENGE II: A Damsel's Distress

Name _____ Team Name _____

Lady Luckless, King Lexicon's niece, is suffering from a severe toothache. Dictopolis's magician is named Wordlin. He is trying to blend a poultice of herbs, spices, and bits and pieces of animals to relieve Lady Luckless's pain. Wordlin's books are so old and faded that the magician cannot read the recipes. Help Wordlin by answering the following.

1. Which of these are helpful herbs, and which are poisonous? Write **H** next to each helpful herb and **P** next to each poison.
2. Which of these is a measurement, and which of these is a part of an animal's body? Put **M** next to a unit of measurement. Put **A** next to animal parts.

_____ anise

_____ toadstool

_____ tansy

_____ belladonna

_____ wormwood

_____ jimsonweed

_____ dram

_____ medulla

_____ scruple

_____ peck

_____ offal

_____ hogshead