

NAME:

COURSE:

Soldier admits guilt over Iraq photos

Lynndie England, the U.S. soldier who was photographed holding a naked Iraqi prisoner on a leash, pleaded guilty to prisoner abuse and other charges today. She confessed to seven charges, including conspiracy, maltreatment of prisoners, dereliction of duty and indecent acts. England faces a maximum prison term of sixteen years, although it is likely she will receive less. Her lawyers will present evidence before a jury that she has mental health problems and learning disabilities. The ringleader of the photo abuse scandal, Charles Graner, was sentenced in January to ten years in prison and will receive a dishonourable discharge.

The photographs of England and her colleagues humiliating and abusing Iraqi detainees at the Abu Ghraib prison shocked the world last year and sparked outrage in Arab nations. There was widespread condemnation of the U.S. military and calls for Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld to resign. Despite fervent claims that orders for the abuse came from high up in the U.S. chain of command, only low-ranking soldiers have been brought to trial. England's lawyers have argued that Lynndie was acting on orders from above to "soften up" the prisoners before interrogation. The feeling is still widespread that Ms England and her colleagues are being used as scapegoats.

QUESTIONS

1. Answer the following question using your own words. (2 points)

a. How long is England going to be in prison?

b. What is the opinion of the Arab countries regarding these facts?

2. Are the following statements *True* or *False*? (1 point)

a. Orders for the abuse came from high up in the chain of command: _____

b. Many believe Lynndie is being unfairly used to shoulder the blame: _____

3. Find a word or expression in the text which, in context, is similar in meaning to: (1 point)

a. Fury: _____

b. Abandonment: _____

4. Choose *a*, *b*, or *c* in each question below. Only one choice is correct. (2 points)

1. England admitted that

- a. *she was not guilty.*
- b. *she was not very tough on the prisoners.*
- c. *she was guilty.*

2. England has been

- a. *the only soldier sentenced.*
- b. *sentenced together with another soldier.*
- c. *sentenced together with other low-rank soldiers.*

