

Match the word to its definition.

repel

siege

hegemony

prowess

ingenuity

| Vocabulary Term | Definition |
|-----------------|---|
| | leadership or dominance, especially by one country or social group over others. |
| | drive or force (an attack or attacker) back or away. |
| | a military operation in which enemy forces surround a town or building, cutting off essential supplies, with the aim of compelling those inside to surrender. |
| | skill or expertise in a particular activity or field. |
| | the quality of being clever, original, and inventive. |

Instructions: Look at the image and write down 2-3 things you notice (key details, main ideas, themes) and then write down 2-3 things you wonder (questions you have because of the image, things you are curious about when you look at the image.)



Notice

What do you notice?

Wonder

What do you wonder?

Read and Take Notes

Notes and opinions and observations

Greek fire was a powerful weapon used by the Byzantine Empire in naval warfare. It was introduced in 672 AD and continued to be used successfully until the 13th century. The exact composition of Greek fire remains a mystery, but it is believed to have been made from a mixture of naphtha or petroleum, sulphur or pitch, and other materials. The substance was packed into siphons and mounted on the bows of galleys. Once ignited, Greek fire burned fiercely and was difficult to extinguish, requiring sand or vinegar to put out the flames. Its ability to burn on water made it a devastating weapon against enemy ships. The recipe for Greek fire was a closely-guarded secret, and rival powers tried unsuccessfully to replicate it.

Read and Take Notes

Notes and opinions and observations

The Byzantine navy played a crucial role in the defense and survival of the Byzantine Empire. While the Roman fleets faced few naval threats, the Byzantine navy had to command the sea to protect the empire. The first major threat to Roman hegemony in the Mediterranean Sea came from the Vandals in the 5th century, but they were defeated by the Byzantines in the 6th century. The Byzantine navy developed its own identity with the introduction of the dromon galley and the re-establishment of a permanently maintained fleet. The navy faced numerous opponents throughout its history, including the Vandals, Ostrogoths, Umayyad and Abbasid Caliphates, Emirate of Crete, Fatimids, Slavs, Bulgarians, Rus', Normans, Genoa, Venice, Pisa, Crusader states, Seljuks, Anatolian beyliks, and Ottomans. It participated in various wars and battles, such as the Justinianic Wars, the Arab–Byzantine wars, the Byzantine–Bulgarian wars, the Rus'–Byzantine wars, the Byzantine–Norman wars, the Crusades, and the Byzantine–Ottoman wars.

Read and Take Notes

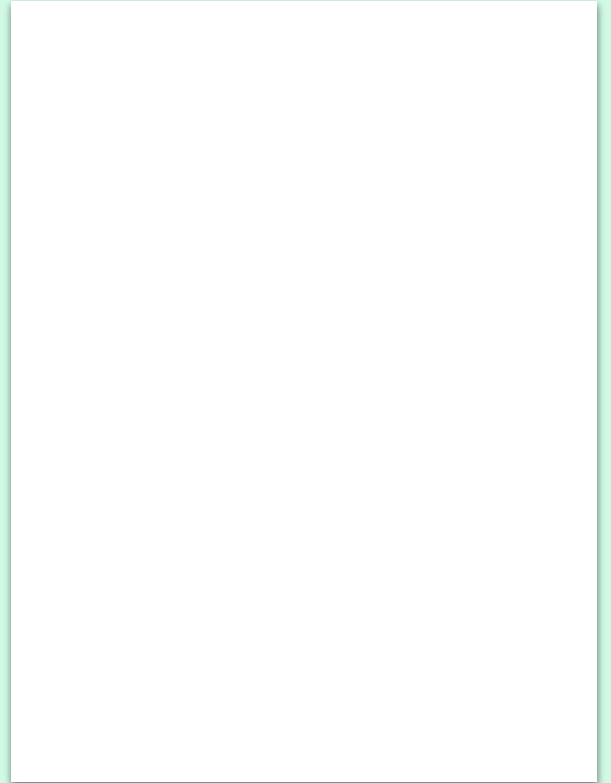
Notes and opinions and observations

The conflict between the Byzantine Empire and the Arab nations, united under the banner of Islam, lasted from 629 to 1050 CE and was known as the Arab-Byzantine Wars. The Islamic Empire sought to expand its territory and spread Islam, which posed a threat to the Byzantine Empire. The Islamic Empire desired to take control of Constantinople, the wealthy capital of the Byzantine Empire, in order to topple the entire empire and potentially conquer Europe. The Byzantines successfully repelled the Muslim army from Anatolia and destroyed their navy during the First Arab Siege of Constantinople. The conflict between the two empires continued with periods of internal turmoil and civil wars on both sides.

