

Journal - Pre-Reading

Have you ever been treated unfairly by a teacher (or parent or other adult)? Describe the circumstance and why you consider the treatment unfair.

Name _____

The Big Three

Who was Zeus?

Zeus was the king of all of the Greek gods. No one was more powerful than him. He could change himself to look like anyone, and he had a magical lightning bolt that he could throw to cause destruction. He had the power to give jobs and titles to the other gods and also to take them away. Zeus was married to Hera, who was known as a very jealous wife.



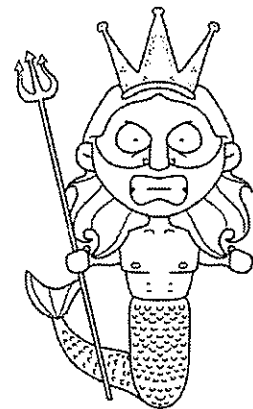
The Myth of Zeus and Prometheus



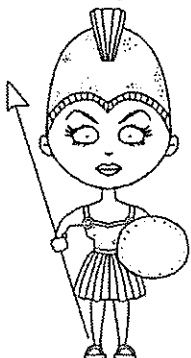
The story goes that long ago, Zeus did not want to give humankind the gift of fire, even though humans could have benefited greatly from it. Prometheus was a kindhearted god that cared for humans and wanted to help them. After all, fire would help mankind survive, by helping them to stay warm and to cook. So Prometheus stole a lightning bolt from Zeus and gave it to humankind, and in this way, they discovered fire! Zeus was so angry at Prometheus for his betrayal that he chained him to a rock for nearly a thousand years. Prometheus was eventually rescued from his torture by another god named Hercules.

Who was Poseidon?

Poseidon was the brother of Zeus and was also a very important god. He was the Lord of the Sea. He was said to have blue eyes and green hair. Most of the time, he lived under the sea in a beautiful undersea castle. The Greeks who lived along the coast were terrified of Poseidon, and they built many temples to honor and please him. If Poseidon was displeased, he could send storms and tidal waves. If Poseidon was happy, the sea would be calm, sparkling, and peaceful.



The Myth of Poseidon and Athens



Many ancient Greek towns had gods that watched over them. As Greece grew, more and more cities were born. One day, there was a new coastal village that sprang up, and Poseidon wanted to claim it for himself, but so did a wise and powerful goddess named Athena. Athena was the goddess of wisdom, and was also one of Zeus' daughters. Poseidon and Athena had a competition to decide who would get to claim the village. They both gave gifts to the townspeople and allowed them to make the final decision.

Poseidon gave them a stream of running water, but the people soon discovered that it was salt water. Athena gave them an olive tree, which the people thought was useful for food and kindling. In the end, the people chose Athena to be their ruling god. The city's name was Athens.

Who was Hades?

Hades was the third brother of Zeus and Poseidon, and he was the god of the Underworld. He did not decide who lived or died on earth. Instead, his job was to run the Underworld, the place where you go after you die. Unlike his brothers, Hades was often dark and gloomy. He had a beloved three-headed dog named Cerberus, who guarded the gates of the Underworld. The Underworld was a place full of good and bad places. The Fields of Elysium was where all of the really good people, or heroes, went. There were other places that offered punishment. It was unwise to anger Hades, because he ultimately decided where the dead would reside.



The Myth of Hades and Persephone

This is the story of how Hades fell in love. One day, Hades decided to take Cerberus and his chariot up to earth, just to take a little break from the Underworld. While he was there, he saw a lovely goddess named Persephone. It was love at first sight.

Persephone was the daughter of Demeter, who was the goddess of the harvest. Her job was to keep the grass green, the flowers blooming, and the crops flourishing. Demeter's true joy was in her daughter, Persephone.

When Hades spotted Persephone, he wanted her to be his immediately. He kidnapped her and took her to the Underworld. Demeter was distraught; she did not care about plants or the harvest any longer. She only cared that her daughter would return to her. Eventually, it was found out that Hades had Persephone. Zeus sent his son, Hermes, to negotiate a deal with Hades.



Finally, a deal was struck. Persephone would live as queen of the Underworld for six months, but then she would be returned to her mother on earth for six months. Whenever Persephone was home, her mother, Demeter, would cause all of the trees and crops to flourish. This is why the seasons existed.

Name _____

The Big Three

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. Name each god of the Big Three. Then, write what each god was in charge of.

2. Why were the coastal cities of Greece so afraid of Poseidon?

3. Why did Zeus become so angry at Prometheus? How did Zeus punish him?

4. In the myth of Poseidon and Athena, why did the people of Athens choose Athena?

5. How did the ancient Greeks explain the seasons?

Use Through out Novel

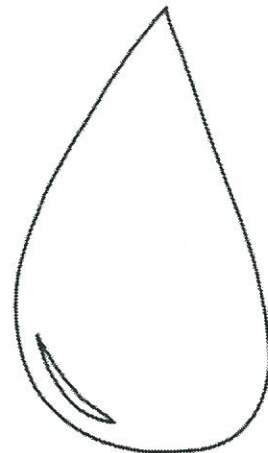
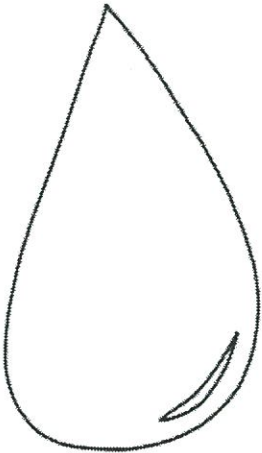
Umbrella Themes

