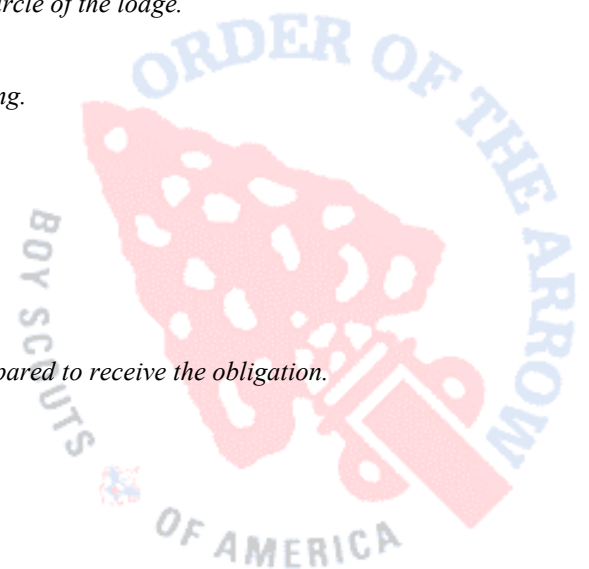


Brotherhood Study Questions

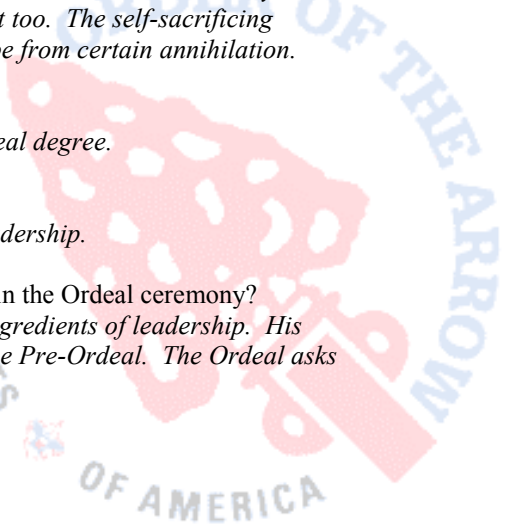
(Questions are a combination of the 1927 version and those in the current OA Handbook)

1. What is the name of the first degree of the Order of the Arrow?
The Ordeal degree.
2. Why is it so called?
Because it is preceded by a fourfold ordeal.
3. What are the four tests of this Ordeal, and what do they illustrate?
The night alone focuses attention on my need for courage and self-reliance on the trail ahead. I must be willing to accept individual responsibility for my thoughts and actions. My course will set me apart from my friends to the extent of isolation, but I must act according to my resolution regardless of what others do or fail to do.
My pledge of silence emphasizes the continuing need for me to spend time in thoughtful silence. Difficult decisions will face me now and in the future, and I will need to search my heart and spirit deeply to find the resolution that will guide me onward successfully.
The scant food test illustrates self-denial. Often I will find it necessary to abandon mere personal comfort or desires if I am to fulfill my Obligation.
The day of work indicates my willingness to give service, even when this service involves hardship and toil. In the Ordeal, I worked with the help and cooperation of other candidates and members, but now I must be ready to serve without the help and cooperation of others.
4. How were you prepared for the Ordeal?
I was led to the north end of camp where I tested the bow.
5. Who is Kichkinet? Nutiket? Meteu? Allowat Sakima?
Kichkinet is my guide in the ceremonies. He symbolizes helpfulness and friendliness. Nutiket is the guard of the Circle. He upholds the tradition of cheerfulness. Meteu is the medicine man and representative of brotherhood. He reminds us of our need to love one another. Allowat Sakima, the mighty chief, symbolizes service. From him I accepted the Obligation of the Order.
6. What tokens did the 4 ceremonial principals reveal to you in the Pre-Ordeal? What did they represent?
Nutiket gave the bow to Allowat Sakima as a token of liveliness and flexibility under stress, the principle of cheerfulness. Meteu gave the bowstring to Allowat Sakima as a token of the ties of Brotherhood also symbolized by the rope in the Ordeal ceremony. Allowat Sakima strung the bow uniting brotherhood and cheerfulness for service, and drew an arrow from a quiver as a token that my election separated me from my fellows for something higher. Allowat Sakima asked me to test the bow as a sign of willingness to test the dedication to Scout ideals which led to my election. Lastly, Kichkinet shot the arrow upward, symbolizing the pathway you will follow if my dedication is unwavering.
7. When you had completed the Ordeal, how were you dealt with?
I was taken by Kichkinet up the hidden trail which leads to the circle of the lodge.
8. By whom were you first stopped as you approached the circle?
By Nutiket, who asked if I had passed the Ordeal without flinching.
9. Who next barred your further progress?
Meteu, who demanded the admonition.
10. Had you the admonition?
I had not; but Kichkinet, my guide, had it and gave it for me.
11. Before whom did you then at last arrive?
Before Allowat Sakima, who asked if I had been completely prepared to receive the obligation.



