

# Word Power

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**Arabian Sources** Dozens of English words, from *admiral* to *zero*, have Arabic origins. How many do you know? Try our vocabulary quiz and puzzles. For answers, turn the page.

1. **cipher** ('sye-fur) *n.*—  
A: gentle breeze. B: musky perfume. C: encoded message.

2. **nadir** ('nay-deer or 'nay-der) *n.*—A: hub of a wheel. B: lowest point. C: polite refusal.

3. **loofah** ('loo-fuh) *n.*—  
A: sponge from a gourd. B: water pipe for smoking. C: slipper with curled toe.

4. **kismet** ('kiz-met) *n.*—  
A: lovers' tryst. B: journey on foot. C: fate.

5. **fakir** (fuh-'keer or 'fay-kur) *n.*—A: sham or fraud. B: holy beggar. C: tassel on a fez.

6. **macramé** ('mack-ruh-may) *n.*—A: two-masted ship. B: honeyed cereal. C: knot-tying art.

7. **popinjay** ('pah-pun-jay) *n.*—A: conceited person. B: skewer for kebabs. C: uninvited guest.

8. **mufti** ('muff-tee) *n.*—  
A: confusing situation. B: civilian dress. C: rodent.

9. **sirocco** (shuh-'rah-co) *n.*—A: hot, dry wind. B: head-to-foot gown. C: siege.

10. **carafe** (kuh-'raf) *n.*—A: slide rule. B: steep decline. C: bottle with a flared lip.

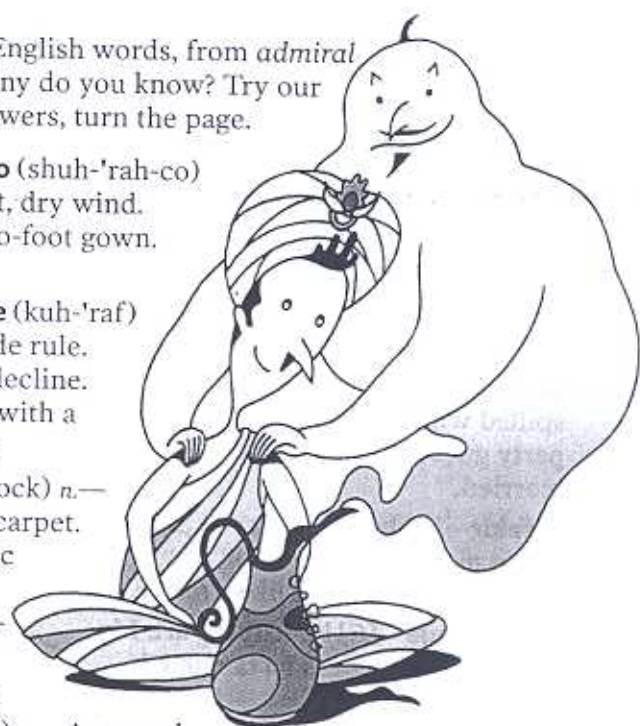
11. **roc** ('rock) *n.*—  
A: flying carpet. B: narcotic plant. C: legendary bird.

12. **henna** ('hen-nuh) *n.*—A: armed horseman. B: reddish-brown dye. C: nag.

13. **fatwa** ('faht-wah) *n.*—  
A: decree. B: sneak attack. C: period of feasting.

14. **borax** ('bore-ax) *n.*—  
A: desert-dwelling spider. B: weaving tool. C: mineral used as a cleansing agent.

15. **alchemy** ('al-kuh-mee) *n.*—A: chaos. B: forerunner of chess. C: process of transmuting substances.



16. **elixir** (ill-'ick-sur) *n.*—  
A: collarbone. B: cure-all. C: happiness.

## The Last Word

Add a letter in each blank square to spell a word reading down. The nine new letters will spell a word that meant, in its original Persian, "The king is unable to escape."

T	N		R	S	A		S	
O	I	L	E	W	D	E		R
N	C	I		A		R	A	A
I		T	A	N	E	I	I	S
		E	E	P		N	E	D

**Riddle** The letters in each word or phrase below can be rearranged to form a common English word with an Arabic root. See how many you can unscramble. 1. mile 2. melon 3. Argus 4. coeval 5. microns 6. replica 7. smart set

## THE INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION AND THE ARYANS

### The Indus Valley Civilization

Read the first sentence below. Then, based upon the information you have read, decide whether choice **a** or choice **b** is a **true statement**. Circle your answer. Do 2 through 8 in the same way. The sentences refer to the Indus Valley civilization, the first civilization in India.