Name _____

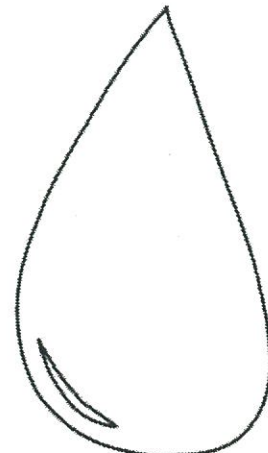
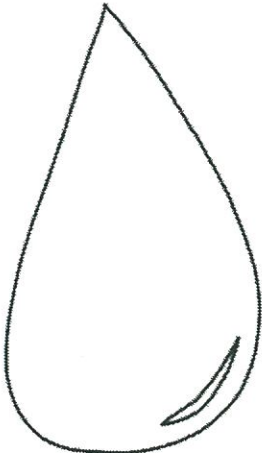
Read the major themes of the story in the umbrellas below. Think about the lessons that the characters and/or readers learned, that are related to each major theme. Write the lessons in the raindrops under the appropriate umbrella.



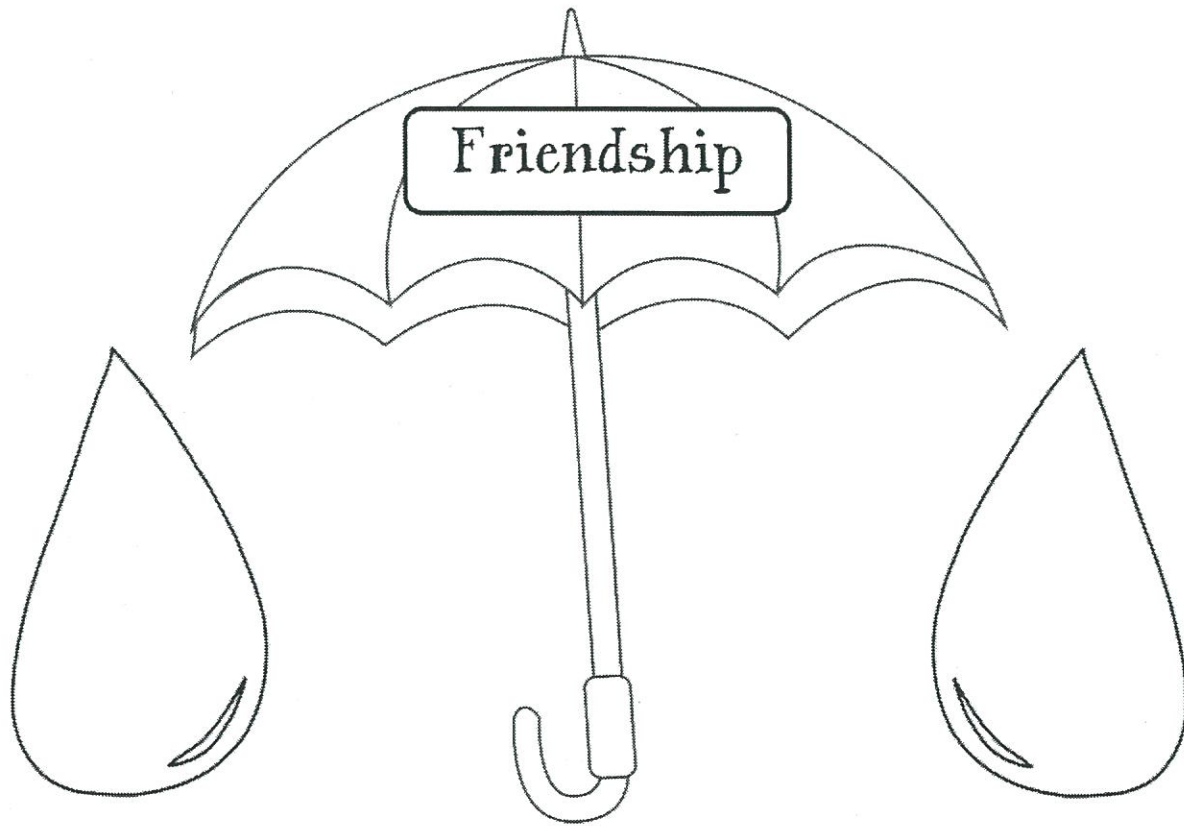
Identity



Love



Use Throughout Novel



Begin Ch. 4 → use throughout Novel

Name _____

The Monsters of The Lightning Thief

Percy faces many frightening monsters in the story. As you read, keep track of each monster he encounters in the chart below.

