

8

Chapter Eight:

The Lady with the Lightening Fists



Vocabulary

protested

scorn

clamoring

tapestries

cloak

unconscious

Facts and Details: Literal Meaning

1. Why does Ariadne go towards the prison while waiting for Theseus in the courtyard?
2. Why are the female hostages calling out?
3. What is the name of the man who dresses as a woman and pretends to be ill?
4. How many guards did Ariadne count at the beach?
5. What does Ariadne ask of the Magic Thread?

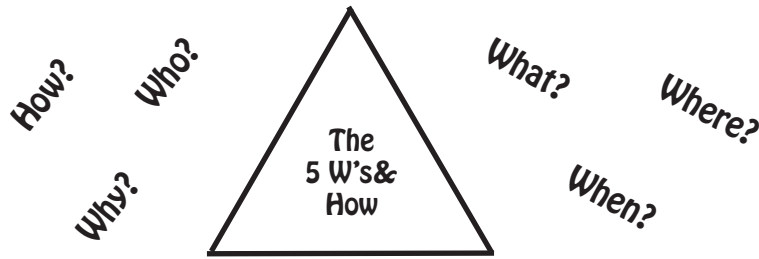
What's Going On?: Reading Comprehension

1. Does Ariadne know of the plan to trick the jailer?
2. What does Ariadne imply when she remarks, "These are Greek women. They bake bread and weave tapestries?"
3. As the story unfolds, each of the characters undergoes changes. How do Theseus and Ariadne change?
4. Remembering other chapters, how did Laodamus keep his disguise secret?
5. What does Theseus do in the prison that upsets Ariadne? Why does he do it?

In your own words...

The Magic Thread has never let Ariadne down before. Now, suddenly, it refuses to do her bidding. Why do you think the thread has stopped doing what Ariadne asks?

Background and Additional Information



The inverted pyramid style of writing involves writing the most essential details and information at the top and less important details in later paragraphs. The questions answered are often referred to as the 5 W's and How -- what, who, when, where, why and how.

Multidisciplinary Connections

(Art/English Language Arts)

Make a classroom tapestry based on the events of the story. Collect illustrations and written pieces from all students and display as a large tapestry.

Newspaper Activity

The hostages escaped from Crete. This will have a tremendous impact on the Minoan people. Write a news story about the escape using the inverted pyramid style. Be sure to include eye witness accounts and quotes from a Minoan guard and King Minos.

Skill Builder

Review the chapter and highlight adverbs and adverbial phrases.

AUTHOR'S NOTES

The Hitchcock touches continue as the boyish, charming Theseus reveals his warrior side. If Ariadne thought she was just going to help the Greeks sneak out of town, she now realizes that she's in deeper than that. But, of course, this is deadly serious for them. My son, a military veteran, said that this was the point at which he realized Theseus was capable of pulling it off. But there's not much boyish charm being shown here, and Theseus's carefully planned agenda did not include a Magic Thread that refuses to work!

Chapter 8: Answer Key

Facts and Details

1. That's the last place she knows Theseus was.
2. They said one of the young women was sick.
3. Laodamus
4. A dozen (12)
5. First she asked the thread to take Theseus to the Minotaur, then she asked it to take her to the Minotaur.

Reading Comprehension

1. It is unclear at which point she figured out the ploy to deceive the jailer; however, it is easy to assume that she speculated it was a trick as soon as she heard the women calling out.
2. She implies that the women are not very

clever and cunning; therefore, the jailer should not fear that he is being tricked.

3. Ariadne is becoming more assertive as exemplified by her decision to help Theseus. Theseus is not as kind and flattering towards the princess as he was when he needed her help.
4. He pretended to be shy. On the dock, he started to look at Ariadne, but looked down when she looked back at him. When she came to the prison, he turned to the wall and ignored her.
5. He kills the guard, despite the fact that the man is unconscious and tied up. Theseus says it is too risky to allow a chance of the man escaping and raising an alarm.