- (1) The towering Himalaya and Hindu Kush mountain ranges divided the Indian subcontinent from the rest of Asia.
  - (a) About half the people of India earned a living by raising goats and sheep on the mountain slopes.
  - (b) The mountains limited travel and communication, and kept the Indus Valley civilization nearly isolated from the rest of the world for a thousand years.
- (2) Scholars have not been able to translate the written language of the Indus Valley people.
  - (a) Not as much is known about the civilization of ancient India as is known about the civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt.
  - (b) The Indus Valley people kept almost no written records.
- (3) The summer monsoon blew across the Indian Ocean to India between June and September.
  - (a) The hot, dry winds of the summer monsoon made it difficult to grow crops and work outside.
  - (b) The summer monsoon lowered temperatures and brought heavy rains that enabled farmers to grow the food needed for survival.
- (4) At the sites of the ancient cities of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro, archaeologists have uncovered the ruins of houses, public buildings, shops, granaries, and extensive sewer systems.
  - (a) These two cities were destroyed by floods caused by the monsoon.
  - (b) The people of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro used their knowledge of surveying and geometry, and a strong central government, to plan and construct their cities.
- (5) The people of the Indus Valley were "polytheistic."
  - (a) They worshipped a mother-goddess and a three-faced god, and considered certain animals and trees to be sacred.
  - (b) They worshipped one all-powerful god who determined the kind of life they would live in the next world after death on earth.
- (6) The economy of the Indus Valley civilization was based on agriculture.
  - (a) Indian traders made huge profits by exporting gold, silver, diamonds, and other valuable minerals to Europe and the Americas.
  - (b) More people grew wheat, barley, melons, and dates than made handicrafts and manufactured goods.
- (7) Farmers grew more crops than were needed to feed their families.
  - (a) Because there were crop surpluses, farm prices fell and many farmers were driven out of business.
  - (b) Extra food was sent to the cities to feed a growing number of artisans, merchants, government officials, and skilled workers.
- (8) India's first civilization began to decline in the years before 1500 B.C.
  - (a) The government grew weak, work standards and trade declined, and invaders from the north overran the country.
  - (b) The Indus Valley civilization was eventually destroyed by famine, floods, and disease.

## BUDDHISM

The religion known as Buddhism was founded by Siddhartha Gautama. He lived between 560 B.C. and 480 B.C. Siddhartha was a prince in Nepal, a country north of India in the Himalayan foothills. As a young man, he was surrounded by luxury and great wealth. His parents made sure he never saw anything that was sad or unpleasant.

One day, Siddhartha left the palace and journeyed to the outside world. For the first time, he saw old age, sickness, and death. These sights shocked him and changed the course of his life.

Siddhartha gave up his kingdom and left his wife and children to search for the reasons why men experience suffering and sadness. He wandered for six years through northern India without finding the answer. Then, while meditating under a tree, the answer came to him. When this happened, he became known as "Buddha," meaning the "Enlightened One," the one with spiritual knowledge. Buddha preached his first sermon in Deer Park in the Indian holy city of Benares. He dedicated the rest of his life to helping people overcome suffering.

Buddha's teachings included the "Four Noble Truths." The first truth was that suffering is a part of life. Also, because of man's actions in this life, he may be reborn into more suffering in the next life. The second truth stated that the origin of man's suffering is his desire for things he cannot have, and his attachment to material objects. The third truth taught that man must overcome his desires in order to get rid of suffering and find peace. The fourth truth showed man how to overcome desire by following the "Noble Eightfold Path." The Eightfold Path consisted of eight practices: (1) right faith (2) right resolve to resist evil (3) right speech (4) right action (5) right living (6) right effort (7) right thought, and (8) right meditation.

According to Buddha, man needed to go through several rebirths before he could overcome his desires. Those who finally rid themselves of all desires would reach "nirvana." In nirvana, man's soul would stop its cycle of rebirth and become one with the universe.

Buddha encouraged his followers to become monks and nuns in order to spread his teachings. At first, Buddhism was slow to spread in India because it was opposed by powerful Brahman priests who were leaders of the Hindu religion. However, during the 200s B.C., the Indian ruler Asoka made Buddhism the official religion. He sent missionaries to spread Buddhism to Central and East Asia. After Asoka's death, many Buddhist ideas were gradually absorbed into Hinduism, and Buddhism declined in importance in India. Today, Buddhism has less than a million followers in India, but it remains popular in China, Korea, Japan, and many countries of Southeast Asia.

Over the centuries, Buddhists divided into different "sects," or groups, just as Christians split into the Catholic and various Protestant sects. One sect, known as Mahayana Buddhism, was greatly influenced by Christian teachings. These Buddhists believe that Buddha was more than a teacher, that he was a god. They believe that nirvana is a paradise like the Christian heaven, and that saints can help men to reach nirvana. Another sect is called Theravada, or Hinayana Buddhism. It stresses that Buddha was simply a teacher, and that the holiest life is that followed by Buddhist monks. A third sect, known as Zen, became popular in Japan among the samurai warriors.