Monster Name	Description	Summary of the Battle	Picture

Monster Name	Description	Summary of the Battle	Picture

Begin Ch. 6 → use throughout novel

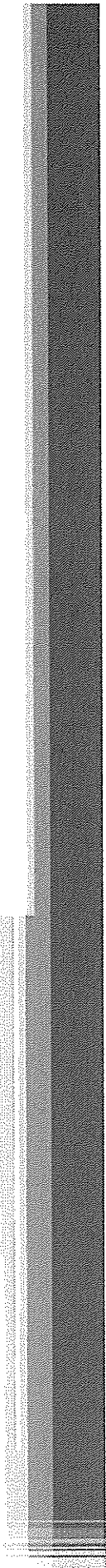
Name _____

Gods and Goddesses

Use these pages to keep track of the Greek gods and goddesses you learn about throughout the story.

Name	What is he/she the god or goddess of?	What are his/her known qualities and attributes?	Who are his/her known enemies?	Picture

Name	What is he/she the god or goddess of?	What are his/her known qualities and attributes?	Who are his/her known enemies?	Picture



Journal - Chapter 1

Have you ever learned something in school that you were absolutely sure you would never use in your life? Explain. (Write at least 4 sentences.)

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 1

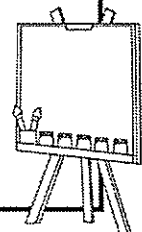
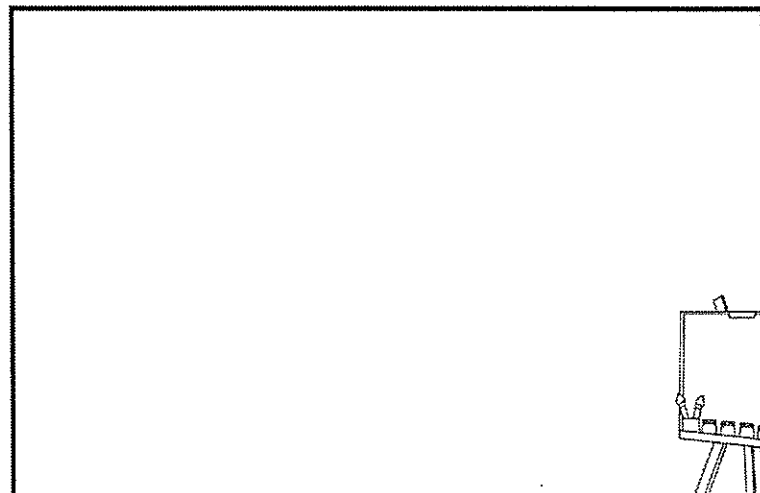
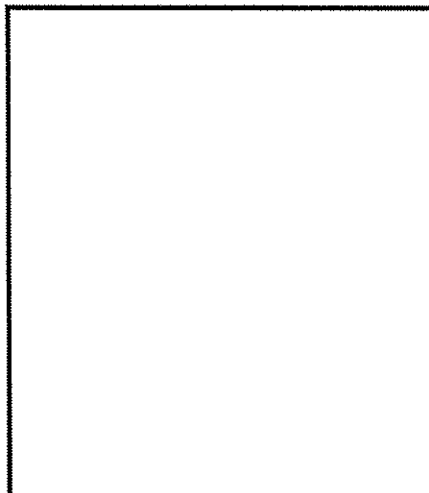
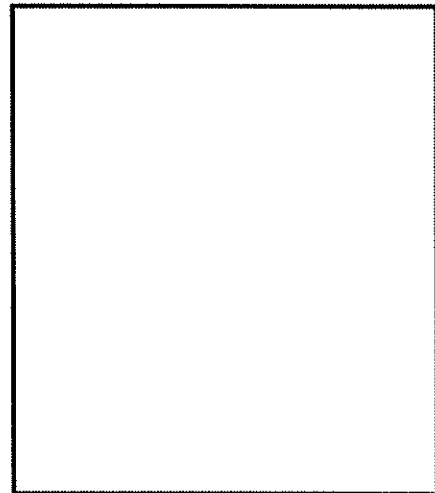
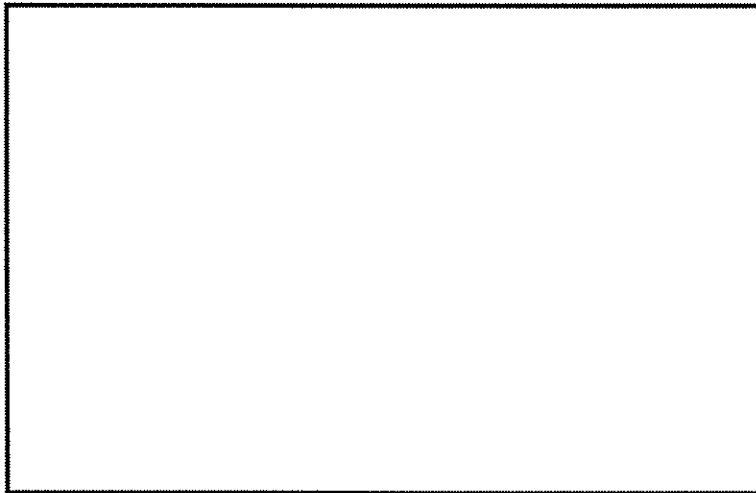
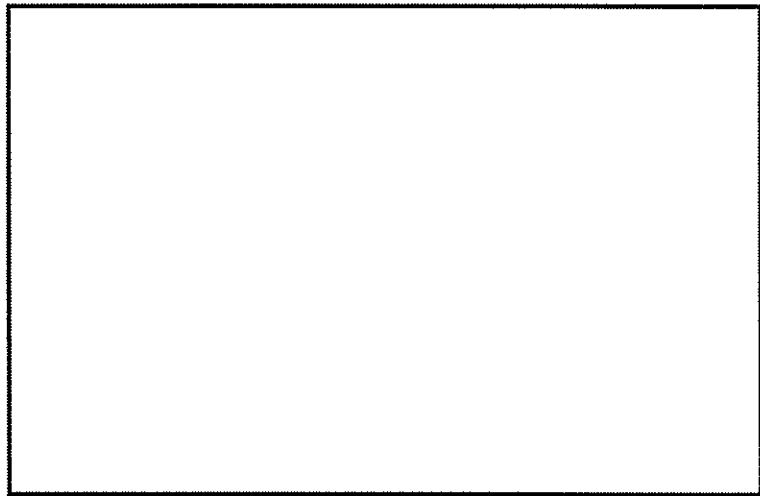
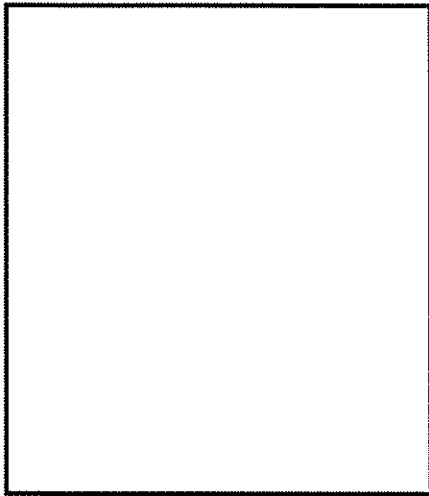
1. What bad experiences has Percy had on past field trips?
2. When do you first suspect that something may be unusual/supernatural about Mrs. Dodds?
3. In the story about the gods and titans, who was Kronos and what happened to him after the gods defeated him?
4. Why does Percy get angry at Mr. Brunner? How would you have felt in his position?
5. How have things changed when Percy returns to the front steps of the museum?

