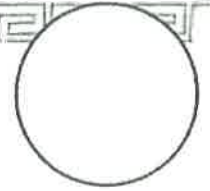


Name _____

Date _____



TEST

The Iliad

Match the description to each character's name.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| <u>G</u> 1. Wife of Priam | A Patroclus |
| <u>K</u> 2. Leader of the Greek forces | X Paris |
| <u>O</u> 3. King of Troy | X Odysseus |
| <u>I</u> 4. Prophet advisor to the king of Troy | D Clytemnestra |
| <u>S</u> 5. Mother of Achilles | E Penelope |
| <u>P</u> 6. Husband of Helen | F Chryseis |
| <u>C</u> 7. Greek warrior from Ithaka | G Hecuba |
| <u>B</u> 8. Helen's lover | H Iphigenia |
| <u>M</u> 9. Achilles' slave | K Laocoon |
| <u>D</u> 10. Queen of Mycenae | L Hector |
| <u>R</u> 11. Proud soldier who dies on his sword | M Agamemnon |
| <u>T</u> 12. Trojan princess promised to Achilles | N Andromache |
| <u>H</u> 13. Sacrificed at Aulis | O Briseis |
| <u>F</u> 14. Trojan beauty taken by Agamemnon | P Penthesilea |
| <u>J</u> 15. Priam's eldest son | Q Priam |
| <u>A</u> 16. Achilles' best friend | R Menelaus |
| <u>E</u> 17. Odysseus's wife | S Helen |
| <u>L</u> 18. Hector's wife | T Ajax |
| <u>N</u> 19. Queen of the Amazons | U Thetis |
| <u>Q</u> 20. "The most beautiful woman in the world" | V Polyxena |

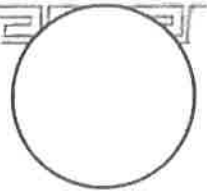
Sequencing

Using the numbers 1-5, put these events in the order in which they occurred in the story.

- 3 21. Hephaestus, god of fire and metal, forges new armor for Achilles.
- 5 22. Ajax commits suicide out of shame for his actions.
- 1 23. Iphigenia is sacrificed at Aulis.
- 2 24. Patroclus is killed.
- 4 25. King Priam of Troy begs Achilles for the body of his slain son, Hector.

The Iliad

Scenes 1-7



STORY
SUMMARY 1

Fill in the blanks using the words provided. Some words are used more than once.

Answers

Paris Homer Briseis ~~Helen~~ Mycenae Sparta
Hium Aphrodite Menelaus Troy Thetis Aulis
Agamemnon Iphigenia amazons Chryseis ~~Hied~~ Patroclus

Troy was an ancient city. It is also known by the name Ilium¹. When the ancient Greek storyteller Homer², who is thought to have been blind, told the story of the Trojan War, he called it the Iliad³.

This famous tale recounts the story of Helen⁴, the most beautiful woman in the world, and events surrounding her capture. It is this woman who has “the face that launched a thousand ships.” Her husband is Menelaus⁵. They are king and queen of Sparta⁶. A young man named Paris⁷, with help from the goddess Aphrodite⁸, who is the goddess of love, steals Helen from her husband.

Menelaus⁹, returning from a trip, discovers that Paris¹⁰, who had been a guest at his palace, has stolen his wife and looted the palace treasury. He vows revenge and assembles Helen’s former suitors, who had pledged years before to protect her wedding vows. Menelaus recruits his brother Agamemnon¹¹, king of Mycenae¹², to be the leader of the Greek forces for the assault on Troy, where Paris¹³ has taken Helen.

After a thousand Greek ships have assembled at Aulis¹⁴, the wise man Calchas tells them that a sacrifice must be made in order to get a “fair wind for Troy.” Unfortunately, it is Agamemnon¹⁵’s daughter, Iphigenia¹⁶, who must be sacrificed. Her sorrowful but ambitious father lures her to her death by telling her that she must travel to Aulis to be married to Achilles. When she discovers the real reason for her journey, she submits willingly, calling it a “noble cause.” Immediately after her death, the winds begin to blow in the direction of Troy¹⁷.

The Greeks set up camp on the shore, under the battlements of Troy. To pass the time in between fighting, the Greeks loot and burn the towns and villages around Troy, hoping to weaken her defenses by

eliminating her allies. On one of the raids, two girls are taken by the soldiers and made into slaves.

They are cousins, and one is the daughter of a priest of Apollo. Their names are Chryseis¹⁸ and Briseis¹⁸. Chryseis¹⁹ is considered the prize of the raid, and Agamemnon enslaves her. Achilles takes her cousin. When it seems as if the Greek forces will never be able to take Troy, Calchas declares that the girl's father has appealed to Apollo, who now demands the return of Chryseis²⁰. Agamemnon promises to return her but wants to take Achilles' prize, Briseis²¹, as a substitute. Achilles is forced to give up the girl because Agamemnon²² is his commander, and a king as well, whereas Achilles is merely a prince. This enrages Achilles and he refuses to fight.

