

Unit CC7-A [rt] fort—[rs] force

Story

Listen to the story as your teacher reads it, or on tape, until you understand the main ideas.

Arthur and Linda Schwartz are both retired, but they don't stay at home much. They have plenty of money and like to travel, but they don't go to resorts. Rather, they like to go to historic sites. In the last two years, they have toured the royal courts of Europe and visited famous Mediterranean seaports.

This year Art and Linda have been focusing on ancient ruins—especially military fortresses. They think it is incredible how armies in the past built large (1) **forts** without using large machines. Of course, they sometimes used oxen, horses, or other animals, but most ancient military commanders and builders relied almost totally on human labor. It took (2) many thousands of people to build a fort—especially if it had thick stone walls. And those walls could not be short either. They had to be tall enough to keep out an attacking army. To construct such places, builders needed a large **force**. But it was worth it. Once the forts were built, a small force could defend them against a much larger army. Also, well-built forts would last for centuries. In fact, as Art and Linda know, many ancient forts are still standing today.



Contrasting Sentences

Listening: Write the appropriate key word in each blank. Later, as you hear each sentence, mark the box, point to the picture, make a gesture, and/or say the rejoinder. Speaking: Choose and say each sentence so that your listener(s) can respond correctly.

- They needed a large _____. (fortified place)
- They needed a large _____. (group of people)