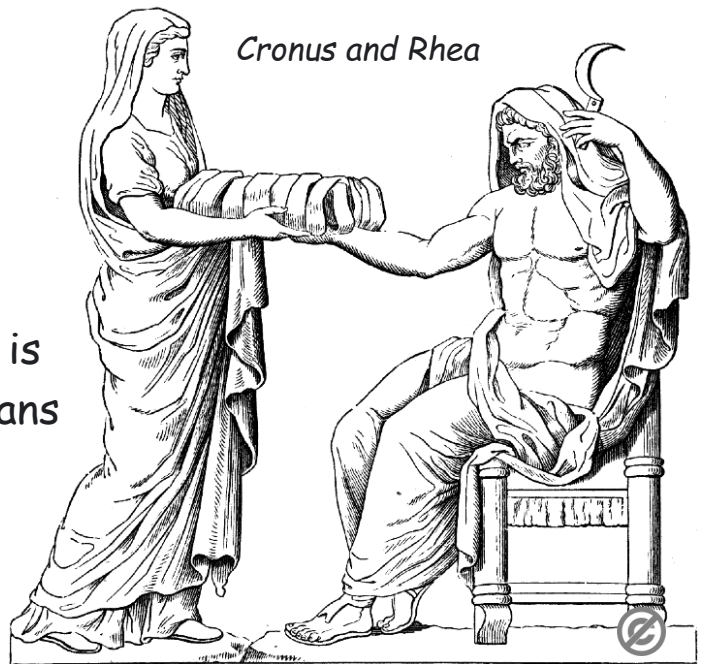


CRONUS AND HIS CHILDREN

The Titans could do anything - even things that you and I wouldn't think of doing. In our society we would not think of marrying our brother or sister or even cousins. It is actually against the Law! But the Titans did because they were gods!

Cronus and Rhea became parents of six children. Cronus was very fearful that his children may one day betray him as he did to his own father. To make sure that this did not happen, every time Rhea had a baby, Cronus would swallow it. He wasn't just strange - he was weird!



When Rhea was expecting her sixth child, she did not want it to be swallowed again. She thought of a plan. She would smuggle the newly born child out of the country and wrap a stone in a blanket for Cronus to swallow.

A baby boy was born and Cronus fell for the trick. He swallowed a stone and the child was taken to Crete where he grew up into a fine, strong man. His name was Zeus.

When Zeus was older, he returned to the court of Cronus. His mother told him what Cronus had done. He really wanted his brothers and sisters back. He decided that the best way would be to drug his father and make him vomit so the other children who had been swallowed could be freed.

One evening while Cronus was having his midday meal, Zeus slipped into the palace and placed the poison in his father's wine goblet. Cronus drank it down with the rest of his meal and started feeling bad. He developed a fever and eventually started to throw up. Not only did he throw up his meal but he threw up the other five children, Hades, Poseidon, Hestia, Demeter and Hera, along with the stone he had swallowed. The family were at last reunited. They all lived in a space above Mount Olympus.

Oh, I nearly forgot! Do you remember when Cronus cut off his father, Uranus' body parts and threw them into the sea? Well, on one very wild and stormy night at sea, they dissolved in the pounding waves.

The next morning, the shoreline of Paphos, on the island of Cyprus, was covered with sea foam. All of a sudden, out of the foam, appeared the most beautiful woman the world had ever seen. She became the god of love and beauty and her name was Aphrodite.

