

## **Year 4 English Tasks: week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

### **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

Task: Watch today's English video and then answer the comprehension questions about the story. (See video link on Year 4 Home Learning timetable).

Long ago, there was an ancient city named Troy. Troy was on the coast of Asia, across the sea from the Greek city-state of Sparta. In those days people used to build walls around their city to help protect them, with a gate. In times of war, the gates could be closed and locked to stop intruders from getting inside.

The walls around Troy were very high and very strong. According to legend, the Greeks had been trying to get over the walls of Troy for ten long years, but they were always driven away by the showers of arrows fired at them by the Trojan archers. Year after year they fought, but neither side won.

The King of Sparta's wife Helen had been kidnapped by Paris, a prince of Troy. The king was desperate to get her back and so he called on the other Greek city-states to try and help him.

One day, a Greek general named Odysseus had a sneaky idea. "We'll leave a gift for the city of Troy, a gift to announce we are admitting defeat and ending the war, and then we'll pretend to sail away. We will build a wooden horse with space to hide thirty of our best soldiers inside. At night, they can sneak out, open the gate of Troy and then we will invade!" That was the way things were done back then. When you admitted defeat, you left a gift. It made sense to leave a gift of art. The Greeks were famous for their art.

The Greeks thought it was a brilliant idea. They had their best artists build the horse and it was magnificent. When it was ready, the Greeks brought the wooden horse close to the gates of Troy and pretended to sail away. The Trojan archers at the top of the wall saw the Greeks leaving and they could not believe their eyes. Were the Greeks giving up at last? The Trojans dragged the horse inside their city and closed the gates.

Some people wanted to burn the horse. But the Trojan people said "No! it is too beautiful. We will keep it forever as a reminder of our victory". The Greeks counted on that reaction. The Trojans were famous for bragging. Sure enough, that's exactly what happened.

That night, while the Trojan people slept soundly, exhausted from their celebrations, the thirty Greek soldiers hidden inside the wooden horse climbed out and opened the gates of Troy and let the Greek army inside to invade Troy. That was the end of the Trojan War.

## The Trojan Horse: Comprehension Questions

1. What did people build around their cities to protect them?
2. What was the purpose of the gates?
3. Find and copy two words that describe the city walls.
4. Find and copy the word which describes how the arrows fell.
5. What had happened to the King of Sparta's wife?
6. Explain what was inside the wooden horse?
7. Find and copy the word which shows that the Greeks were not really going to sail away after leaving the gift?
8. Give two reasons why some of the people of Troy did not want to burn the horse.
9. What were the Trojans famous for?
10. What happened while the Trojans slept?

Can you write two of your own questions about the text?

11.

12.

**Tuesday January 26<sup>th</sup> 2021**

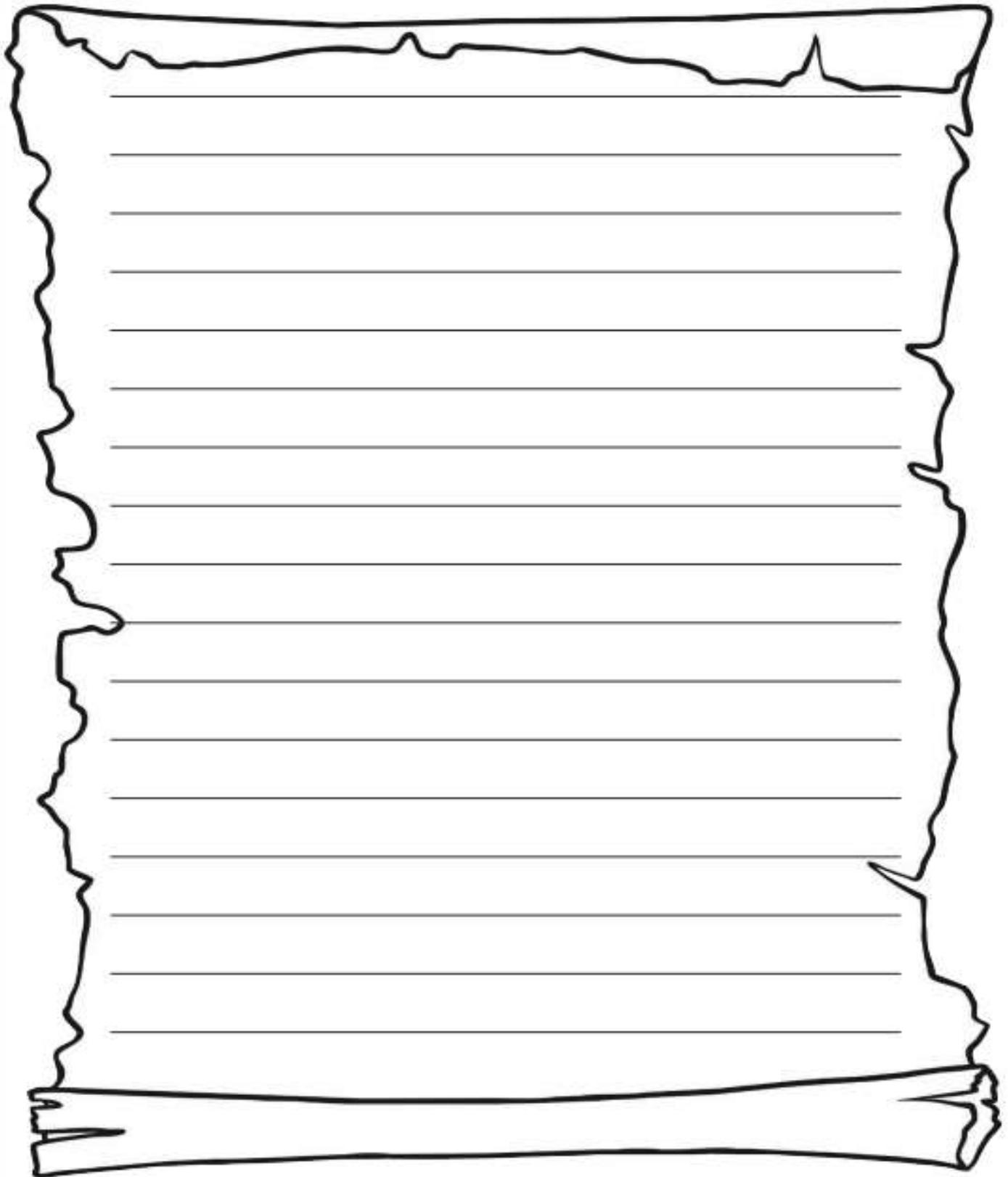
Task: Watch today's video and then write a diary entry by a Greek soldier describing what it was like to wait inside the Trojan horse. Make a list of some useful adjective to use before you start. (See video link on Year 4 Home Learning timetable).



A large, hand-drawn rectangular box with a jagged, torn-paper edge. Inside the box are 20 horizontal lines for writing.

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021**

Task: Watch today's video and then write a letter from the King of Sparta to Odysseus to thank him for his brilliant idea and tell him how well it worked. (See video link on Year 4 Home Learning timetable).

A large, hand-drawn outline of a scroll with horizontal lines for writing. The scroll is rectangular with a wavy, torn edge on the top and right sides, and a folded edge at the bottom. The interior of the scroll is filled with horizontal lines, providing a space for writing a letter.



**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021:**

Task: Watch today's video and then create a storyboard to tell the story of the Trojan Horse. Use speech bubbles in each frame to help you to explain the story. (See video link on Year 4 Home Learning timetable).