Comic Strip: Mrs. Dodds

Name _____

Design a comic strip below that shows what happens with Mrs. Dodds at the museum.

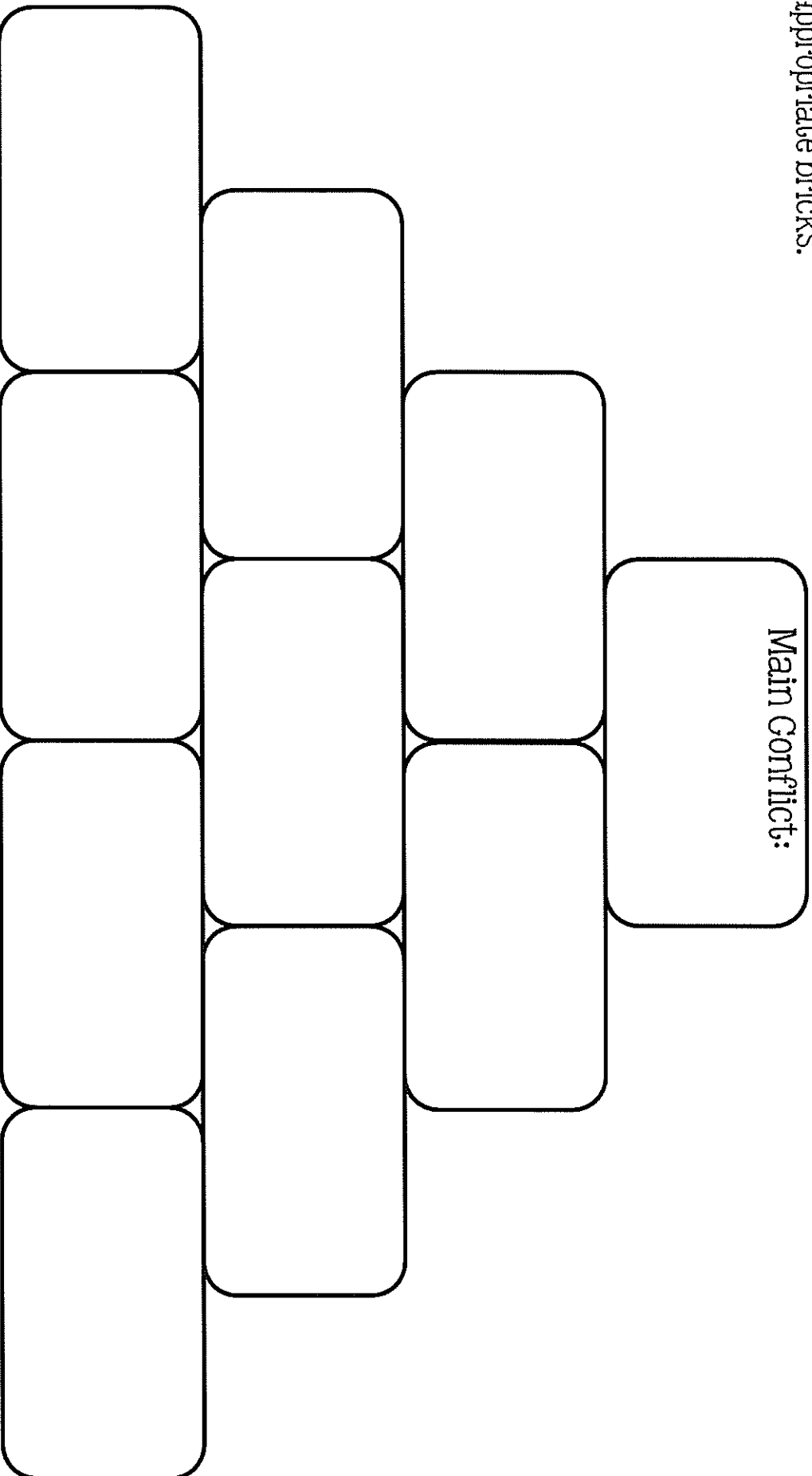
Title: _____



Name _____

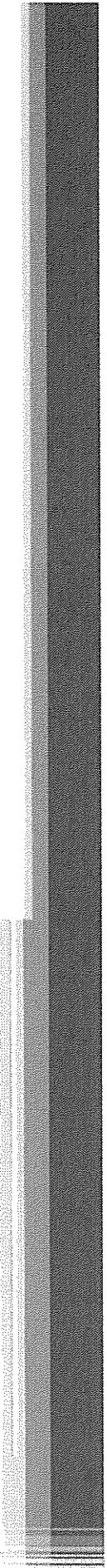
Tower of Terror

In this story, Percy experiences many obstacles that successively lead up to the main conflict. Start at the bottom of the tower below. Write the smaller obstacles that build up to the main conflict, in the appropriate bricks.



RL 4.3/RL 5.3/RL 6.3

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Journal - Chapter 2

Have you ever had a teacher you wanted to do well for? If so, what made you respect that teacher's opinion? If you can't think of a teacher like that, what would a teacher have to be like to make you respect them? (Write at least 4 sentences.)

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 2

1. Why does Percy decide to study for the Latin exam even though he's given up on his other subjects?
2. After the Latin test, what do you think Mr. Brunner was trying to say to Percy? Why does Percy react angrily to Mr. Brunner's words?
3. What responsibility does Grover claim to have, and why does this strike Percy as strange?
4. How does Grover react when Percy tells him about the yarn-cutting?
5. What does Percy think the yarn-cutting means? Does Grover seem to agree?



Journal - Chapter 3

What is the place that you feel most at ease – a place you like to be more than anywhere else?

Describe it in detail. (Write at least 4 sentences.)