Buddhism greatly influenced art and architecture throughout Asia. Statues of Buddha and Buddhist temples are familiar sights. One such temple is the pagoda, a sacred pyramid-shaped tower that is frequently seen in China, Japan, and Korea. A pagoda has roofs curving upward in such a way that each story of the tower meets the next story above.



**Directions:** The words and names in the list below have been omitted from the story about Buddhism. Without looking at the first page, fill in the words and names in the appropriate spaces in the following story.

soul	story	Buddhism	death	material objects	evil
universe	Enlightened One	Gautama	prince	monks and nuns	effort
statues	unpleasant	nirvana	teacher	wife and children	Japan
peace	missionaries	pagoda	desires	Four Noble Truths	god
Zen	six years	samurai	Buddha	heaven	Asoka
Hinayana	Brahman priests	Benares	reborn	Noble Eightfold Path	Hindu

The religion known as Buddhism was founded by Siddhartha (1)\_\_\_\_\_. He lived between 560 B.C. and 480 B.C. Siddhartha was a (2)\_\_\_\_\_ in Nepal, a country north of India in the Himalayan foothills. As a young man, he was surrounded by luxury and great wealth. His parents made sure he never saw anything that was sad or (3)\_\_\_\_\_.

One day, Siddhartha left the palace and journeyed to the outside world. For the first time, he saw old age, sickness, and (4)\_\_\_\_\_. These sights shocked him and changed the course of his life. Siddhartha gave up his kingdom and left his (5)\_\_\_\_\_ to search for the reasons why men experience suffering and sadness. He wandered for (6)\_\_\_\_\_ through northern India without finding the answer. Then, while meditating under a tree, the answer came to him. When this happened, he became known as (7)“\_\_\_\_\_,” meaning the (8)“\_\_\_\_\_,” the one with spiritual knowledge. Buddha preached his first sermon in Deer Park in the Indian holy city of (9)\_\_\_\_\_. He dedicated the rest of his life to helping people overcome suffering.

Buddha's teachings included the (10) “\_\_\_\_\_.” The first truth was that suffering is a part of life. Also, because of man's actions in this life, he may be (11) \_\_\_\_\_ into more suffering in the next life. The second truth stated that the origin of man's suffering is his desire for things he cannot have, and his attachment to (12)\_\_\_\_\_. The third truth taught that man must overcome his desires in order to get rid of suffering and find (13)\_\_\_\_\_. The fourth truth showed man how to overcome desire by following the (14) “\_\_\_\_\_.” The Eightfold Path consisted of eight practices: (1) right faith (2) right resolve to resist (15)\_\_\_\_\_ (3) right

speech (4) right action (5) right living (6) right (16) \_\_\_\_\_ (7) right thought, and (8) right meditation.

According to Buddha, man needed to go through several rebirths before he could overcome his (17) \_\_\_\_\_. Those who finally rid themselves of all desires would reach (18) "\_\_\_\_\_." In nirvana, man's (19) \_\_\_\_\_ would stop its cycle of rebirth and become one with the (20) \_\_\_\_\_.

Buddha encouraged his followers to become (21) \_\_\_\_\_ in order to spread his teachings. At first, Buddhism was slow to spread in India because it was opposed by powerful (22) \_\_\_\_\_ who were leaders of the (23) \_\_\_\_\_ religion. However, during the 200s B.C., the Indian ruler (24) \_\_\_\_\_ made Buddhism the official religion. He sent (25) \_\_\_\_\_ to spread Buddhism to Central and East Asia. After Asoka's death, many Buddhist ideas were gradually absorbed into Hinduism, and Buddhism declined in importance in India. Today, (26) \_\_\_\_\_ has less than a million followers in India, but it remains popular in China, Korea, (27) \_\_\_\_\_, and many countries of Southeast Asia.

Over the centuries, Buddhists divided into different "sects," or groups, just as Christians split into the Catholic and various Protestant sects. One sect, known as Mahayana Buddhism, was greatly influenced by Christian teachings. These Buddhists believe that Buddha was more than a (28) \_\_\_\_\_, that he was a (29) \_\_\_\_\_. They believe that nirvana is a paradise like the Christian (30) \_\_\_\_\_, and that saints can help men to reach nirvana. Another sect is called Theravada, or (31) \_\_\_\_\_ Buddhism. It stresses that Buddha was simply a teacher, and that the holiest life is that followed by Buddhist monks. A third sect, known as (32) \_\_\_\_\_, became popular in Japan among the (33) \_\_\_\_\_ warriors.

Buddhism greatly influenced art and architecture throughout Asia. (34) \_\_\_\_\_ of Buddha and Buddhist temples are familiar sights. One such temple is the (35) \_\_\_\_\_, a sacred pyramid-shaped tower that is frequently seen in China, Japan, and Korea. A pagoda has roofs curving upward in such a way that each story of the tower meets the next (36) \_\_\_\_\_ above.