

AUGUSTA COUNTY INSTITUTE FOR CLASSICAL STUDIES

ACTIVITATES PRO LIBERIS

VOLUME V

*Lessons & Activities
for the Elementary & Middle School
Focusing on
Ancient Greek Language and Culture*

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Greek Vocabulary & Grammar

Vocabulary Topic	Grammar Covered	Culture Covered	Page
Adjectives	Singular Linking Verbs	None	61
Verbs	3 rd Person Singular and Plural Verbs	Olympics	78
Animals	Plural Subject Nouns, Plural Linking Verbs	None	89
Foods	Singular Object Nouns	None	117
Natural World	Plural Object Nouns	None	169
Review	Review	None	197

A Middle School Greek Week Unit - - - - - 242

Visit
www.acics.net/publications
(click on Volume V) for companion materials and
to listen to proper pronunciations of all glossed words from this book.

GREEK CULTURE

HOMER AND THE TROJAN WAR

Objectives

1. To introduce students to the story of the Trojan War.
2. To introduce students to Homer, epics, and epithets.
3. To give students the opportunity to perform like an ancient bard.

Materials Needed

Copy of the *Iliad* or the *Odyssey* (either in Greek or in English)

Map of the Mediterranean region

Story of the Trojan War

Trojan War Characters Worksheet

Who Was Homer? Handout

Preparation

1. Make copies of the Who Was Homer? Handout and the Trojan War Characters Worksheet.

Procedures

1. Hand out copies of the Who Was Homer? Handout. Read and discuss the handout with the students. When explaining that bards told their stories by heart without the use of notes, tell the students that this was even more impressive due to the fact that the poems were told in meter. Explain that meter is the art of arranging words in certain patterns so that they sound a certain way. Ask the students whether or not they can speak in rhymes at any given moment, and explain that this is similar to what Homer did. Also, show the students the copy of the *Iliad* or *Odyssey* so that they can see how long these poems are. Finally, show the students the locations of Greece and Troy on a map.

2. Hand out copies of the Trojan War Characters Worksheet. Explain that Homer used lots of adjectives, called epithets, to describe the characters in his poems. Have the students read the description of each character, then think of an adjective that could describe that character. Each student should write his or her adjective in the blank. Then, as a class, compare answers and vote on the adjective that best describes each character. Students should write this adjective in the second blank.

3. Explain that you are going to read the students a passage about the Trojan War and that when you say a character's name, you will use the epithet that the class voted on. You will say the epithets (which are indicated by spaces in the passage), and then the class should shout out the matching character's name. Read the passage in this way, with the class shouting each character's name as they hear his or her epithet.

GREEK CULTURE

HOMER AND THE TROJAN WAR

4. Tell the students that now that they know the story of the Trojan War, they will have a chance to be an ancient bard and tell the story out loud without notes. Give the students some time to practice telling the myth of the Trojan War to a partner without reading from their handouts. Then ask if there are any volunteers who would like to tell the story to the class. Again, remind the students that Homer and other bards not only performed without the use of notes, but also made their stories fit a meter, similar to the way that singers put fit songs to certain rhythms and rhymes.

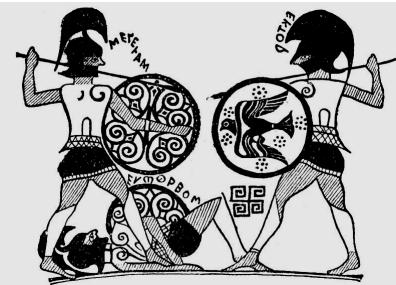
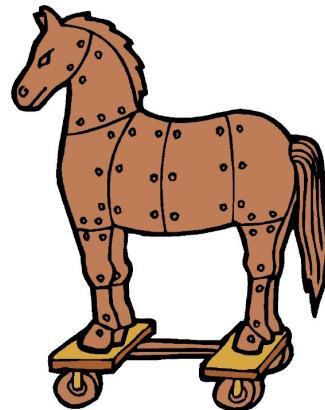
*You may wish to tell the students that Homer's poems did not actually describe the Trojan horse and the fall of Troy.

WHO WAS HOMER?



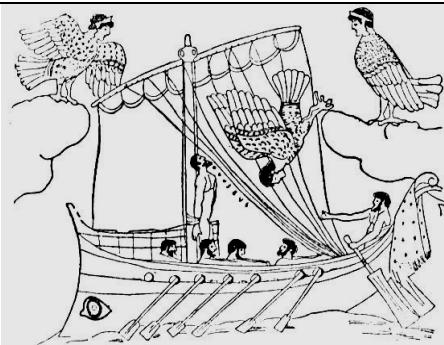
Homer was a Greek **bard**, a poet who told stories of the heroes and gods. He lived around 750 B.C. His poems were about the legendary Trojan War, and they are called the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. These poems were very long, and Homer and other bards told them by heart!