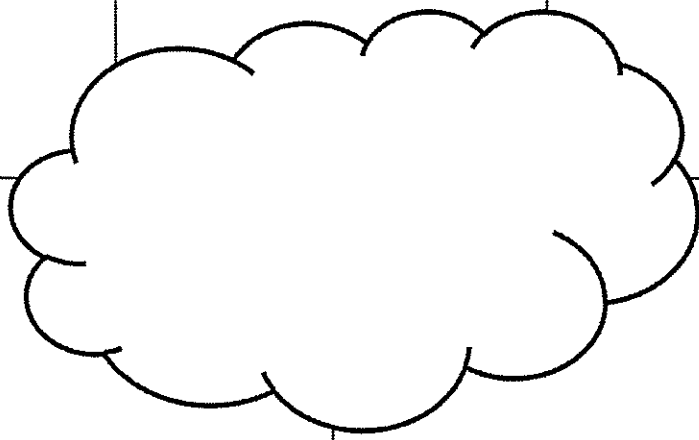

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 3

1. Why does Percy leave Grover at the bus station? What would you have done in his place?
2. Percy says “the best people get the rottenest luck.” How does this apply to his mom?
3. How does Percy get even with Gabe as they’re loading up the Camaro?
4. What new information does Percy learn about his dad as he and his mother are roasting marshmallows?
5. How does the title of the chapter, “Grover Unexpectedly Loses His Pants,” come true?

Name _____

Setting: The Five Senses

Think about a setting from the story. Using the thinking map below, describe the feel, taste, smell, sound, and sight.



Journal - Chapter 4

Is there anyone you would sacrifice your life for? Explain who and why. (at least 4 sentences)

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 4

1. What does Percy say that insults Grover?
2. What does Percy's mom tell him to do when they get out of the car and why does Percy disobey?
3. What happens to Percy's mother?
4. After the monster disintegrates, what gets Percy moving when all he wants to do is collapse?
5. Take a guess: Who is the "familiar face" that Percy thinks he sees?

Name _____

Similes

Rick Riordan uses similes to help you picture what is happening. Carefully read each quote from the text below. Circle the two things being compared. Then, underline the "like" or "as." Finally, sketch a picture of the simile in each box.

