

Robin Hood and the Golden Arrow

"A tournament ? Will there be archery?" asked Robin casually, waxing his bowstring with a stub of candle.

"That's the main event!" said Friar Tuck, tucking into his meal. "First prize is a golden arrow, presented by Guy of Gisborne himself." The Friar's words emerged speckled with breadcrumbs and flecks of fat. "Open to any archer in the land. The Prince himself is going to be there, so they say."

Tuck was the only man in Robin's band not to wear the suit of green. In his brown habit , he could come and go to town unnoticed, unquestioned and bring them news, messages from wives and sweethearts, gifts from well-wishers. He was able, too, to deliver Robin's little "presents" to the poor of Nottingham.

Today his news was of a grand archery contest to be held within the castle walls. The outlaws, sitting around their campfire, greeted the news quietly, remembering other such festive holidays spent with their families.

1. Which word is the closest in meaning to **emerged** in this context? **Circle one.**
  - (a) appeared
  - (b) transpired
  - (c) came out
  - (d) jumped
2. ...*other such festive holidays*...  
Which two words best describe what the word festive means in this context?
  - (a) happy and Christmas
  - (b) sad and miserable
  - (c) cheerful and celebratory
3. What is a *brown habit* ?
4. What is another meaning for the word 'habit'?
5. Find **two words** in the text that show that Friar Tuck was not being watched or suspected by King John's men.
  - 1.
  - 2.
5. Which phrase is closest in meaning to ...*tucking into his meal*... **Circle one.**
  - (a) chomping his food down hastily with great enjoyment
  - (b) nibbling his food gently and carefully
  - (c) eating his dinner slowly and thoughtfully
  - (d) sharing his food with his friends