Read and Take Notes

Notes and opinions and observations

In conclusion, Greek fire was a highly effective naval weapon used by the Byzantine Empire. The Byzantine navy played a crucial role in the defense of the empire. The conflict between the Byzantine Empire and the Arab nations lasted for centuries and had significant implications for the region. The legacy of Greek fire and the Byzantine navy continues to be recognized as symbols of Byzantine ingenuity and military prowess.



Multiple Choice Question

1. What was Greek fire made from?

- A) A mixture of naphtha or petroleum, sulphur or pitch, and other materials
- B) A mixture of sand and vinegar
- C) A mixture of water and oil
- D) A mixture of gunpowder and sulfur

Which answer did you pick and why?

Multiple Choice Question

2. Which empire sought to conquer Constantinople and topple the Byzantine Empire?

- A) The Islamic Empire
- B) The Roman Empire
- C) The Ottoman Empire
- D) The Venetian Empire

Which answer did you pick and why?

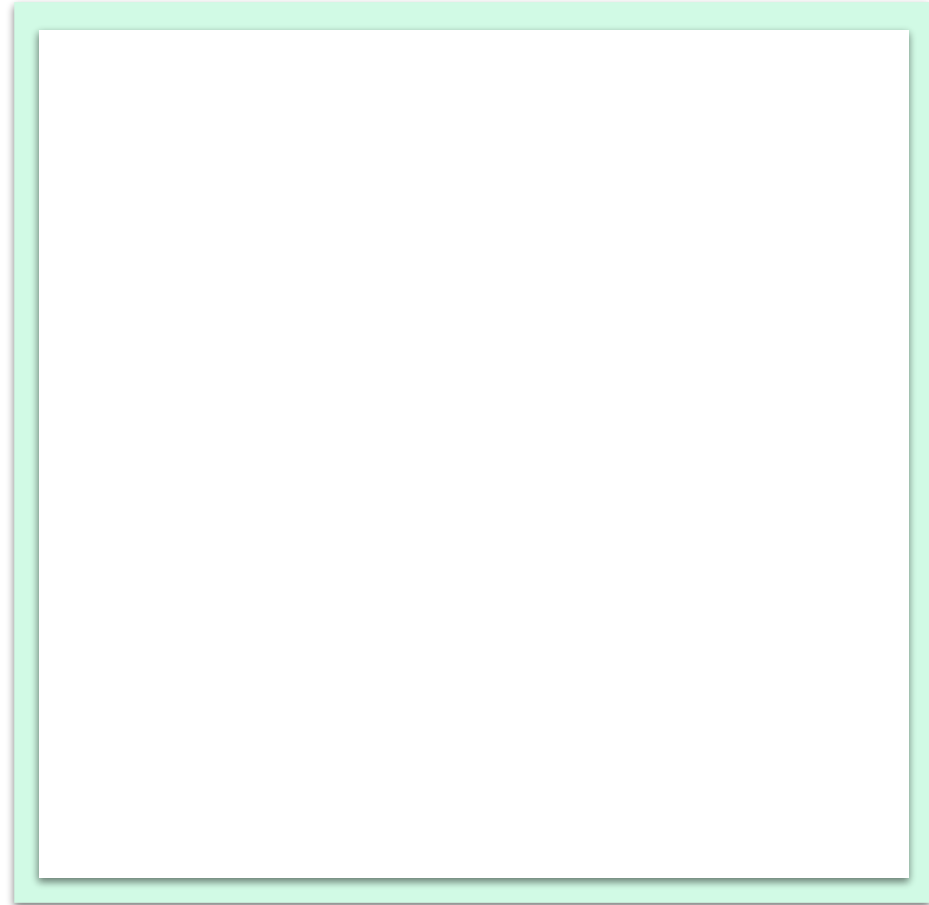
Multiple Choice Question

3. What role did the Byzantine navy play in the defense of the Byzantine Empire?

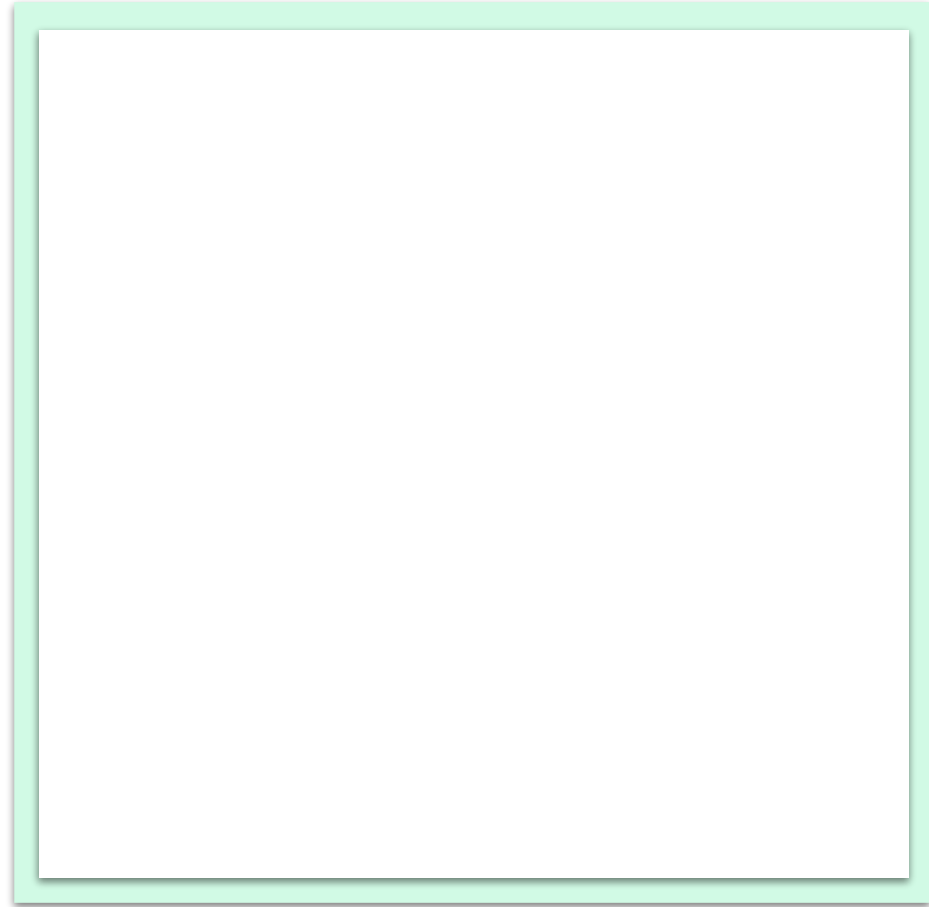
- A) Commanding the sea to protect the empire
- B) Defending the capital city of Constantinople
- C) Repelling the Muslim army from Anatolia
- D) All of the above

Which answer did you pick and why?