1. Then the weirdest thing happened. Her eyes began to glow like barbecue coals.

2. I paced the room, feeling like ants were crawling around inside my shirt.

3. He looked at me mournfully, like he was already picking the kind of flowers I'd like best on my coffin.

4. When I was young, I nicknamed him Smelly Gabe. I'm sorry, but it's the truth. The guy reeked like moldy garlic pizza wrapped in gym shorts.

5. Gabe had put on weight. He looked like a tuskless walrus in thrift-store clothes.

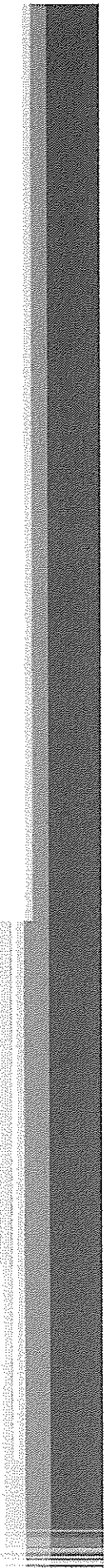
6. Gabe could sniff out money like a bloodhound, which was surprising, since his own smell should've covered up everything else

7. My mother can make me feel good just by walking into the room. Her eyes sparkle and change color in the light. Her smile is as warm as a quilt.

8. The screen door slammed shut so hard it whacked him in the butt and sent him flying up the staircase as if he'd been shot from a cannon.

9. I heard a distant bellow, an angry, tortured sound that made my hair stand on end. Then, a much closer noise, like mallets in the sand.

10. The roof had cracked open like an eggshell and rain was pouring in.



Journal - Chapter 5

If someone granted you immortality (being your present age, just as you are, forever) would you take it? Think of as many pros and cons as you can. (Write at least 4 sentences.)



Journal - Chapter 6

Have you ever been “the new kid” in school? If so, how did it feel? If not, have you ever had a new kid come into your school? Was it easy for them to fit in or not? (Write at least 4 sentences.)

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 5

1. Why does Grover say he retrieved the Minotaur horn?
2. How does Percy feel after he tries the strange drink?
3. Describe Mr. D. Anticipate: Will he be a hero or a villain? Why?
4. What clues help Percy guess Mr. D's identity?
5. According to Chiron, what is the big question everyone wants answered? Take a guess: what's the answer?

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 6

1. What does Percy notice about the farm house as he walks away from it? What bothers him about the attic?
2. Why do you think Percy asks Chiron about the Underworld? He says: “*The beginnings of an idea – a tiny, hopeful fire – started forming in my mind.*” What does he mean?
3. Based on the description, what Greek god is cabin three dedicated to?
4. How does Annabeth know Percy is “one of us”?
5. What happens to Clarisse and her friends in the bathroom? How does this incident change Annabeth’s attitude toward Percy?

Name _____



Idioms

Idiom: an expression that means something other than its literal meaning.

The Lightning Thief contains many idioms.
Read the quotes from the book below. Circle the idioms.
Then, sketch their literal and figurative meanings.
Finally, explain each idiom.

1. Whenever I was home, [Smelly Gabe] expected me to provide his gambling funds. He called that our "guy secret." Meaning, if I told my mom, he would punch my lights out

Literal sketch

Figurative sketch

This idiom means _____

2. "I was keeping tabs on you. Making sure you were okay. But I wasn't faking being your friend," Grover added hastily.

Literal sketch

Figurative sketch

This idiom means _____

3. Then I thought about Mr. Brunner...and the sword he had thrown me. Before I could ask Grover about that, the hair rose on the back of my neck.

Literal sketch

Figurative sketch

This idiom means _____

4. I was about to answer, off the top of my head, that [not dying] sounded like a pretty good deal, but the tone of Chiron's voice made me hesitate.

Literal sketch

Figurative sketch

This idiom means _____

5. I wondered if Grover was still inside the farmhouse, getting chewed out by Mr. D.

Literal sketch

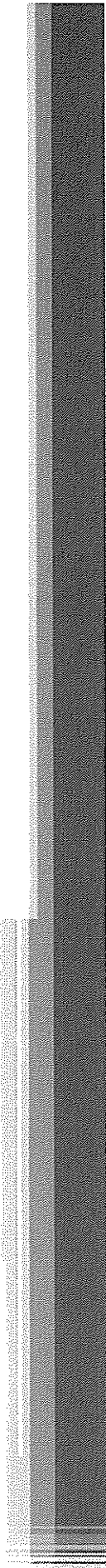
Figurative sketch

This idiom means _____



Journal - Chapter 7

You are having a dinner party and can have anything on the menu you want. What food and drink would you choose for you and your friends? (Write at least 4 sentences.)



Journal - Chapter 8

If you were forced to decide right now what career you would study in the future, what would you chose? What skills would make you good at that career? What is a career you definitely would not choose? (Write at least 4 sentences.)

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 7

1. What does it mean to be “undermined”?
2. Why is Annabeth frustrated when she and Percy talk about quests?
3. Why does Luke feel bitter?
4. What does Percy wish for as he puts his dinner into the fire?
5. In what way does Percy feel different once he gets to the bonfire?

