

1. Sun Tzu said: The control of a large force  
is the same principle as the control of a few men:  
it is merely a question of dividing up their numbers.
2. Fighting with a large army under your command  
is nowise different from fighting with a small one:  
it is merely a question of instituting signs and signals.
3. To ensure that your whole host may withstand  
the brunt of the enemy's attack and remain unshaken--  
this is effected by manoeuvres direct and indirect.
4. That the impact of your army may be like a grindstone  
dashed against an egg--this is effected by the science  
of weak points and strong.
5. In all fighting, the direct method may be used  
for joining battle, but indirect methods will be needed  
in order to secure victory.
6. Indirect tactics, efficiently applied, are inexhaustible  
as Heaven and Earth, unending as the flow of rivers and streams;  
like the sun and moon, they end but to begin anew;  
like the four seasons, they pass away to return once more.
7. There are not more than five musical notes,  
yet the combinations of these five give rise to more  
melodies than can ever be heard.
8. There are not more than five primary colors  
(blue, yellow, red, white, and black), yet in combination  
they produce more hues than can ever been seen.
9. There are not more than five cardinal tastes  
(sour, acrid, salt, sweet, bitter), yet combinations  
of them yield more flavors than can ever be tasted.