



King Arthur

Long, long ago there ¹ _____ a famous king. His name was Arthur and he was the king of the Britons. King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table ² _____ many battles. Arthur's last battle was against his own son, Mordred, at Camlan. The armies ³ _____ fighting early in the morning and the battle lasted all day.

When they finished fighting, Mordred was dead and the king was badly ⁴ _____. Only one of Arthur's knights survived - Sir Bedivere. After the battle of Camlan, Sir Bedivere took the wounded king to the island of Avalon. The island was in the middle of a lake. Arthur ⁵ _____ the lake well. He remembered the day when he received his magic sword, Excalibur, from the Lady of the Lake. That was a long time ago; he ⁶ _____. Then he said to Sir Bedivere: 'I need to return Excalibur to the lake before I die. But he was too weak to move, so the knight ⁷ _____ to take the sword. "Throw the sword out into the middle of the lake," said the king. Sir Bedivere promised to do it. The knight stood on the shore of the lake and looked at Excalibur. It was such a beautiful sword. He couldn't ⁸ _____ throwing it away. He decided to keep it. On the way back to the king, he stopped to hide the sword in the bushes. 'Have you done it?' asked King Arthur, when the knight ⁹ _____. 'Yes, Your Majesty,' said Sir Bedivere. The king smiled. 'Tell me,' he said. 'What did you see?' "Nothing," said the knight. The king stopped smiling. 'You didn't throw the sword into the lake,' he said. 'Go back and do it.' Sir Bedivere didn't want to ¹⁰ _____ the sword into the water, but he agreed to do it and went back to the lake. He picked up the sword and started to throw it, but he couldn't do it. He ¹¹ _____ the sword again and went back to the king. Again, the king asked him: 'What did you see?' 'Nothing happened,' he said. 'The sword just fell into the water.' King Arthur was very angry. He ¹² _____ to believe the knight's story. 'I see that I must do it myself,' he said, and he tried to stand up.

Vocabulary

Crown /kraʊn/ a circle decoration for the head, usually made of gold and jewels.

Armor /'aː.mər/ strong protective covering, especially for the body.

Helmet /'hel.mət/ a strong hard hat that covers and protects the head.

Flag /flæg/ a piece of cloth that has a pattern which shows it represents a country.

Knight /naɪt/ a man given a rank of honor by a British king or queen because of his special achievements.

Shield /ʃɪld/ a large flat object made of metal or leather that soldiers held in front of their bodies for protection

Battle /'bæt.l/ a fight between armed force

Wound /wuːnd/ a damaged area of the body, such as a cut or hole in the skin by a weapon

Sword /sɔːd/ a weapon with a long sharp metal blade and a handle.

Bush /buʃ/ a plant with many small branches growing either directly from the ground or from a hard woody stem, giving the plant a rounded shape.

Refuse /rɪ'fjuːz/ to say that you will not do or accept something.

Put the right word in each blank. The sentences are from the text.

hid gave throw fought decided wounded

took told

1. Sir Bedivere _____ the king to Avalon.
2. The king was badly _____ in the battle.
3. Arthur _____ to throw the sword into the lake himself.
4. King Arthur _____ Mordred at Camlan.
5. Arthur _____ Excalibur to Sir Bedivere.
6. The knight _____ the sword in the bushes.
7. Sir Bedivere didn't _____ the sword in the lake himself.
8. The king _____ the knight to go back to the lake.

Make three sentences using the words below:

Badly:

Refuse:

Promise: