

**Directions:** After reading the background information and examining the source, answer the questions below.

**Background Information: The Seven Years War**

*The Seven Years War took place between 1756-1763 and represented the first global conflict, fought on multiple continents. The French and British forces in North America, based by New France and the Thirteen colonies respectively, clashed over territorial dominance and influence in the area. The colony of New France was lead by its governor General Marquis de Vaudreuil, its intendent, Francois Bigot. The Lieutenant General of the French military force was Marquis de Montcalm.*

**Featured Source:**

Canada will be taken this **campaign**, and assuredly during the next, if there be not some unforeseen good luck, a powerful **diversion** by sea against the English Colonies, or some **gross blunders** on the part of the enemy.

The English have 60,000 men, we at most from 10 to 11,000. Our government is good for nothing; money and provisions will fail. Through want of **provisions**, the English will begin first; the farms **scarcely tilled**, cattle lack; the Canadians are **dispirited**; no confidence in M. de Vaudreuil or in M. Bigot. M. de Vaudreuil is incapable of preparing a plan of operations. He has no activity; he lends his confidence to empirics rather than to the General sent by the King.

If the wars continue, Canada will belong to the English, perhaps this very campaign, or the next. If there be peace, the Colony is lost, if the entire government be not changed ...

**Source:** Montcalm, Louis Joseph de. (June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1759) Letter to his superior Marshal de Belle Isle [Translated from French]. In E.B. O'Callaghan, ed., Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York (Albany, NY: Weed, Parsons, 1858).

**Campaign:** Series of military battles

**Diversion:** Distraction / Change

**Gross:** Significant

**Blunder:** Error

**Provisions:** Supplies

**Scarcely:** Barely / Hardly

**Tilled:** Plowed/Worked

**Dispirited:**

Dejected/Discouraged

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**Your Task:** The word “empirics” is used in the featured source. It is an old word rarely used in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. When searching it up in a dictionary, a student finds that the word has two possible meanings. In our featured source, which meaning is likely intended by the author?

Alternative Meanings	
Meaning 1:	An untrained or inexperienced person who behaves as if knowledgeable; a pretender; a charlatan or fraud.
Meaning 2:	One who relies on practical experience

**Multiple Choice:** Which meaning is most plausible?

- a) Meaning A is most plausible
- b) Meaning B is most plausible
- c) Both A and B are equally plausible
- d) Neither meaning is plausible

**Short Answer Response:** Explain your reasoning below.