Myths say the **Trojan War** began when the Trojan prince Paris carried away a beautiful Greek woman, Helen, from **Greece** to **Troy**. Helen's husband and the rest of the Greeks sailed to Troy to fight to bring her home. After ten years of fighting, the Greeks finally won the war by tricking the Trojans with a huge wooden horse filled with Greek soldiers. Troy was burned to the ground.



The *Iliad* focuses on several weeks in the tenth year of the Trojan War. The best Greek warrior, Achilles, becomes very angry at Agamemnon, a Greek king, and quits fighting. It takes a lot more than just an apology to bring Achilles back to the battlefield.

The *Odyssey* describes the adventures of the Greek hero Odysseus on his way home from the Trojan War. He survives shipwrecks and meets many unusual monsters. Finally, he arrives home and kills the men who had been trying to marry his wife while he was away.



Characters in the Trojan War



NAME	ROLE IN THE STORY	MY ADJECTIVE	CLASS ADJECTIVE
Achilles	Out of all the Greeks, he fought the most fiercely. Homer's <i>Iliad</i> tells what happened when Achilles became angry and stopped fighting.	_____	_____
Agamemnon	He led the Greeks in their war against Troy. He was the king of Mycenae in Greece. His brother was Menelaus.	_____	_____
Menelaus	He is the King of Sparta in Greece, who became very upset when his wife, Helen, was carried off by the Trojan prince Paris.	_____	_____
Odysseus	He was another Greek king who fought at Troy. He thought very cleverly, and the Trojan horse was his idea. After the war, he had many adventures on his journey home.	_____	_____
Helen	She was “the face that launched a thousand ships.” The Trojan Paris carried her off from Sparta, and the Greeks sailed to Troy to reclaim her.	_____	_____
Paris	He was the handsome young Trojan prince who brought Helen back to Troy, causing the Trojan War. He was not one of the best warriors.	_____	_____
Aphrodite	She was the goddess of love and beauty. Paris judged her the most beautiful of three goddesses, and so she rewarded him by offering him Helen.	_____	_____
Hector	He was the leading warrior on the Trojan side. He was killed by Achilles.	_____	_____

STORY OF THE TROJAN WAR

You could say that the Trojan War would never have happened if three goddesses hadn't started fighting over a piece of fruit. There was a beautiful golden apple inscribed with the words, "For the fairest." The only problem was: there were three goddesses who wanted to claim it. Each one of the three, Hera, Athena, and _____ Aphrodite, thought that she herself was the fairest and deserved the golden apple. They finally settled the dispute by asking

_____ Paris, a Trojan prince, to be the judge. _____ Paris chose _____ Aphrodite. In return, she rewarded him with the most beautiful woman in the world, _____ Helen.

Helen was already married to _____ Menelaus. So, when _____ Paris kidnapped her and brought her home with him to Troy, _____ Menelaus and the other Greeks sailed to Troy in an attempt to bring Helen home. The Trojan War lasted for ten long years. The leader of the Greeks was _____ Agamemnon. Two other great Greek warriors were _____ Odysseus and _____ Achilles. The Trojans were led by _____ Hector.

After ten long years of fighting, the Greeks decided to find a different way to win the war. _____ Odysseus thought of a plan. The Greeks would build a giant wooden horse, hide some men inside it, leave it as a gift for the Trojans, and pretend to sail away. After the Trojans brought the horse inside their city, the Greeks would climb out of the horse and open the doors for the rest of their army. The plan worked, and as a result of this trick, Troy lost the Trojan War, and the city was burned to the ground.

GREEK VOCABULARY, GRAMMAR, CULTURE

VERBS AND THE OLYMPICS

Objectives

1. To introduce students to the Ancient Greek Olympics.
2. To introduce nine Greek verbs to the students.
3. To introduce the third person endings (**Ετ** and **ΟΥΟΤ**) of regular Greek verbs.

Materials Needed

Charades Cards (photocopy the page and cut it into cards)
Greek Verbs Fill-in-the-Blanks worksheet
Greek Verb Flashcards, which will also be used as Charades Cards answers
(photocopy the six pages and cut into cards)
Pictures or PowerPoint presentation of the Ancient Greek Olympic events

Preparation

1. Prepare the Greek Verb Flashcards by photocopying the six pages of verbs and cutting them into cards. In the order in which they occur in this book, the verbs' meanings are: he/she/it leads, they lead, he/she/it walks, they walk, he/she/it throws, they throw, he/she/it watches, they watch, he/she/it rides, they ride, he/she/it calls, they call, he/she/it wrestles, they wrestle, he/she/it runs, they run, he/she/it carries, and they carry.
2. Prepare the Charades Greek verb cards by photocopying the page onto cardstock and then cutting the page along the lines.
3. Run off copies of the Greek Verbs Fill-in-the-Blanks worksheet.
4. Prepare the pictures of Ancient Greek Olympic events by making a PowerPoint presentation or by printing the pictures.

