

The King and the Mystic

Read and answer the questions please.

The king of the land, who had been on the throne for as long as anyone could remember, was growing weak. His mind was beginning to slip from his grasp. He knew he would have to name a successor soon, but he had no children of his own and didn't know whom among his advisors were fit to earn that right. In his desperation, he turned to his loyal mystic.



The mystic had been loyal and obedient since he was a young boy. He would do anything asked of him by the king, no matter how difficult or dangerous. One morning after breakfast, he told the king that he needed time to make a plan on his request. The next day, he returned to the king with a solution.

In order for the mystic to properly determine if one of the nobles vying for the throne would be fit, he would have to test them in



ways that were impossible for even him to predict. He asked the king if he could borrow his advisors and their wisest men, as well as anyone else he deemed fit and willing. The king, in his weakened state, had no reason to say no.

The mystic gathered his candidates in a room and barred the door. He told them all that they were about to embark on a great test of will and skills that would determine who was worthy of becoming the next king.

Name : _____

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Read and answer the questions please.

1. Why was the king seeking a new successor?
2. Why did the king meet the mystic so desperately?
3. Write a few lines about the mystic.
4. What was the mystic's plan?
5. How did the mystic prepare for the test?

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