

O

obliged, v. did a favor

offense, n. insult

opposition, n. a group of people who are against something

oral, adj. related to speaking or voice

outwitted, v. outsmarted

overwhelmed, v. felt unable to handle a situation

P

pageboys, n. young messengers

pardoned, v. forgave

peninsula, n. an area of land surrounded by water on three sides

persecution, n. the mistreatment of a person or group

pilgrimage, n. a journey to a place or shrine that is important to a religion

pincers, n. claws

pioneered, v. was among the first to explore or accomplish something

pious, adj. following a religion with dedication

plausible, adj. seems worthy of acceptance

ploy, n. a maneuver designed to fool an enemy

plummets, v. drops very fast

pondered, v. thought about

potent, adj. powerful

practical, adj. useful

preaching, v. speaking publicly, usually about religion

predators, n. animals that hunt other animals

predecessors, n. people who came before another

proceedings, n. happenings

prosperous, adj. successful

R

raiders, n. robbers

rampage, n. violent, destructive behavior

recitation, n. something spoken from memory (recite)

refined, v. improved

renowned, adj. famous

reputation, n. the opinion people hold about something or someone

resounded, v. echoed and repeated

retired, v. went to bed

revelation, n. the act of a god revealing himself or herself (or his or her will) to a person

rousing, adj. exciting

S

sacred, adj. holy

savvy, n. knowledgeable and clever

schism, n. division; split

scorching, adj. very hot

scribes, n. people who copied documents before modern printing was invented

scuttled, v. ran with hasty steps

self-loathing, n. a feeling of disgust about oneself