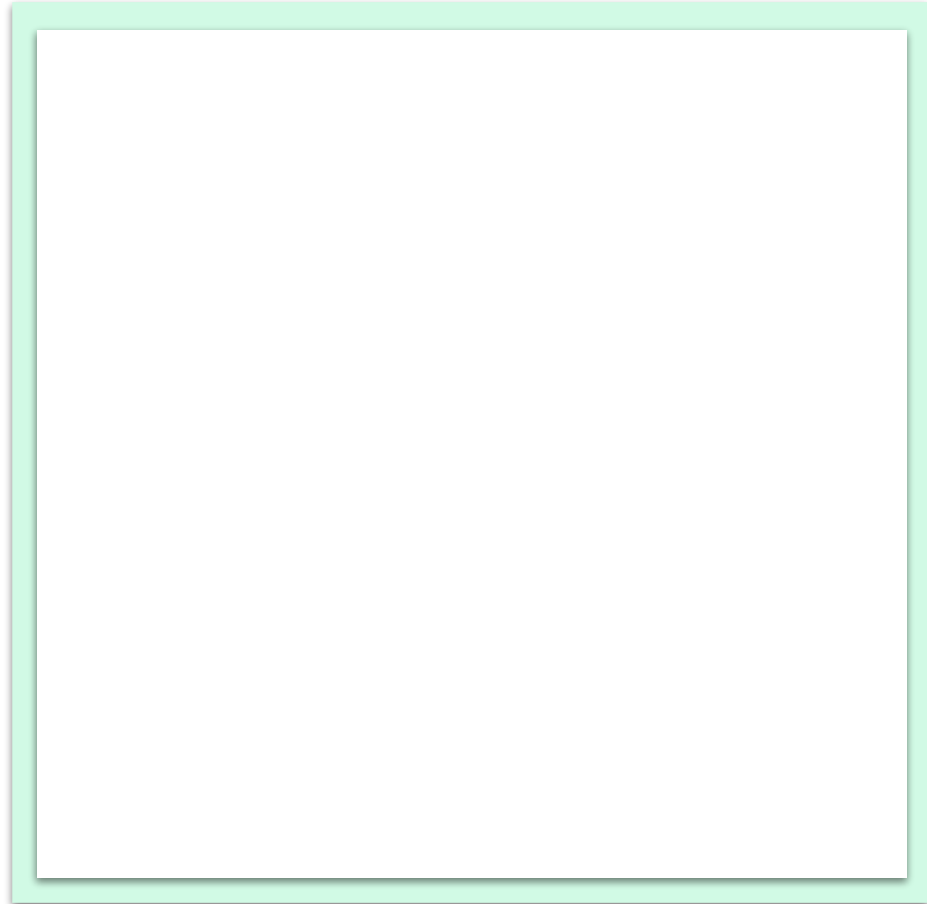
1. What was Greek fire and how was it used as a weapon by the Byzantine Empire?



2. What role did the Byzantine navy play in the defense and survival of the Byzantine Empire?



3. What was the significance of the Arab-Byzantine Wars and how did they impact the Byzantine Empire?



Second opinions

Discuss your answers with your partner or group. Use the second box to take notes on what their answers were in the space provided.

1. Reflect on a time when you had to protect or defend something important to you. How did you approach the situation and what strategies did you use? How does this experience relate to the role of the Byzantine navy in defending the Byzantine Empire?

Your Answer:



What did your partner or group say?



Second opinions

Discuss your answers with your partner or group. Use the second box to take notes on what their answers were in the space provided.

2. Think about a secret or mystery that has fascinated you. What makes it intriguing and why do you think people are drawn to secrets? How does the closely-guarded secret of Greek fire compare to the secrets we encounter in our own lives?

Your Answer:

What did your partner or group say?

Second opinions

Discuss your answers with your partner or group. Use the second box to take notes on what their answers were in the space provided.

3. Consider a conflict or rivalry you have experienced, whether it be with another person, a group, or even within yourself. How did this conflict impact you and those involved? How does the long-lasting conflict between the Byzantine Empire and the Arab nations parallel or differ from your own experiences with conflict?

