

The stranger _____ that his drilling machine could do more work than ten men.

"Impossible!" John Henry cried. "No machine can do more work than I can."

The stranger challenged John Henry to a contest. He wanted to prove what his _____ could do.

He pointed to a wall of rock. "Let's see who can drill through that!" Then he started his machine.

John Henry raised his _____.

John Henry and the machine worked. They worked all day and all night. They each broke through the thick wall, one rock at a time.

The next morning, dust and people were everywhere. A crowd had gathered to watch the contest.

They came to cheer for John Henry.

By noon, the stranger's machine began to _____. But John Henry was still going strong.

Suddenly, the machine hissed. Then it died. John Henry brought his hammer down for one final blow.

When the dust cleared, everyone saw that John Henry had broken through the rock wall!

"You won the _____!" they cried.

John Henry smiled. "Yes, I did," he said. "Now, I just want to get back to work."