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ch-5
The Firebringers
Get Going

1) Find the answers from the story -

1) What does the name Prometheus mean?

Ans) The name of Prometheus meant forethought and he always thought of the times ahead of him.

2) Who was Epithemeus?

Ans) Epithemeus was the brother of Prometheus who had the power to gift one special power to each of the living beings.

3) Why was Prometheus upset?

Ans) Prometheus was upset because despite his efforts he couldn't find a way to help humankind by giving them the knowledge of fire.

4) True (T) or False (F)

a) Prometheus was the son of a Titan named Zeus. False

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- b) Epithemius had the power of foresight. [False]
- c) Zeus carried fire in his lightning bolt. [True]
- d) Men and Women were happy without fire. [False]
- e) Zeus was sad when he discovered that Prometheus had given fire to humankind. [True]

5) How did Prometheus give fire to humankind?
Ans) After being denied by Zeus to help mankind, Prometheus found a stalk of fennel which he used to steal a spark of fire from Zeus' palace. Prometheus then went on to give the fire to all of humankind.

6) Why did Zeus chain Prometheus to the side of Mount Caucasus to suffer till the end of time?

Ans) Zeus was furious that Prometheus had disobeyed him and imparted the knowledge of fire to humankind, so he chained Prometheus to the side of Mount Caucasus to suffer there till the end of time.

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B) Let us read between the lines.

1) Why was humankind worse off than beasts, without fire?

Ans) Without fire, humankind was worse off than beasts. They were living in the caves and in holes of the earth, shivering from cold, dying of starvation, hunted both by wild beasts and by each other.

2) Why did people come out of caves looking at Prometheus suspiciously?

Ans) People came out of caves looking at Prometheus suspiciously as they couldn't believe anybody would bother to help them.

C) Let us go beyond the story. ~~was right~~

1) Do you think Zeus was right in not giving fire to humankind? Do you think fire has made humankind powerful? Give reasons for your opinion.

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Ans) No. I don't think Zeus was right in not giving fire to humankind. He was being selfish by refusing to impart the knowledge of fire to others. As a powerful being, Zeus had the ~~ability~~ ability to help out those in need and he refused to do so merely because he was scared that humans would become stronger than him after obtaining fire. I think that fire has definitely made humans more powerful because most beasts are scared of fire.

Q) If you were Zeus, how would you have felt when you discovered that Prometheus had given fire to humankind?

Ans) If I were Zeus, I would've been upset at first because Prometheus stole a spark from my lightning bolt without my knowledge. However, after finding out why he did so I would have understood his actions and appreciated his decision to help humankind.

1. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words. Refer to the above list for help.

(a) Please proceed to the exits in an organised manner. There is no need to panic.

(b) I stayed in bed watching the iridescent refractions of the sunlight on the mirror.

(c) The Student's Union is planning to set up a forum to address student grievances.

(d) Remember to bring an atlas for tomorrow's Geography class.

(e) He is so narcissistic that he cares about nobody else in the world.

2. Rewrite the sentences using a word of Greek/Roman origin. One has been done for you.

(a) She is so in love with herself that she forgot her friends in times of trouble.

She is such a narcissist that she forgot her friends in times of trouble.

(b) The child complained that he had been assigned an extremely difficult task.

Ans: The child complained that he had been assigned a herculean task.

(c) Yay! We are going on a trip to the botanical gardens to observe the plant life there.

Ans: Yay! We are going on a trip to the Botanical gardens to observe the flora there.

(d) I was overcome by a sudden overwhelming fear when the lights went out!

Ans: I was overcome by a sudden overwhelming panic when the lights went out.

(e) What we need is a platform for open discussions.

Ans: what we need is a forum for open discussions.

1. Tick (✓) the infinitives, underline the gerunds and circle the participles in these sentences
- Where do you plan to go for dinner?
 - I saw a leaking tap while strolling in the garden.
 - Tommy loves jumping on the trampoline.
 - Listening to him is very boring.
 - 'I'd prefer your friend to do the talking!' the Headmistress said sternly.
 - His dedicated service to the community continues to amaze us.
2. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the words given in brackets.
- He claims to be (to be/being) a clerk, but Shelby thinks he is a spy.
 - We finished watching (to watch/watching) the movie at 11.
 - I can't imagine living (to live/living) without mobile phones!
 - Jonathan refused to admit (to admit/admitting) his mistake.
 - We'd like to take (to take/taking) a break, if you don't mind.
 - Rohila wanted to buy (to buy/buying) the dancing (to dance/dancing) doll for her little sister.