



NDOLA TRUST SCHOOL

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“Success through Hard Work”

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COMPREHENSION: END OF TERM ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 1

THE SLEEPING WARRIORS

In the enormous cavern somewhere in Scotland lie hundreds of sleeping warriors. They have slumbered for centuries. Their horses are asleep, too. They await the breaking of a spell placed upon them hundreds of years ago. They sleep until the time comes when Scotland shall need them.

Outside the carven hangs a horn upon which three blasts must be blown to rouse the sleepers to action. Once only has the horn been sounded, when a great crisis arose, and the men were needed. Someone went to arouse them. He blew the first blast. The warriors awoke and raised themselves upon their elbows. The horses shook their harness, and champed their bits. This so terrified the messenger that he fled.

There they lie in the darkness of the carven, awaiting the second and the third blasts that will never come. The horn is still there, too. But alas! no one knows where the carven is.

QUESTIONS

1. Why are the men and horses asleep in the carven?
2. When, according to the story, will they awaken?
3. How many times must the horn now be blown?
4. What is another word for hundreds of years?
5. When the horn blew, what happened (a) to the men; (b) to the horses?
6. What effect did this have upon the blower?
7. Why has no one gone to rouse the sleepers since that time?
8. It is necessary to arouse the sleeper because a great crisis arose. What do these words mean?

