

Title: The Mighty Heracles and His Twelve Labors

Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

antlers	boars	chasing	hay	stir
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1. Boars are large pigs that live in the wild.
2. A lot of farm animals eat hay.
3. You have to stir soup a lot so it cooks evenly.
4. Some types of deer have large antlers.
5. The police were chasing a criminal down the street.

Reading Comprehension

A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. Heracles' parents were both gods. T / F
2. The Hydra was easy for Heracles to kill. T / F
3. Heracles did not get any help while doing his labors. T / F
4. The Queen of the Amazon's gave Heracles the belt. T / F
5. Heracles killed Geryon using something he got from one of his first labors. T / F

B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. Heracles defeated the lion with (arrows / his arms).
2. Heracles did not even get his (hands / clothes) dirty to clean the barn.
3. Heracles had to fight an entire (kingdom / army) to steal some horses.
4. The goddess Hera tried to (make problems for / help) Heracles.
5. The final task Heracles did was the (strangest / most difficult) of them all.

C. Choose the best answer.

1. King Eurystheus gave Heracles difficult labors in order to _____.

- a. make him stronger
- b. prove he was a god
- c. get him killed
- d. save people's lives

2. Which of the following was NOT part of the first four labors?

- a. Kill the Hydra
- b. Catch a special deer
- c. Catch the boar
- d. Kill a large flock of birds

3. Which one of Heracles's labors ended up being easy?

- a. Killing the Hydra
- b. Catching the deer
- c. Stealing horses
- d. Catching the bull

4. What was special about the Amazons?

- a. They all had golden swords.
- b. They were all warrior women.
- c. They had horses that could fly.
- d. They had many beautiful belts.

5. What did the King do with the apples Heracles had gotten him?

- a. He returned them.
- b. He ate them.
- c. He sold them.
- d. He threw them away.

Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

flock	warrior	underworld	dragon	captured
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The great hero Heracles was the son of Zeus and a human mother. This angered Hera, Zeus's wife. She put a spell on Heracles that made him kill his family. To make up for this crime, he told King Eurystheus he would serve him for twelve years. The King also hated Heracles and gave him very dangerous tasks. Heracles did these tasks. He captured a deer, a boar and a bull. He killed the Hydra, a lion, and a flock of birds. He also cleaned a huge barn without getting his hands dirty. For one task, Heracles had to fight the Amazons, who were warrior women. He brought back a belt for the King's daughter. One of his last tasks was to steal golden apples from his father's tree. It was guarded by a dragon. He killed it and got the apples. Heracles even went to the underworld for his final task. After completing his twelve labors, he was free to go. However, he had many adventures after that.