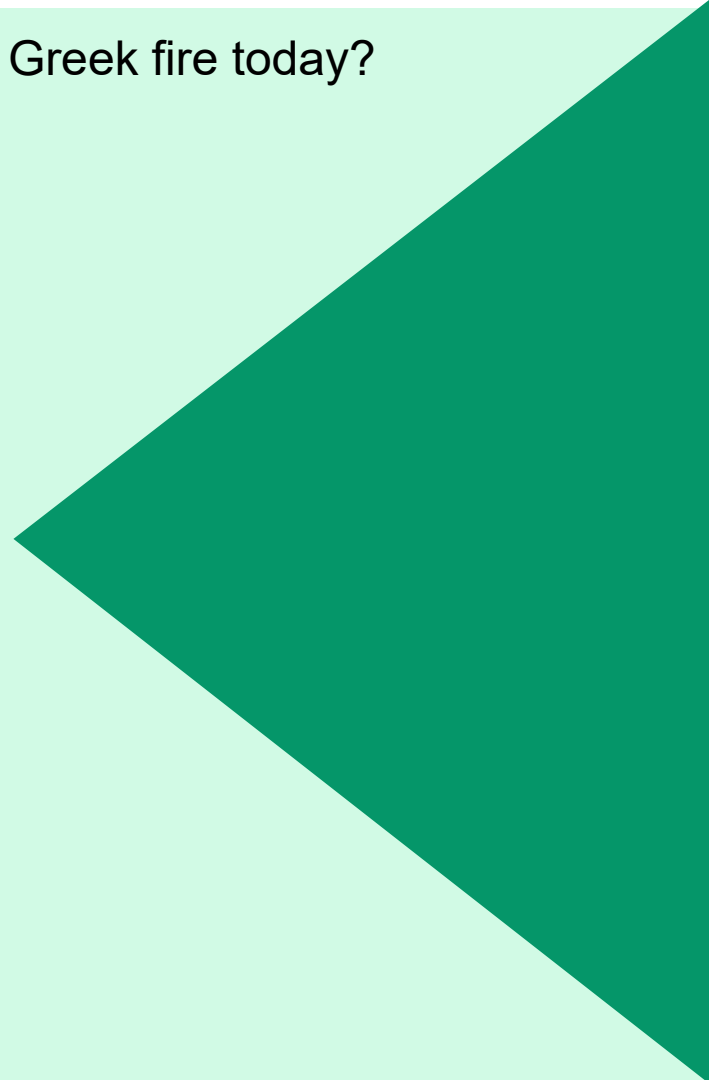
Your Answer:



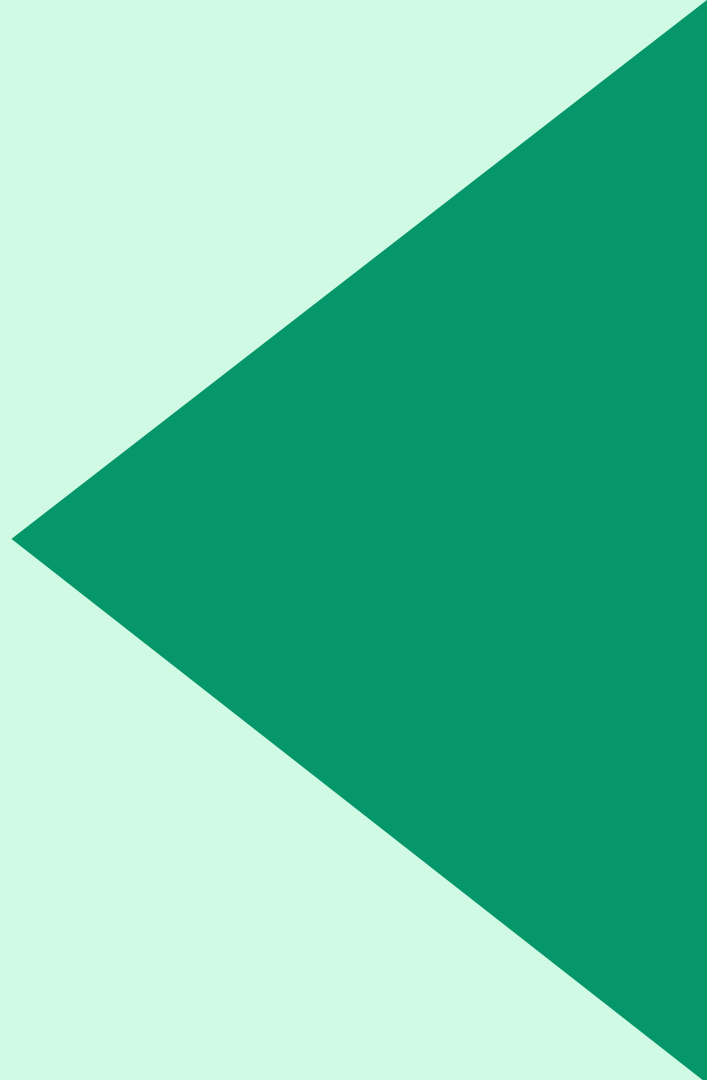
What did your partner or group say?



Do we still have access to the recipe or similar and use Greek fire today?



What do you suspect the recipe is or was?



Your summation of the weapon of choice previously discussed. Incorporate the list of vocab words at the start of this brief. "repel ingenuity etc..."

