



There are two ways of fighting: by law or by force. The first way is natural to men, and the second to beasts. But as the first way often proves inadequate one must have recourse to the second. So, as a prince is forced to know how to act like a beast, he must learn from the fox and the lion; because the lion is defenceless against traps and a fox against wolves. Therefore one must be a fox in order to recognize traps, and a lion to frighten off wolves. Those who simply act like lions are stupid. So it follows that a prudent ruler cannot, and must not, honor his word when it places him at a disadvantage and when the reasons for which he made his promise no longer exist. And no prince ever lacked good excuses to color his bad faith. But one must know how to color one's actions and to be a great liar and deceiver. A prince, therefore, need not necessarily have the good quality of honoring his word, but should \_\_\_\_\_.

[3점]

- ① reveal any kind of consistency
- ② show the people another good quality
- ③ just be a lion in this case
- ④ certainly appear to have it
- ⑤ build the power not to keep his word