

# Growing Up Tough

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the passage. Answer the questions.

Sparta was a city-state in ancient Greece. Sparta had a powerful army. Boys and girls learned to read and write, but the Spartans did not think that these things were as important as military training. Spartans valued strength, power and war. The men of Sparta were often away at war. Women did not go into battle, but they did need to be able to defend the city if another city-state attacked it while the men were away. Because strength, power and war were the most important things to them, every boy and girl in Sparta learned how to fight and kill. They were taught to be tough. Boys were sometimes beaten, and they were not allowed to cry. Girls learned to wrestle, fight with their fists, and use a weapon.



1. Which words in the paragraph have to do with the word “military”?
2. What do you think the word “military” means?
3. The Spartans valued war. What does valued mean? \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. Do not think is important
  - B. Is the most important
4. Which pair of words are antonyms? \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. value | important
  - B. attack | defend
  - C. tough | cry