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 8

1. Why are the counselors having a hard time deciding who Percy's Olympian parent is?
2. How does Percy surprise everyone during his first sword class? How do you think he was able to do this?
3. According to Grover, why did the "Big Three" gods swear never to have any more children?
4. Why does the story about Thalia make Percy feel "hollow and guilty?"
5. When you find out Percy's true identity, are you surprised or did you see it coming? What clues were given earlier in the book?

Name _____

Mystery Thoughts

Read each thought bubble. From the list of characters, determine whose point of view each thought represents. Write your best guesses on the lines inside each bubble. Some may have more than one correct answer, and some answers may be used more than once.

Percy
Luke

Annabeth
Smelly Gabe

Grover
Clarisse

I enjoy gambling. My wife's job is to serve me whatever I want, when I want it.

I feel really unwanted by my father.

I long to be out in the real world, so I can actually use all of the skills I've learned at camp.

I feel like everyone thinks I'm a failure, but I want to prove everyone wrong.

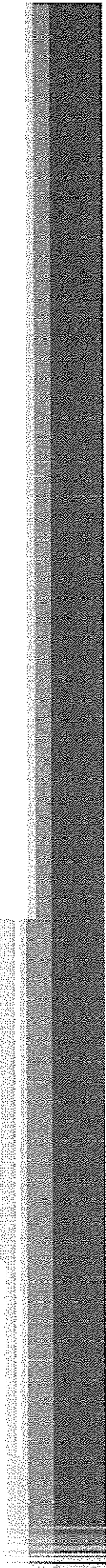
I am big and tough, like my dad, Ares.

I'm one of the best sword fighters at Camp Half-Blood.

I have always struggled in school, so I keep having to switch schools.

I always have a plan.

- ❖ In the empty thought bubbles below, write two more characters along with a thought they might have, just like the samples above. Remember to write in the first person. Be creative!



Journal - Chapter 9

Have you ever had something stolen from you? Do you know anyone else who has? Describe the situation and how it made you feel. How did you deal with the thief? (Write at least 4 sentences.)



Journal - Chapter 10

Many of the campers at Camp Half-Blood have their own magic item. Clarisse has an electric spear. Annabeth has a baseball cap that turns her invisible. What magic item would make sense for Percy, as the son of the Sea God? Design your own magic item. (Write at least 2 sentences and add a picture.)



Comprehension Questions - Chapter 9

1. Why does Percy feel miserable once he gets his own cabin?
2. Based on the newspaper article Percy finds under his door, what is happening in the real world while Percy is in camp?
3. Why does Zeus think Percy stole the master bolt?
4. According to Chiron, what evidence suggests that Hades stole the lightning bolt?
5. Why does Percy have to travel over land?

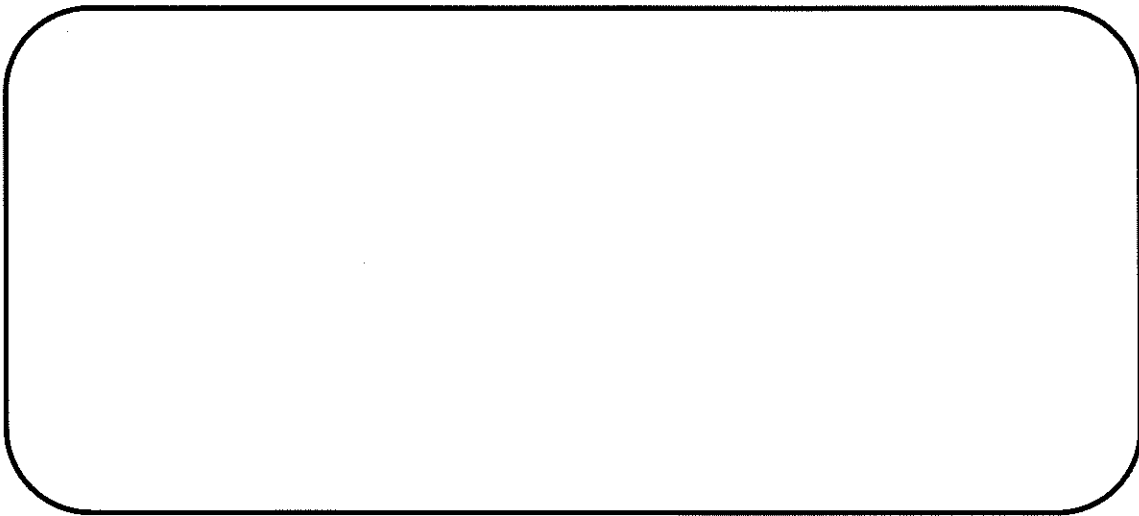


Comprehension Questions - Chapter 10

1. Who is Argus and why can he never be surprised?
2. What gift does Luke give to Percy? Why can't Percy use them?
3. What special properties does Riptide have?
4. What is Mist?
5. According to Grover, why did Percy's mom marry Gabe?
6. Why doesn't Percy leave the bus when he has the chance?

WANTED!

Dangerous Juvenile on the Loose!