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12. What was Kichkinet's reply to this inquiry?
"Only in the binding of them together."
13. How had Kichkinet called the attention of each of these people to your presence?
By three taps of the hand upon their left shoulder.
14. What did these three taps signify?
The three parts of the Scout Oath.
15. How did each of the people respond to Kichkinet's taps?
By one tap on his left shoulder, followed by two taps.
16. What did these taps represent?
The 12 points of the Scout Law.
17. How were you and your companion bound together?
By a rope, which, until we took the Obligation, represented our tie to the Brotherhood.
18. How was your preparation for the Ordeal completed?
Kichkinet had me step closer to the fire, where Nutiket directed me to hold my right hand in the Scout Sign and repeat the Obligation after Allowat Sakima.
19. What are the three symbolic preparations for the Obligation?
Before I entered the circle, I placed my hand on the shoulder of the candidate ahead of me to indicate my intention to continue in service to my own Scout Unit. Kichkinet, seeing that we all had the same purpose, symbolized this bond of brotherhood by binding us all together with the rope. Finally, upon Allowat Sakima's direction, Kichkinet asked us to advance before the fire of cheerfulness.
20. Repeat the Obligation.
I do hereby promise on my honor as a Scout, that I will always and faithfully observe and preserve the traditions of the Order of the Arrow, Wimachtendienk, W___, W___. I will always regard the ties of brotherhood in the Order of the Arrow as lasting, and will seek to preserve a cheerful spirit even in the midst of irksome tasks and weighty responsibilities, and will endeavor, so far as in my power lies, to be unselfish in service and devotion to the welfare of others.
21. In what did Allowat Sakima then instruct you?
In the legend upon which our Order is founded.
22. What is the tradition given us by Uncas as described in the legend?
The legend tells how the peaceful lives of the Leni Lenape Indians were threatened by neighboring tribes and distant enemies. The aged Chieftain Chingachgook's call for volunteers to go and alert other villages of the tribe was met with apathy and indifference from tribal members. His son Uncas cheerfully offered his help despite the negative attitudes of everyone around him. He cared enough for others that he was willing to face hardship and danger to protect them from harm. Uncas clearly saw a higher vision, and his desire for his brothers was that they could see it too. The self-sacrificing service given by Uncas and Chingachgook is said to have saved the tribe from certain annihilation.
23. What did Allowat Sakima then impart to you?
The symbol, grip, and admonition of the Order, and the sign of the Ordeal degree.
24. What is the symbol of the Order?
The arrow, whose undeviating course when aimed high is a token of leadership.
25. What is the significance of Allowat Sakima's description of the Arrow in the Ordeal ceremony?
The chief stated that the various qualities attributed to the Arrow are ingredients of leadership. His discussion is a continuation of Meteu's comments about the Arrow in the Pre-Ordeal. The Ordeal asks



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individuals to act according to their highest sense of right, regardless of the attitudes or actions of others. The four tests and the Obligation point the way, and Allowat Sakima reveals this way as one of real leadership. Members who understand their Obligation and are striving to fulfill it inevitably becomes a center of strength in their troop. Their example sets the pace in cheerful service and their dedication has a rich effect on those who know them. Although wearing the sash identifies a Scout or Scouter as a member of the Order, it is his or her efforts to fulfill the Obligation that truly distinguishes him or her and provides others with glimpses of the Arrow.

26. How is the Arrow worn?
Pointing over the right shoulder.
27. Give me the grip of our Order.
(Give it.)
28. How must the admonition always be given?
Whispered in the ear.
29. Give me the admonition.
(Give it.)
30. What does it mean?
To love one another.
31. What is the sign of the Ordeal degree?
(Give it.)
32. What is the full name of our Order?
Wimachtendienk, W____, W____
33. In what language is it given?
In the language of the Delaware Indians, the Lenni-Lenape.
34. What is its meaning in English?
The Brotherhood of Cheerful Service.
35. Sing the song of the Order.
(Sing it.)
Firm bound in brotherhood, Gather the clan
That cheerful service brings To fellow man.
Circle our council fire, Weld tightly every link,
That binds us in brotherhood, Wimachtendienk.
(words by E. Urner Goodman)
36. What is Ordeal membership?
Like the Ordeal, it is a time of trial, during which my understanding of the traditions of the Arrow will be put to the test. In the Ordeal ceremony, each advancement I made into the circle was challenged, but my resolution and faithfulness in time of testing enabled me to go forward. This will also be true in the experiences ahead. By striving to fulfill my Obligation, I will provide the higher vision of Brotherhood, Cheerfulness, and Service to my fellow Scouts, even as Uncas did for his tribe.
37. When are you ready to accept Brotherhood membership in the Order?
Successfully meeting the demands of the Obligation is usually rather hard for the first several months. Gradually, however, dedication to it will bring about changes that will make it easier. Eventually, the Spirit of Cheerful Service will become almost second nature, and I will be fulfilling the Obligation and hardly even thinking about it. As this experience develops, I am beginning to see the Arrow, and I am ready for the Brotherhood.

