

Word Meanings

maiden	a young woman
proud of her skill	proud of her ability to do (something) well
nymphs	spirits or goddesses of nature
groves	small forests
spindle	a wooden rod used to spin wool into thread
Mount Olympus	here, the home of gods and goddesses in Greek mythology
took the guise of	took the form of
fellow mortals	here, human beings
despise my counsel	here, ignore my advice
bystanders	persons who watch what is happening
paid no reverence	showed no respect
looms	machines for weaving clothes
slender shuttles	thin pointed tools used in weaving
finishing touches	last details done to complete something
forced to yield victory	forced to give away victory
bitterly repented her folly	felt very sorry for her foolishness
descendants	(your) children, their children and so on

Comprehension

A. Number these sentences in the correct order.

- 4 Arachne said she wanted to see who was more skilled.
- 5 Athene and Arachne started weaving.
- 1 Arachne was skilled in weaving, but was very proud.
- 6 Athene won and Arachne hid herself.
- 3 Athene advised Arachne not to challenge a goddess.
- 2 She wanted to compete with Athene, the goddess of weaving and spinning.

B. Answer these questions.

1. Who was Arachne?
2. Why did Athene come down to earth?
3. What did Athene advise Arachne?
4. Did Arachne take Athene's advice? Why or why not?

5. How did Arachne and Athene work?
6. Why did Arachne hide herself?

C. Read these lines and answer the questions.

1. *She boasted that no one could equal her in her work.*
 - a. Who was 'she'?
 - b. Why did she boast about her work?
2. *She took the guise of an old woman and came to Arachne's home.*
 - a. Who disguised herself as an old woman?
 - b. Why did she come to Arachne's home?
3. *"I am not afraid of the goddess. Let her try her skill with me if she will."*
 - a. Who is the goddess?
 - b. Why is the speaker not afraid of the goddess?
 - c. What do the words tell you about the speaker?

D. Discuss in class.

Do you think Athene punished Arachne by changing her into a spider?

Vocabulary

E. Match the columns.

- | | | |
|-----------|---|--------------|
| 1. weave | → | a. a fine |
| 2. thread | → | b. a chance |
| 3. take | → | c. a cloth |
| 4. give | → | d. a needle |
| 5. keep | → | e. a warning |
| 6. pay | → | f. a promise |



Listening*

F. Listen to your teacher read a text on animals.

Then, write True or False.

1. Otters live in natural habitats.
2. Spiders build their own homes.

False
True

*Listening text for the teacher on page 102

3. A crow lays its eggs in a cuckoo's nest.
4. Snails carry their shells on their backs.
5. Snakes dig holes and live in them.
6. Cows and dogs live in shelters built for them by people.

False

True

False

True

Writing

- G. When we do something wrong, we apologize or say sorry. Complete this note of apology which Arachne writes to Athene using the words from the box.

proud mistake apologize boasted
admire advice sorry

Dear Athene,
I am very sorry about my behaviour. I should have taken your advice when you told me to seek forgiveness. I was very proud of my work. So, I often boasted about it and displeased you. I will not repeat my mistake. I really admire your work. I apologize once again.