Name _____

Crime _____

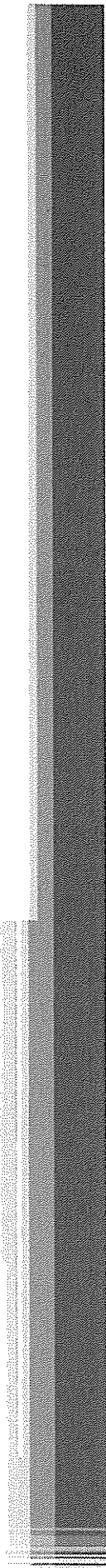
Height _____

Weight _____

Description _____

Reward _____

Contact _____



Journal - Chapter 11

An old piece of advice is: “Never talk to strangers.” Do you believe this is always the safest thing to do? Why or why not? (Write at least 4 sentences.)



Journal - Chapter 12

Do you think animals can understand when you talk to them?

Have you ever had a pet you understand very well? (Write at least 4 sentences)

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 11

1. Why is Annabeth upset with Percy for risking his life on the bus?
2. Why does Grover start to get nervous at the emporium? (There are several reasons.)
3. Did you guess Aunty Em's true identity before Percy did? If so, what clues gave her away?
4. Why does Annabeth say they have to kill Medusa? Why can't they just run away?
5. Why do you think Percy sends Medusa's head to Mount Olympus? Do you think this is a good idea?

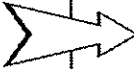
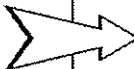

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 12

1. Why does Grover want a searcher's license?
2. According to Grover, why did Percy mail Medusa's head to Mount Olympus?
3. What terrible realization does Percy make toward the end of the dream? What does the voice want from him?
4. Who do you think is talking to Percy in the dream? Who is this voice from the pit?
5. If you were offered the choice in Percy's dream – to save your own parent's life or complete your quest and prevent a terrible war – what would you choose?

Name _____

Settings and Emotions

Different settings evoke different emotions. Imagine yourself in each of the settings from the book below. Write a brief description of the setting. Then, write about how it makes you feel.

Setting	Description	How it makes me feel
Aunty Em's Garden Emporium		
Waterland		
Lotus Hotel and Casino		

Name _____

Chapter *Highlights*

Below, illustrate and write about the three main events in the chapter(s) you just read. Write and sketch out the events below.

First

Next

Last



Journal - Chapter 13

Many people have phobias. Fear of heights is one of the most common. Are you afraid of high places, or do you know anyone who is? What about other phobias – do you have any? (Write at least 4 sentences.)



Comprehension Questions - Chapter 13

1. Why does Percy try to keep a low profile on the train?
2. Why does Percy laugh when Annabeth tells him what she wants to be?
3. Describe the Chimera.
4. What is Percy's "fatal mistake" while battling the Chimera?
5. Why does Percy decide he has no choice but to jump? What would you have done in his place?

Name _____

S · I · M · I · L · E · S

Rick Riordan uses similes to help you picture what is happening. Carefully read each quote from the text below. Circle the two things being compared. Then, underline the "like" or "as." Finally, sketch a picture of the simile in each box.

1. Over Long Island Sound, the sky looked like ink soup coming to a boil.

2. Grover was trembling. He'd started eating pinochle cards like potato chips.

3. Emotions rolled around inside me like bits of glass in a kaleidoscope.

4. Grover went flying sideways down the hill like a possessed lawn mower, heading toward the van.

5. We careened out of the Lincoln Tunnel and back into the rainstorm, people and monsters tossed around the bus, cars plowed aside like bowling pins.

6. Her two ugly sisters hopped on top of the seats on either side of her and crawled toward me like huge nasty lizards.

7. You've never smelled Aunty Em's burgers. The aroma was like laughing gas in the dentist's chair—it made everything else go away.

8. Behind me, I heard a buzzing sound, like a two hundred-pound hummingbird in a nosedive.

9. Annabeth craned her neck to see the Gateway Arch, which looked to me like a huge shopping bag handle stuck on the city.

10. Before I could swing my sword, [the Chimera] opened its mouth, emitting a stench like the world's largest barbecue pit, and shot a column of flame straight at me.

Journal - Chapter 14

There is an old saying: *“There is no such thing as bad press.”* What does this mean? Do you think it is true? Would you like to be famous in the national news, even if it was for something negative? (Write at least 4 sentences.)



Journal - Chapter 15

In this chapter, Annabeth says,

“Even strength has to bow to wisdom.” Do you think that’s true?

Would you rather be exceptionally strong or exceptionally wise?

(Write at least 4 sentences.)

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 14

1. When he lands in the Mississippi River, what does Percy realize that amazes him?
2. Why does Percy feel ashamed that Poseidon saved him?
3. What message does the woman in the water bring to Percy? What is her warning?
4. What does Percy learn by overhearing the reporters outside the Arch?
5. What happened to the family that was in the Arch with Percy?

Comprehension Questions - Chapter 15

1. What is Iris-messaging? How does it work?
2. Luke says: “Tell Grover it’ll be better this time! Nobody will get turned into a pine tree...” What does this tell you about Grover’s past?
3. What does Ares say that convinces Percy to help him?
4. How does Annabeth put her knowledge of physics to work on the water ride?
5. At the end of the chapter, whom do you think Percy is angrier with – Hephaestus or Ares? Why?