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UNIT 23: HOW THE DINOSAURS REALLY DIED

These scientists do think that an asteroid hit the Earth the time of the dinosaurs. But that wasn't what killed all of them. At that time, insects, including the mosquito, were beginning to *evolve*. Today, we can *regulate* the number of mosquitoes with *pesticides*. But that was impossible millions of years ago. The mosquitoes *multiplied* quickly. And they were certainly not idle. Since there were so many mosquitoes, it was easy for them to bite many of the dinosaurs. When they bit another living thing, the mosquitoes passed along a deadly disease. So the dinosaurs were *stricken* with the disease. A *vast majority* of them, from the *vegetarians* to the meat eaters, died.

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UNIT 28: THUCYDIDES AND THE PLAGUE OF ATHENS

In 430 BCE, an army attacked the city of Athens, where Thucydides lived. Thousands of people hid from the army behind Athens' large walls. The city became very crowded as the population **expanded**. Then a **horrific** disease broke out. People **summoned** doctors. But it was to no **avail** because no one understood how the disease spread. It seemed **random**. They didn't know that it was an **organism**. Instead, they **defined** disease as a punishment from their gods. Thucydides was **incredulous** that gods caused the plague, but he explained why others believed it. There was an old, long verse which predicted the disease. To **paraphrase** it, the verse said the gods would send a disease during a war. As a result, large crowds gathered at **shrines** to ask the gods to stop the plague. But the situation only **worsened** because these people were so close to each other they became sick. That's how they learned a **fundamental** lesson about the plague: it spread from person to person.

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