

UNIT 3. LESSON 4

Divine meddling in human affairs

Notes on the activities

1. At that point, students should be able to guess the role in the war of some deities, e.g. Aphrodite, Hera, Athena, Poseidon, Apollo, Artemis and Zeus.
2. The DVD says:
 - For Ares: 'During the Trojan War, he used his power to aid the Trojan warrior Hector'
 - For Hephaestus: 'In the Trojan War, he fashioned, among other things, new armour for Achilles'
 - For Artemis: 'She sided with the Trojans during the war. And it was said that when a hare and its young were slain by the Greeks Artemis unleashed fierce northern winds that prevented them from setting sail from Troy. Only when the Greeks had sacrificed king Agamemnon's eldest daughter to Artemis did the winds relent'
 - For Apollo: 'During the Trojan War, it was believed that Apollo sided with and aided the Trojan warrior Hector on the field of battle. As the conflict raged, he was said to have shot fiery arrows down at the Greeks from his chariot in the sky'
 - For Aphrodite: 'It was said that Paris judged her to be the most beautiful of all other goddesses and awarded her the golden apple. To reward Paris, Aphrodite granted him Helen, the most beautiful woman on Earth. But his deed invoked the wrath of Menelaus, king of Sparta, thus setting the wheels of the Trojan War in motion. Aphrodite sided with the Trojans and after their defeat used her powers to protect her mortal son Aeneas, the Trojan warrior'
 - For Poseidon: 'During the war, Poseidon favored the Greeks, a seafaring people'
 - For Zeus: 'As combat raged at Troy, other gods picked favorites among the warriors but Zeus refused to take sides using his golden scales instead to balance the destinies of Troy's heroes'
 - For Hera: 'Because Paris judged the goddess Aphrodite to be lovelier than she was, she became a fierce enemy of the Trojans relentlessly using her powers to aid the Greek warriors until Troy lay in ruins'
 - For Athena: 'fierce enemy of Troy, she fought alongside the Greek warriors and was said to have grieved over the death of Achilles'
3. Solution: A.1 c); A.2 a); A.3 a); B.1 b)

Possible sentences:

- The classical myth explains that Menelaos goes back home with Helen after the war, but the film shows that Hector kills him during the war.
- In the film Paris wants to fight against Menelaos, but in the myth he is reluctant to fight.
- Either in the myth or in the film Paris kills Achilles, but according to the myth Apollo helps him to shoot the arrow, whilst according to the film Paris shoots many arrows alone.

