

Translate the following sentences into English.

1. Cur laetus est?

2. Ubi prandium est?

3. Esne timida?

4. Quot pecuniae sunt?

5. Qualis dies est?

Quid =

Quis =

Quomodo =

Qualis =

Quot/quantum =

Cur =

OLYMPIAN GODS AND GODDESSES

THE CHILDREN OF THE TITANS, CRONUS AND RHEA

ZEUS Roman Name: Jupiter or Jove

Zeus became the king of the Olympian gods after the battle with the Titans. He rules the upper air, and he uses thunder and lightning as weapons. He has power over humans (mortals) and often goes among them in disguise. He especially likes young ladies, and he has had many children, both mortal and immortal. His symbols are lightning, the eagle, the oak, and a crown and scepter.

HERA Roman Name: Juno

Hera was Zeus' sister and wife. Hera is considered the Queen of Mount Olympus, beautiful in a mature way. She is also very jealous of Zeus' affairs with mortal women, and she does spiteful things to them, like turn them into a cow or an echo. Her symbol is the peacock, from the story of Io. She is considered the goddess of women, marriage, and childbirth.

POSEIDON Roman Name: Neptune

Poseidon was the god of the sea, and he has the power to cause storms, tidal waves, and earthquakes when he strikes his trident on the water or the land. He is the brother of Zeus. He became the father of many children including the Cyclopes in *The Odyssey*. You can recognize him by the trident, sea symbols, his long beard, and his chariot coming out of the waves which is usually pulled by four white horses.

HADES Roman Name: Pluto or Dis

Hades was the gloomy god of the underworld, guardian of all the dead people, both good and bad. Since he does not like the light, he does not live on Mount Olympus. One day, however, he did go up on earth to steal Persephone for his wife. His symbols are a two-pronged scepter, four black horses that pull his chariot, and the three-headed dog, Cerberus. Sometimes the underworld itself is called Hades.

DEMETER Roman Name: Ceres

Demeter was the goddess of grain and the harvest. If she was not happy, things would not grow. After Hades took her daughter, Persephone, the earth was frozen and bare for a long time. Zeus became upset and made the girl come back to earth for part of the year. Her symbols are sheaves of grain or baskets of fruit. Do you eat anything that sounds like her Roman name?

HESTIA Roman Name: Vesta

Hestia was the first child of Cronus and Rhea. She is a goddess of the hearth and its sacred fire. Fire was very important to ancient people so they prayed to Hestia to keep it

burning. Her symbol is the hearth. There are not many stories about her, and she did not have a throne with the others but rather sat on the floor near the fire.

THE CHILDREN OF ZEUS AND HERA

HEPHAESTUS Roman Name: Vulcan

Hephaestus was the god of the forge. He was an excellent blacksmith. He made Zeus' lightning bolts, and he fashioned armor for both gods and mortals. He is said to be ugly and deformed with thin, weak legs because Zeus threw him from Mount Olympus. He is usually pictured at his forge or anvil, sometimes being helped by three Cyclopes, the one-eyed sons of Gaea (the earth) and Uranus (the sky). He married Aphrodite, goddess of love and beauty, but she was not faithful to him.

ARES Roman Name: Mars

Ares was the tall, handsome god of war. He was vain and cruel, and he did not have respect from the other Olympians. The spirit of Strife, called Eris, went with him. She threw down her golden apple of discord which made people fight. Then Ares would jump into battle just for blood. He was loved by Aphrodite, and their son is Eros. Ares' symbols are armor, a war-chariot, vultures, and dogs.

THE CHILDREN OF ZEUS AND LETO (Latona)

APOLLO Roman Name: Apollo

Apollo was sometimes called Phoebus. He was the god of music and poetry, and he was often pictured with long golden hair, a lyre, and a bow and arrows. Apollo is associated with the sun. He was very important to Greeks and others who often went to his temple at Delphi to get advice for their future from the Oracle. Apollo and the nine Muses, goddesses of the arts, are often shown together dancing. Apollo is also known as a handsome lover, especially in the story of Daphne in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*.

ARTEMIS Roman Name: Diana

Artemis was the goddess of the hunt and the moon. She is often pictured with a short dress, a bow and arrows, and a crescent moon on her head. She is the twin sister of Apollo. Artemis never married but spent her life hunting in the woods with her hounds.

OTHER OLYMPIANS

ATHENA Roman Name: Minerva

Athena was sometimes called Pallas. She was the goddess of wisdom and useful arts. Fully formed and wearing armor, she was born out of Zeus' head. She is usually pictured with her armor, often with the head of Medusa on her shield or aegis. Other symbols are an owl and an olive tree or branch. The city of Athens was named for her, and her temple, the Parthenon, is still there. She was Zeus' favorite daughter. Her most famous story is about Arachne, the weaver.

APHRODITE Roman Name: Venus

Aphrodite was the goddess of love and beauty, born fully grown out of the sea on a cushion of foam. She was so beautiful almost no man could resist her. Zeus had her marry Hephaestus so the gods would not fight over her. She often had other lovers. Her symbols are seashells, a chariot pulled by doves, and a mirror.

HERMES Roman Name: Mercury

Hermes was the messenger of the gods and the protector of travelers. He led dead souls to the Underworld. Hermes was the son of Zeus and Maia, a Titan's daughter. From the day of his birth, he was tricky and strong. He invented the lyre from a turtle shell, stole the cattle of Apollo, and then traded them for the lyre. His symbols are winged sandals and hat, a wand with snakes on it, a traveling hat, and a cloak.

DIONYSUS Roman Name: Bacchus

Dionysus was the god of grapes, wine, and revelry. Zeus was his father. He had a mortal mother, Semele, but was born out of Zeus' thigh. His worshippers danced around the hills until they worked themselves into an ecstatic frenzy.

Now try this...

Complete the chart below by filling in the missing terms or names.

Greek Name Title or Roman Name Symbol

God/Goddess of . . .

1. POSEIDON _____
2. _____ PLUTO _____
3. _____ EAGLE / OAK
4. HERA _____
5. _____ HARVEST _____
6. _____ HOME / FIRE

7. _____ BLACKSMITH _____
 8. _____ DOVE / CUPID
 9. _____ VULTURE
 10. _____ MINERVA _____
 11. ARTEMIS _____
 12. _____ LYRE / MUSIC
 13. HERMES _____
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The Story of Romulus and Remus

A legend dating back to about the 4th century BC holds that twin brothers named Romulus and Remus founded the city of Rome.

According to the legend, Romulus and Remus were sons of Mars, the god of war.

Their mother was Rhea Silvia, the daughter of a king. Her father was removed from the throne by her uncle, Amulius.

Rhea was forced to swear that she would not have children, because Amulius did not want her to give birth to anyone who might try to make a claim for the throne.

Rhea went against her uncle's wishes and had the twin boys. She was sent to prison and the babies were set adrift on the River Tiber.

High waters carried the boys to the riverbank and they landed safely under a fig tree. They were found by a she-wolf who took care of the boys.

A herdsman named Faustulus found the twins. He and his wife raised them until they become adults.

The boys killed Amulius and founded a city on the site where they had been saved by the she-wolf. The city was called **ROME**.

They both wanted to be the only king. They quarreled. In a fit of rage, Romulus picked up a rock, killed his brother, and made himself king.

One day Romulus mysteriously disappeared in a storm. Believing that he had been changed into a god, the Romans worshiped him under the name of Quirinus.

