

# SELECTIVE READING

SCHOOL: MERCEDES LA CEIBA EDUCATION COMPLEX.

DATE:

STUDENT'S NAME:

SCORE:

OBJECTIVE: AT THE END OF THIS TASK, SWBAT:

- IMPROVE THEIR READING COMPREHENSION SKILL OF WRITTEN ENGLISH.
- IDENTIFY MAIN IDEAS, DETAILS, AND SPECIFIC INFORMATION FROM THE TEXT.
- UNDERSTAND HISTORICAL CONTEXT BY READING PASSAGES ABOUT HISTORY.

1 Read the following history passage attentively to understand the content and context thoroughly. Focus on grasping the main ideas, supporting details, and overall meaning of the text to enhance your reading comprehension skills.

## WHO WAS JOAN OF ARC?



Joan of Arc, renowned for her bravery, devotion, and French patriotism, continues to fascinate people long after her death. She was born into a peasant family in Domrémy, France, around 1412, during the turbulent Hundred Years' War (1337–1453) between France and England, which had left France's spirit broken and its monarchy in jeopardy.

Joan's life was deeply influenced by her strong religious beliefs. She believed she received visions and divine messages from Saints Michael, Catherine, and Margaret, guiding her to lead the French army to triumph and crown Charles VII as the rightful king. At just seventeen, she defied societal expectations and met with Charles, impressing him with her conviction and knowledge of religious prophecies. Charles granted her permission to lead a relief force to the besieged city of Orléans.

Her arrival in Orléans in 1429 was a game-changer in the war. Wearing white armor and carrying a banner with religious symbols, Joan led the French troops with passion, inspiring both soldiers and citizens alike. With strategic skill and tactical prowess, she successfully lifted the siege, boosting French morale and striking a significant blow to the English. This led to Charles VII's coronation at Reims Cathedral in 1429, cementing his claim to the throne.

However, Joan's fortunes reversed tragically. She was captured by Burgundian allies of the English and tried for heresy by an English-controlled church court. Joan's steadfast belief in her divine mission and her refusal to renounce her visions led to her being convicted. At nineteen, in 1431, she was burned at the stake in Rouen, France.

Yet, Joan's impact endured beyond her death. Almost 25 years later, a papal investigation cleared her of heresy, acknowledging her as a martyr for France. In 1920, the Catholic Church canonized Joan of Arc as a saint, confirming her status as a French national hero and an emblem of faith and bravery.

**Text adapted from:** *Joan of Arc | Biography, death, accomplishments, & Facts.* (2024, April 23). *Encyclopedia Britannica.*  
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Saint-Joan-of-Arc/Capture-trial-and-execution>



2 For each question, choose the option that best completes the sentence based on the information from the passage. Think critically about each option and consider how it relates to Joan of Arc's life and historical context.

1- Joan of Arc's rise to prominence was significantly influenced by her \_\_\_\_\_ beliefs.

- A. Political aspirations
- B. Religious convictions
- C. Military training
- D. Aristocratic connections

2- Joan's strategic prowess was evident in her successful leadership during the \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Hundred Years' War
- B. Siege of Orléans
- C. Coronation of Charles VII
- D. Battle of Agincourt

3- Joan's capture by the Burgundians marked a \_\_\_\_\_ turning point in the war.

- A. Positive
- B. Strategic
- C. Tragic
- D. Inconsequential

4- The charges of \_\_\_\_\_ led to Joan's trial and execution.

- A. Treason against the English crown
- B. Heresy against the Catholic Church
- C. Espionage for the French army
- D. Incompetence as a military leader.

5- Answer, from the passage, what evidence suggests Joan's leadership qualities?