Achilles refusal to fight makes others unwilling to fight. Achilles' best friend, Patroclus²³, borrows his armor in the hopes of inspiring the men to a new attack. The soldiers, upon seeing Achilles armor, burst into formation and follow him into a fierce battle, where to their horror, he is struck down by Prince Hector of Troy. When Hector strips off and claims the armor, he is astonished to find that the body beneath is not Achilles at all. Odysseus and Ajax rush back to Achilles' tent, where they find him and tell him Patroclus was slain while wearing Achilles' armor.

In a fury, Achilles rushes to his mother, the sea goddess, Thetis²⁴. She orders Hephaestus, god of fire and metal, to make a special suit of armor, one impervious to weapons of any kind.

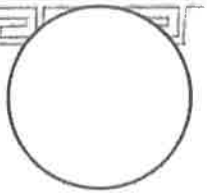
Achilles suits up and meets Hector on the battlefield. The two warriors clash, but Hector ultimately falls to Achilles' vengeful resolve. To prove how angry he is that Hector killed Patroclus, Achilles threads a leather rope through Hector's ankles and drags the body around the walls of Troy for days on end. Everyone is horrified. After funeral games for his best friend, Patroclus, Achilles is visited in his tent by King Priam and his daughter Polyxena, who seek the return of Prince Hector's body in exchange for a ransom of gold. Achilles' heart is softened when he sees the suffering he has caused Hector's sister Polyxena. King Priam offers her hand in marriage, and Achilles accepts but states that the engagement must remain secret until he has a chance to speak to Agamemnon.

Soon after, the Greeks are besieged by allies of the Trojans, including the women warriors called the amazon's²⁵ and a tribe called the Ethiopians. Achilles answers the call to fight and does battle with the leaders of both tribes. After a fierce struggle, both Queen Penthesilea and Memnon, son of the goddess Aurora and leader of the Ethiopians, are slain by Achilles, devastating the Trojan defense.

Score: _____ /25

The Iliad

Scenes 8-14



STORY
SUMMARY 2

Fill in the blanks using the words provided. Some words are used more than once.

Answers

Greeks Athena Troy Achilles gates
sea serpents Odysseus Trojans Agamemnon
Priam Menelaus Laocoon Greek festivities
Paris Ajax Polyxena Cassandra Helen

Since accepting King Priam's daughter, Achilles has met secretly with Polyxena¹ on occasion and grown fond of her. One day he meets her at the Temple of Apollo and they talk about their childhoods. Suddenly, Paris² appears from behind a column and aims his arrow at Achilles³' heel, the only mortal spot on his body. The great Greek warrior is killed!

Athena⁴ organizes a vote for Achilles' special armor, announcing it should go to the best Greek soldier: Odysseus or Ajax. The goddess makes sure Odysseus⁵ gets the most votes. Ajax⁶ is stunned, and after Athena sends madness into his body to keep him from retaliating, he strikes down pigs in a pen at the beach encampment. When he comes back to his senses and realizes what he has done, he is so ashamed that he falls on his sword. Losing two of the finest soldiers has a demoralizing effect on the Greeks, but Odysseus comes up with a plan.

A gigantic wooden horse is built, wheels are attached, and it is set up on the shore. The secret is that it is hollow, and Odysseus takes a group of soldiers inside. Meanwhile, the rest of the Greek forces board their ships and sail off to hide out behind a nearby island. The strange wooden effigy excites the curiosity of the Trojans⁷, who wonder why the Greeks would have left right in the middle of a war. Their curiosity drives King Priam⁸ to form an investigative party, which he then takes down to the seashore. Discussing the meaning of the giant structure, it is decided that the Greeks have given up and left behind a gift. King Priam's daughter, Cassandra⁹, who can predict the future, warns that it is dangerous and will bring about the end to Troy. Laocoon¹⁰, a priest, echoes her warning. But the princess has been cursed in that nothing she says is believed—even though she is able to foresee the future. Suddenly, to the horror of all, two monstrous sea serpents¹¹ slither up the beach and drag Laocoon¹² and his two

sons into the sea. This is seen as a sign from the gods that the wooden horse is indeed a gift. Amid the last protests from Cassandra¹³, King Priam¹⁴ orders that the horse be pulled through the gates of the city.

Inside the walls of Troy¹⁵, there is much rejoicing by the people who believe the war against the Greeks is over. Singing and dancing and celebration of all kinds overtake the city and the festivities¹⁶ last long into the night. Finally, exhausted, sleep descends on the city and things become quiet.¹⁷

Silent inside the hollow belly of the horse, Odysseus¹⁸ and the others begin to gather their courage for the next phase of the plan. A Greek spy alerts them when the coast is clear, and Odysseus¹⁹ leads his men out into the sleeping city. He orders the gates²⁰ of the city to be opened to the waiting Greek²¹ soldiers. From that moment on, the city is doomed.

With brutal swiftness, the Greeks overpower the sleepy citizens, slaughter them, and reduce their city to rubble.

At daybreak, Agamemnon²², leader of the Greeks, has the survivors rounded up and parceled out as slaves. He chooses Cassandra²³, princess of Troy. And Menelaus²⁴, King of Sparta, accepts his own estranged wife, Helen²⁵, the most beautiful woman in the world.

Score: _____ /25 points