

Homework 5/17/26

# Follow the Rules

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Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers

May be suitable for visually impaired players with some support from the game host.

## Overview:

To solve this brainteaser, follow all of the instructions. If done correctly, the game will reveal a wise quotation from the Greek philosopher Sophocles.

We've provided a work sheet on page three below that you might want to duplicate and pass out to all players. *Note: Following the rules is harder than you might think, but it's a great exercise for the brain!*

## Instructions:

1. This game can be played by individuals or teams.
2. Pass out the worksheet provided below to all players or teams.
3. Read the first instruction. Give players/teams an ample amount of time to write down the answer on their worksheet.
4. Continue to read each instruction, one at a time.
5. After all instructions have been read, ask a player to read the answer aloud. To find out how many people followed the rules correctly, ask them to raise their hands.
6. No scoring on this game – just have fun!

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## RULES

1. Without spaces between the letters or any punctuation, write down the phrase: **BETTER TO FAIL WITH HONOR**
2. Remove all T's except the first and all O's.
3. Remove the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> letters and place them, in order, before and after the last letter.
4. Remove both H's, then put one back in the 4<sup>th</sup> position.
5. Remove the first E and place it after the next E.
6. Place two U's and two C's before the two E's.
7. Place two D's and one B after the two E's.
8. Remove the 18<sup>th</sup> letter and place it in the 4<sup>th</sup> position.
9. Put the 1<sup>st</sup> letter of the alphabet in the 4<sup>th</sup> position.
10. Remove the 1<sup>st</sup> R and put the 25<sup>th</sup> letter of the alphabet in its place.
11. Put the 19<sup>th</sup> letter of the alphabet in the 6<sup>th</sup> position.
12. Remove one U and one D and place them, in order, at the end.
13. Remove the 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 18th letters.

**Did you get the right answer?**

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1. **B E T T E R T O F A I L W I T H H O N O R**

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2.

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3.

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4.

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5.

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6.

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7.

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9.

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10.

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11.

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12.

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13.

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## ANSWERS

1. B E T T E R T O F A I L W I T H H O N O R
2. B E T \_ E R \_ \_ F A I L W I \_ H H \_ N \_ R
3. B E T E R \_ \_ I L W I H H N F R A
4. B E T H E R I L W I \_ \_ N F R A
5. B \_ T H E E R I L W I N F R A
6. B T H U U C C E E R I L W I N F R A
7. B T H U U C C E E D D B R I L W I N F R A
8. B T H N U U C C E E D D B R I L W I \_ F R A
9. B T H A N U U C C E E D D B R I L W I F R A
10. B T H A N U U C C E E D D B Y I L W I F R A
11. B T H A N S U U C C E E D D B Y I L W I F R A
12. B T H A N S U \_ C C E E \_ D B Y I L W I F R A U D
13. \_ T H A N S U C C E E D B Y \_ \_ \_ \_ F R A U D

(Better to fail with honor) THAN SUCCEED BY FRAUD

*Sophocles*