**Battle of Thermopylae Reading Questions**

Read the web page below and answer the following questions:

[A summary of the Battle of Thermopylae - History Skills](https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/ancient-history/anc-thermopylae-reading/)

1. In what year did the Battle of Thermopylae take place?
2. How big was the initial army mustered by the Greeks?
3. Why was Thermopylae a good place for the Greeks to defend?
4. Why did Sparta only send a small force of 300 soldiers to Thermopylae?
5. Why were Greek ships sent to Artemesium?
6. How many men were probably in Xerxes’ army?
7. What kinds of military units did the Persians use?
8. How did the Persians manage to encircle the Greeks?
9. What did Leonidas order the bulk of the Greek forces to do?
10. What did Leonidas hope to achieve by delaying the Persians?
11. What happened to Leonidas?
12. What happened to the Persian fleet?
13. Who took charge of the Spartans after Leonidas’ death?
14. Where did the Spartans expect the next defensive battle to occur?
15. What battles occurred after Thermopylae between the Greeks and Persians?

**Paragraph Writing**

Based upon what you have learnt in your readings, answer the question below in paragraph format (Topic Sentence, Explanation, Evidence, Concluding Sentence):

*Despite being a defeat for the Greek forces, why is the Battle of Thermopylae considered a* [*significant*](http://www.historyskills.com/historical-knowledge/significance/) *historical event?*