

Part 4

Questions 27 to 32 are based on an article about Malacca.

Six (6) sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A to H the one which fits each gap (27 to 32). There are two extra sentences which you do not need to use.

Mark your answer on the answer sheet.

Malacca: History & Legends

Malacca's history and legends go back as far as the late 14th century, starting from its humble beginnings as a coastal village and rise to prominence under the Malaccan Sultanate to cautionary tales of fairies and loyalty to the king.

Locals believe the state was the impetus towards the development of what would eventually become Malaysia. In 1396, a Sumatran prince by the name of Parameswara fled his country out of fear of the attacking Majapahit Empire. 27 He then established himself on the island that is now known as Singapore. A few years later, he was driven out by a Thai-controlled army and once again, was left scouting for a new piece of land.

Eventually, he moved up the West Coast of Malaysia and founded Malacca. 28 A mouse deer kicked his hunting dogs into the river when they attacked it. Declaring the place to be auspicious, he decided to set up shop and named the place after the tree under which he was resting, Melaka.

In 1414, Parameswara converted to Islam, leading him to become Sultan of Malacca. The city was also growing into a prominent trading ground for traders from across Asia, notably India, Arabia and China. 29 Malacca also established contact with the Chinese empire through the explorer Zheng He.

A century later, the Portuguese came, saw and conquered Malacca in 1511. This was a milestone for the Western colonists looking to extend their empire to the East Indies. 30 With the help of the Sultan of Johor (descended from a Malaccan Sultan), the Dutch captured the port and ruled over it until 1795, when Malacca was ceded to the British under an exchange programme for Batavia (Jakarta) in Indonesia.

The British East India Company developed Malacca and spread their influence all over Malaya, enforcing control over the trade industry and employing governors to rule each state. 31 Finally, Malacca, along with the rest of Malaya received her independence in 1957, paving the way for the future, which is today.

During the time of Malacca's Sultanate, many legends and stories were told, including of Hang Tuah, a warrior with superior skill and had utmost loyalty to the Sultan. The Malaccan officials were jealous of Hang Tuah's favour with the Sultan. 32 The Sultan ordered Hang Tuah to be put to death.

(Adapted from: www.malacca.ws/info/history-legend.htm)

- A However, Tjén Perak hid him away instead, believing in his innocence.
- B Legend says that he was resting under a tree when he saw an incident.
- C As a result, many Chinese migrants settled here during this time.
- D They accused him of infidelity.
- E The Company was replaced by direct administration.
- F Malacca continued to prosper under Portuguese rule until the Dutch came into the picture.
- G Landing in Temasek, he killed the local ruler.
- H He was to protect the territory from Siamese forces.