

Lesson 10

Directions: Read the following passage. Then answer questions 1 through 3.

Atalanta and the Golden Apples

A Greek Myth

Atalanta distrusted men. When she was a baby, her father, who wanted a boy, abandoned her on a mountaintop. A bear found the crying child and raised her with her own cubs. Years later, some hunters found Atalanta in the forest and raised her themselves. Atalanta became an outstanding hunter and an amazing runner. By the age of 9, she could outrun any hunter. By 15, she could run as fast as a deer.

Atalanta believed she would never love a man. One day at the Temple of Artemis, the goddess of the hunt, Atalanta made a vow: "I will never marry." As soon as men heard that Atalanta would never marry, they wished to marry her. Atalanta wanted to scare off suitors, but now she had dozens. Needing a new strategy, she revised her vow. She said, "I will marry only a man who can outrun me in a race." She knew she could never lose. "I will even give any challenger a lead."

Men came from far and near to race Atalanta. At every race Atalanta allowed the suitor to begin almost halfway to the finish line. Atalanta won every race. Melanion watched Atalanta vanquish one suitor after another. He was in love, and he begged the goddess Aphrodite for help. Believing that Atalanta was wrong to reject love and marriage, Aphrodite agreed to help by giving him three golden apples.

Melanion started the race far ahead of Atalanta. A bag tied at his waist held the three golden apples. At the signal, both runners hurtled forward. Melanion heard Atalanta's swift steps close behind him. He grabbed a golden apple and tossed it behind him. Atalanta stopped to pick it up while Melanion charged ahead. Holding the precious apple, Atalanta continued running.

Soon, Melanion heard Atalanta's feet behind him, and he tossed the second golden apple. Again, Atalanta stopped to pick it up. With an apple in each hand, Atalanta had to slow down, but still she nearly caught up to Melanion.

Melanion tossed his third apple to the side. It rolled off the racecourse, but the golden fruit was so beautiful that Atalanta ran after it. Melanion was close to winning. With all her power, Atalanta grasped the three apples and dashed to the finish line.

Melanion crossed the line an instant before Atalanta. He had won! Atalanta said, "You are not faster than I am, but you found a way to slow me down. I will marry you." Melanion beamed as he whispered his thanks to the goddess Aphrodite.

Use with page 46.

Name _____

Lesson 10

Practice: Using Cue Words

Directions: Use “Atalanta and the Golden Apples” to answer the following questions.

1. Which of these lessons is supported by this story?
- Ⓐ A clever strategy can make the impossible possible.
 - Ⓑ Love gives wings to the feet of the lover.
 - Ⓒ Running away from your problems never solves anything.
 - Ⓓ It takes teamwork and persistence to get any job done.

Explain

Write the cue word that helps you know what kind of answer is expected.

2. After the race, what did Atalanta say about how Melanion won?

Explain

Write two cue words that help you look for the answer.

3. What problem did Melanion need to solve?

Explain

Write the cue word that helps you know what kind of answer is expected.



CHECK Did you use cue words to help you find the correct answer?

Use with page 45.