

from *The Odyssey, Part 1* by Homer

Build Vocabulary

Spelling Strategy If a word of more than one syllable ends in a single consonant following a single vowel, and the accent *is not* on the last syllable, do not double the final consonant before a suffix beginning with a vowel: *plunder* + *-ed* = *plundered*.

Using Words From Myths

A. DIRECTIONS: The following words and phrases come from mythology. Use one word or phrase to complete each sentence.

calypso helium titanic Trojan horse

1. Hundreds of _____ balloons floated high above the auditorium.
2. The new employee was actually a _____, sent to steal secrets from the rival company.
3. Originating in the West Indies, _____ music features lively rhythms.
4. The _____ vessel weighs over eighty tons.

B. DIRECTIONS: Match each word in the left column with its definition in the right column. Write the letter of the definition on the line next to the word it defines.

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|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| _____ 1. plundered | a. passion; enthusiasm |
| _____ 2. squall | b. enormous |
| _____ 3. dispatched | c. deprived |
| _____ 4. mammoth | d. finished quickly |
| _____ 5. titanic | e. took goods by force; looted |
| _____ 6. assuage | f. brief, violent storm |
| _____ 7. bereft | g. characterized by treachery |
| _____ 8. ardor | h. of great size or strength |
| _____ 9. insidious | i. calm; pacify |

C. DIRECTIONS: Circle the letter of the word that best completes the meaning of each of the following sentences.

1. With their _____ voices, the sirens lured sailors to their death.

- a. mammoth
- b. titanic
- c. bereft
- d. insidious

2. Tiresias warned Odysseus that a horrible fate would come to him and his men if anyone _____ the cattle of the sun god.

- a. plundered
- b. dispatched
- c. assuage
- d. bereft