

RT-203 Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Choose the best answer.

"It is necessary for a Prince, who wishes to maintain himself, to learn how not to be good, and to use this knowledge and not use it, according to the necessity of the case. . . .From this arises, the question whether it is better to be loved more than feared, or feared more than loved. The reply is, that one ought to be both feared and loved, but as it is difficult for the two to go together, it is much safer to be feared than loved. . . .

. . . .Therefore, a prudent ruler ought not keep faith, when by so doing it would be against his interest. . . .If men were all good, this precept [rule] would not be a good one; but as they are bad, and would not observe their faith with you, so you are not bound to keep faith with them. . . .

The Prince must know that there are two methods of ruling people: one by honesty and law, and the other by trickery and force. The first method is that of men, and the second method is that of beasts. Since the first method often proves to be no good, the second method is the only other choice. . . . Yes, it is nice to seem merciful, faithful, humane, sincere, God-fearing and fair, but rulers should not be bound by such considerations alone. In fact, if they find these qualities do not suit their purposes, they should take on the opposite qualities if necessary. Indeed, in order for a Prince to keep and control his country, he can act against humanity, against charity, and against religion as well.

*In the actions of men—especially Princes, the **end** justifies the **means**. The method of reaching his end or aim will always be judged honorable and praiseworthy if the end results are good."*

Niccolo Machiavelli, The Prince (1513)

1. The main idea of this passage is to
 - (a) defend monarchies as a system of government
 - (b) improve the behavior of Princes
 - (c) instruct Princes how to rule
 - (d) criticize Princes for their cruel punishments_____

2. According to the writer, the main task of a Prince is to
 - (a) stay in power
 - (b) protect his country
 - (c) set a good example
 - (d) dispense justice to his subjects_____

3. According to the advice given by the author, the only manner for a Prince to rule is through
 - (a) love and respect
 - (b) deceit
 - (c) force
 - (d) any means necessary_____

4. What does the author mean by "the end justifies the means" in the final paragraph? The Prince should
 - (a) use fear to rule successfully
 - (b) disregard moral principles, if necessary
 - (c) select goals that can be successful
 - (d) choose honesty over deceit_____

5. According to the author, the actions of Princes will be held in high esteem if
 - (a) he used his best efforts
 - (b) they are successful
 - (c) they are lawful
 - (d) he is God-fearing_____