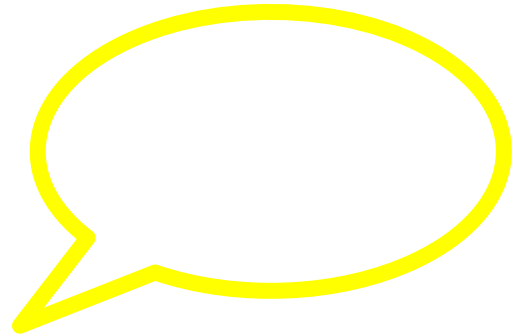
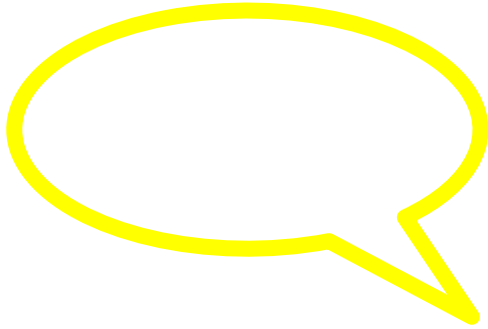
There are three problems in this story that the characters solve. Write the problem and their solutions or plans below.

A graphic organizer for writing. It features two red-outlined rectangular boxes at the top, connected by a yellow arrow pointing right. Below these are two overlapping red-outlined circles, with a yellow arrow pointing from the left circle to the right circle. To the right of the circles are two yellow-outlined rounded rectangular boxes, connected by a red arrow pointing right.

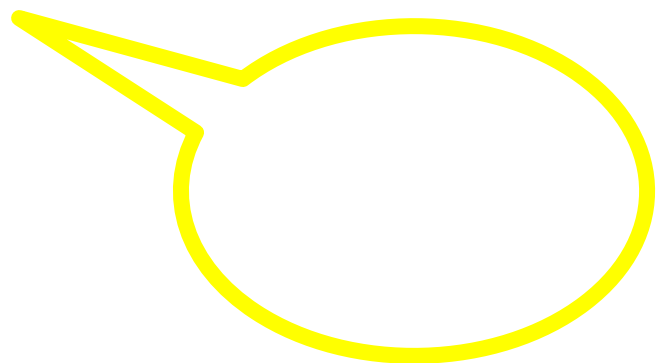
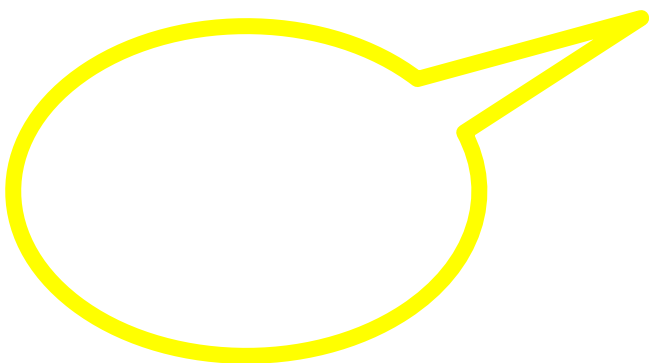
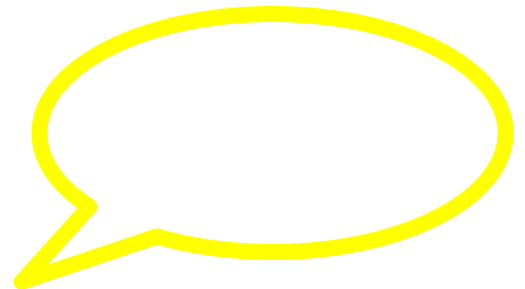


What would the people have said?

Imagine that you are on the shore at Paphos on the morning Aphrodite arrived. In the speech bubbles, write what you may have heard the people say about what they saw.



The next morning, the shoreline of Paphos on the island of Cyprus was covered with sea foam. All of a sudden, out of the foam, appeared the most beautiful woman the world had ever seen. She became the god of love and beauty and her name was Aphrodite.



In Western scripture, Moses was hidden in the Bulrushes by his Israelite mother because the Pharaoh of Egypt was killing all Israelite first born children. Moses was found by an Egyptian princess. Use the blocks below to compare the two stories.

What was the danger to Moses and Zeus?

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Similarities or differences



Similarities or differences

Where did the babies grow up?

How did the mothers save their babies?

Similarities or differences

