

The Prince: Chapter Questions

Read *The Prince*. Answer the following questions in complete sentences that restate the questions as part of your answers. You know...

Dedication:

- A. For whom is the book written?
- B. What is Machiavelli's purpose in writing *The Prince*?

Chapter 1

- 1. All governments of men and States have been ruled two ways. What are those two ways?

Chapter 2

- 2. Define and explain the difference between an Hereditary state and a New state.
- 3. Which are easier to govern: Hereditary states or New states. Explain Machiavelli's and your reasoning.

Chapter 3

- 4. Why is a mixed Princedom so hard to maintain?
- 5. What are two strategies a Prince must do to maintain a newly acquired mixed state?
- 6. "Men are either to be kindly treated or utterly crushed, since they can avenge lighter injuries, but not graver." What does this quote mean?
- 7. "The Prince ... ought to make himself the head and protector of his feebler neighbors and endeavor to weaken the stronger...." What does this mean?
- 8. Name the five blunders that Louis XII made in his campaign in the Italian states?
- 9. "...never suffer your designs be crossed to avoid war, since war is not to be avoided, but is only deferred to your disadvantage." What does this mean?

Chapter 4

- 10. Which is harder to obtain? Sole-Princship (Dictatorship) or a Princedom with Barons (Absolute Monarchy)? Why?
- 11. Which is harder to retain? Sole-Princships(Dictatorship) or a Princedom with Barons (Absolute Monarchy)? Why?

Chapter 5

- 12. What are the three methods whereby a Princedom previously free should be governed/dealt with?

Chapter 6

- 13. Do merit of a prince and fortune go hand in hand? Explain.
- 14. Why do leaders of Change have such a difficult time?
- 15. Which is better? To attempt and carry out change by Force or by Treaty? Why?

Chapter 7

- 16. Why is a Princedom acquired by Fortune (define) easy to acquire, but hard to maintain?
- 17. What are the four things that a new prince should do to maintain hold of his state?

Chapter 8

- 18. What are the two ways a man can become prince aside from fortune or merit?
- 19. Explain the meaning of the following quote: "Injuries should be inflicted all at once, that their ill savour being less lasting may the less offend: Whereas, benefits should be conferred little by little that so they may be more relished."
- 20. How can a prince who arises to power by wickedness survive and thrive?

Chapter 9

- 21. What would make a noble elect one of their own as Prince?
- 22. Why would regular citizens elect one of their own to become Prince?
- 23. Which is easier to govern and why: A princedom granted by nobles or one of citizens?

Chapter 10

- 24. What is the most important question a prince must answer as it pertains to his "Strength"?
- 25. If a Prince is not strong enough to conquer other territories, what should he do?

Chapter 11

- 26. What is the major benefit of an Ecclesiastical kingdom?
- 27. What were the two rules ALL of the Italian states agreed upon prior to the invasion of Charles? Why?

Chapter 12

28. What are the two foundations of all States?
29. What are the two major types of Arms a states can have?
30. What type of Arms is the best for a Prince to have in his state and why?
31. What is the Prince's role in the military during battle?

Chapter 13

32. How do Auxiliary arms differ from the previous two mentioned in a Chapter 12?
33. Why does Machiavelli cite the story of David and Goliath?
34. Why is a Princedom without a Pure national army always in danger?

Chapter 14

35. What is the only true care a Prince should have? Why?
36. How can a Prince be active during times of Peace? Explain.

Chapter 15

37. Why is it dangerous for a prince to be all Good or Not Good?

Chapter 16

38. What is the ideal way for a Prince to demand payment and collect taxes?
39. Should a Prince behave the same with what is his and what he acquires through conquest? Explain.

Chapter 17

40. How should a Prince be thought of as it pertains to mercy and cruelty?
41. What lessons must a Prince learn as to being loved or feared?
42. Is it better to be loved or feared?

Chapter 18

43. What are the two ways to live? What is the disadvantage of each?
44. Is it best for a Prince to be a Lion or a Fox? Explain.
45. Is it best for a Prince to BE good or just APPEAR to be good?

Chapter 19

46. *How should a Prince avoid being despised or hated?
47. What are the two dangers a Prince can be exposed to? What can he do about these?

Chapter 20

48. What advantage does a prince have in creating hostility against himself in part of his kingdom?
49. Is there a difference between someone fighting "For you, on your side" or "on your side against another enemy"?

Chapter 21

50. If a fight breaks out between two other Princes, what should a Prince do? Why?

Chapter 22

51. How are Princes judged by the company they keep?
52. What is the role of a Secretary/ Servant of a Prince?

Chapter 23

53. Who should a Prince listen to for advice?
54. When and why should a Prince listen to anyone for advice?

Chapter 24

55. Why did the Italians of the early 16th century lose their lands?

Chapter 25

56. What is the role of Free Will in a Prince's fate?
57. What is one of the most critical attributes a Prince must have in dealing with fate? Fortune? (Why is Fortune a woman?)

Chapter 26

58. Who does Machiavelli say should lead the revival?