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**Tiered Vocabulary Practice**

***Julius Caesar* Unit**

Directions: Follow along as we go through the article. Use the modeled strategies to help determine the meanings of the Tier 2 and Tier 3 words.

**The stuff of Shakespearean tragedy, Richard III to be reburied**

Source: LA Times/adapted by News ELA staff/June 2, 2014

LONDON — Richard III was **immortalized** **(T2)** by Shakespeare, who portrayed him as a murderous and **misshapen** **(T3)** villain in his tragedy of the same name.

Now, nearly 530 years after his death in battle, Britain’s high court has ruled that the king is to be buried in **Leicester**. **(T3)** His skeleton was found in that city in 2012, underneath a parking lot.

The court issued its ruling on Friday. It **dismissed** **(T2)** a competing campaign by some of the **deposed (T3)** monarch’s distant relations to have him buried in York, in northern England. Richard's **descendants** **(T2)** argued that **York** **(T3)** had a stronger claim on his **affections** **(T2)** — and his bones.

“It is time for Richard III to be given a **dignified** **(T2)** reburial, and finally laid to rest,” the three **justices** **(T2)** who heard the case wrote. Their ruling paved the way for the long-ago ruler to be buried in Leicester **Cathedral (T2)**.

**Fight Follows Bloody Bosworth Battle**

The cathedral stands a stone’s throw from the site where, working off of old maps and unlikely hopes, **archaeologists** **(T3)** dug in search of the last recorded place where Richard’s body was buried. In an almost **miraculous** **(T2)** find in September 2012, they unearthed the skeleton of an adult male. It was immediately **evident (T2)** that he had suffered **grievous** **(T3)** battle wounds.

**DNA** **(T3)** and other tests proved that the remains belonged to Richard, the final **Plantagenet** **(T3)** king and the last English **monarch** **(T2)** to die in combat. He was killed on Aug. 22, 1485, at Bosworth Field, outside Leicester, in a **climactic** **(T2)** fight that ushered in the long reign of the **Tudors (T3)**, including Henry VIII and Elizabeth I.

Almost as soon as the remains were found, however, another battle broke out, over where the remains of the king ought to be laid to rest.

A group called the Plantagenet Alliance challenged the decision to rebury Richard in the nearby cathedral, arguing that York would be more appropriate. Richard spent much of his childhood and early adult life in and around that city. The group **accused** **(T2)** the government of failing to **consult** **(T2)** widely enough before it granted the burial license to Leicester.

But in what it called a “unique and exceptional” case, the high court on Friday **upheld (T2)** the government’s decision. The court noted that officials had followed proper procedures regarding discovered remains; that Henry VII, who became king on Richard’s death, had buried him in Leicester; and that the present queen, Elizabeth II, appeared **content** **(T2)** with the idea of keeping him there.

**Independent Practice**: In the last section, pull out four (4) words that could be Tier 2 or Tier 3 words. Use context clues to help you determine the definition. Record the word, your constructed definition, and the clues you used to determine the definition in the chart below.

**New Tomb, Solemn Service**

David Monteith, the dean of Leicester Cathedral, described the court’s judgment as undeniably sensible.

“He fell here. He’s lain here for over 500 years. The cathedral is about 150 meters from the site of discovery,” Monteith said in a telephone interview.

Despite Richard’s strong ties to York, “he spent time all across England,” said Monteith. “He knew the city of York well, but he knew the city of Leicester well. He didn’t leave any will saying (where) he should be buried … We’re simply doing what the law requires.”

The cathedral has already gone to some expense to prepare for the reburial, which is tentatively scheduled for spring of next year. A new tomb will be erected in the heart of the church. Planning is also underway for a solemn service befitting a king of England.

Richard III is one of England's most controversial kings. Scholars and amateur historians are bitterly divided over Richard's true character. Was he the bloodthirsty tyrant described by Shakespeare, a man who had his two young nephews executed so that he could claim the crown for himself? Or was he an enlightened ruler who instituted lasting legal reforms, but whose name was smeared after his death by his rivals, the Tudors?

No matter where he’s buried, that is one debate that will probably never be put to rest.

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| **Word** | **Constructed Definition**  | **Context Clues** |
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