For photographs of ancient Greek depictions of Olympic events, visit:
<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/Olympics/sports.html>

For pictures of Athens 2004 Olympic events based on ancient Greek depictions of Olympic events, visit: <http://www.pindemonium.com/20angrcuolpi.html>

Procedures

1. Hand out copies of the Greek Verbs Fill-in-the-Blanks worksheet to the students.
2. Ask students for the appropriate English verb to describe the first picture on the worksheet.

GREEK VOCABULARY, GRAMMAR, CULTURE

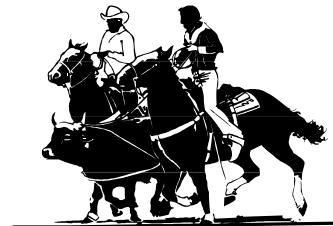
VERBS AND THE OLYMPICS

Hold up the Greek Verb flashcard for that verb (**ΙΠΠΕΥΣΙ**). Pronounce the Greek for the students and have them repeat after you. Then have them write the Greek in the space under the picture on their worksheets.

3. Have the students look at the picture to the right of the first one, then show them the Greek Verb flashcard for this second picture (**ΙΠΠΕΥΟΥΣΙ**). Pronounce the Greek for the students and have them repeat after you. Ask the students for a reason as to why the verb for the first picture ended in **ΕΙ** and the verb for the second ended in **ΟΥΣΙ**. Lead them to the fact that the ending **ΕΙ** is used for singular subjects and the ending **ΟΥΣΙ** is used for plural subjects. Then have students write the Greek in the space under the picture on their worksheets.
4. Repeat this procedure until all 9 Greek verbs have been taught.
5. Ask students what they already know about the ancient Greek Olympics. Then, explain that the Olympic Games were held in honor of Zeus, and that the athletes participated in events including wrestling, running, boxing, discus throwing, horse racing, and chariot racing.
6. Show the students a picture of an ancient Greek Olympic event. Ask the students to use what they have learned today about Greek verbs to figure out which verb describes the picture. Continue until all the pictures of Olympic events have been shown and described with a Greek verb.
7. Practice the Greek verbs by playing Charades. Divide the students into two teams. Spread the Greek Verb Flashcards out along a table. Have a player from one team choose a Charades Card. He will act out the verb on the chosen Charade Card and try to get his own team to guess the correct Greek verb. His teammates should sit or stand at the table where the Greek Verb Flashcards have been spread out. They will guess the secret verb by holding up the Greek Verb Flashcard and saying the word. If they guess the word correctly within the allotted time, the team wins a point, and play continues with the other team. If they guess incorrectly, they receive no points, and play continues with the other team. Note that when the secret verb is plural, the student will have to choose a teammate to help him act out the verb.
8. Optional: Present the winners of Charades with crowns resembling the wreaths made from olive leaves that were given to winners of the ancient Olympic Games.

GREEK VERBS FILL IN THE BLANKS

Please write the GREEK verb for each action in the blank below each picture.



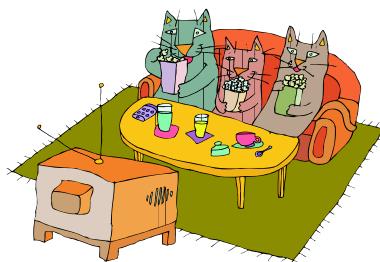
ανθρωπος _____

ανθρωποι _____



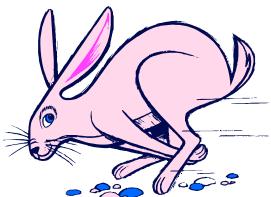
ανθρωπος _____

ανθρωποι και γυνη _____



βατραχος _____

αιλουροι _____



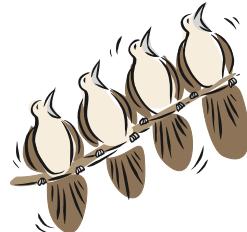
κυνικλος _____



ανθρωποι _____



οιωνος _____



οιωνοι _____



κυων _____

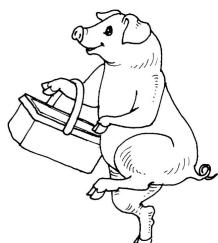


κυνες _____



γυνη _____

γυναι _____



χοιρος _____

χοιροι _____

αγει He or she leads.	αγουσι They lead. Choose a teammate to help you!	βαινει He or she walks.
βαινουσι They walk. Choose a teammate to help you!	βαλλει He or she throws.	βαλλουσι They throw. Choose a teammate to help you!
θεωρει He or she watches.	θεωρουσι They watch. Choose a teammate to help you!	ιππευει He or she rides a horse.
ιππευουσι They ride a horse. Choose a teammate to help you!	καλει He or she calls.	καλουσι They call. Choose a teammate to help you!
παλαιει He or she wrestles.	παλαιουσι They wrestle. Choose a teammate to help you!	τρεχει He or she runs.
τρεχουσι They run. Choose a teammate to help you!	φερει He or she carries.	φερουσι They carry. Choose a teammate to help you!