Lesson 16

emerged

developed

dominated

ruled

caravans

groups of merchants traveling together

merchants

people who buy and sell things for profit

diverse

including many kinds

monotheistic

believing in a single god

arid

very dry

shrine

a place that people visit to worship a god or remember areligious figure

domestication

the process of training animals to live with or work for people

conquests

acts of acquiring things or places through force

Lesson 17

inauspicious

not suggesting future success

Bedouins

Arabic people who live in the desert

predators

animals that hunt other animals

plummets

drops very fast

oral

related to speaking or voice

bustling

hurrying; moving fast and with purpose

wares

goods or products that a merchant or shop sells

vulnerable

weak or helpless

scorching

very hot

raiders

robbers

Lesson 17

humble

modest; not extravagant

reputation

the opinion people hold about something or someone

integrity

honesty

Lesson 18

solitude

the state of being alone

recitation

something spoken from memory

scribes

people who copied documents before modern printing was invented

compiled

put different texts together into a book

pilgrimage

a journey to a place or shrine that is important to a religion

preaching

speaking publicly, usually about religion

revelations

the acts of a god revealing themself to a person

blasphemy

words or actions that are offensive to a religion

persecution

the mistreatment of a person or group

bleak

hopeless, depressing

Lesson 18

arbiter

a person with the authority to settle disputes

tactics

procedures employed to gain success

acknowledge

accept, recognize

pardoned

forgave

humiliated

caused a person or people to lose their dignity or self- respect

authority

a source of information that people believe is correct

sermon

a speech for the purpose of religious instruction

idol

a statue or image worshiped as a god or as the representation of a god

mosque

a place where Muslims worship

Lesson 18

ambiguity

uncertainty of meaning or intention

discord

disagreement

Lesson 19

ploy

a maneuver designed to fool an enemy

overwhelmed

felt unable to handle a situation

thwarted

prevented from accomplishing something

retired

went to bed

fray

battle

havoc

confusion

blow

a sudden attack

outwitted

outsmarted

three-pronged

three part

maneuver

a planned movement of troops

Lesson 19

self-loathing

a feeling of disgust about oneself

courier

messanger

truce

an agreement that puts an end to fighting

Lesson 20

nepotistic

grating special favors to relatives and friends

opposition

a group of people who are against something

traumatic

emotionally painful

garrison town

a town that is protected, perhaps by a wall

resounded

echoed and repeated

consesus

agreement between different people or groups

Lesson 21

discontented

unhappy, not satisfied

massacre

the killing of a large number of people

martyrdom

death or suffering for the sake of a cause or belief

triumphant

victorious

unity

absence of disagreement

sacred

holy

potent

powerful

plausible

seeming worthy of acceptance

milestones

stones marking the distance to some place

architectural

relating to the design and construction of buildings

Lesson 21

masterpieces

great works of art

ascended

rose, went upward

modifications

changes

arches

openings or gateways that are curved on top

alternately

switching regularly and repeatedly

interior

the inside of something

distinctive

different, unique

countless

too many to count

Lesson 22

descended

to have had a specific family or person among one's ancestors

prosperous

successful

flourished

was successful and widespread

courtyards

yards that are open to the sky but enclosed on the sides

subtly

in a way that is complicated and pleasent

storehouses

warehouses, places where things are stored

manuscripts

books or documents

geometric

patterned with shapes

imposing

impressive

graceful

beautiful, elegant

Lesson 22

inspired

produced a feeling or thought in someone

awe

a feeling of being very impressed

inscribed

engraved

interlocked

connected

infinite

going on forever

expanse

a vast space

eleborate

fancy and detailed

tranquility

a state of calm

intertwined

connected

spiral

long and winding

Lesson 23

rousing

exciting

access

approach, use

jockeying

competing for

waned

faded

figurehead

a person who holds the title of head of a group but has no real power

renowned

famous

fractured

broken, split

rampage

violent, destructive behavior

barracks

housing for soldiers

intensively

with great effort

Lesson 23

elite

the choice or best of anything

valiant

brave

finance

provide money for

bewildered

confused

beset

attacked, surrounded

agitated

upset

pageboys

young messengers

chivalry

a code of honor often connected to European knights of the Middle Ages