

LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED

Host an event in your library, bookstore, or home to celebrate the release of The Trials of Apollo Book One: *The Hidden Oracle*! Throughout this kit you'll find fun event ideas and activities related to the Camp Half-Blood and Greek mythology.

WHAT'S A PARTY WITHOUT SEVEN-LAYER DIP?

Apollo was mistaken that Sally Jackson created this party favorite to have seven layers for his sake—but he was correct that it is delicious! Follow the Jackson family recipe and have a touch of Sally at your party:

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 can refried beans (regular or vegetarian)
- 1 cup grated sharp cheddar cheese
- 1 cup grated Monterey Jack cheese
- Pico de gallo

- Guacamole
- About 1 cup sour cream
- Hot sauce + 1 small can of diced green chilies
- Black/ripe olives
- · Glass casserole dish

DIRECTIONS:

- Wash your hands! (From this point on, everything in the recipe can be modified to your preference. Not this one, though. You gotta wash your hands.)
- Put one can of refried beans in a small pan, over medium heat.
- Dash some hot sauce into the pan.
- Add the can of green chilies.
- Stir clockwise 10 times. Let simmer until beans are all the way warm.
- Put this spruced-up batch of beans into the glass dish and spread flat.
- Add the shredded cheddar cheese. (Note: There is no such thing as too much cheese.)
- Dole out that sour cream on top, and spread it like the Python spreads mischief.
- Guacamole is next! (And the good news is, this guac's not gonna cost you extra.)
- Monterey Jack! (Note: There is no such thing as too much cheese.)
- Chop up the olives if they are whole, and gently garnish the cheese with the pieces.
- · Last, add all of the pico de gallo. All of it.
- Serve with tortilla chips (ahem, Blue Corn tortilla chips), and a smile!

HERE COMES THE SUN(GOD)!

To prepare for your celebration of all things Apollo and the release of *The Hidden Oracle*, use the following tips to get the party started.

DECORATIONS:

Using inspiration from the god himself, create an Apollo-themed party space for your event or alternatively, offer your guests the opportunity to set the stage. Divide guests into groups and assign them the task of decorating the space for your party. Be sure to have lots of art supplies on hand and assign groups to focus their designs on images of Apollo—perhaps a backdrop image of a golden sky with Apollo driving his chariot across it. Other areas could include images of Apollo's other important godly domains: music, poetry, art, archery, and medicine. Additional decorative elements could include the architecture and engineering accomplishments of the Ancient Greek world, with features focusing on Greek architecture (typical design elements included columns, porticos, statuary, friezes, mosaics, and frescoes).

FOOD AND DRINKS:

No party is complete without snacks; offer party attendees a chance to feast on foods fit for a god. Apollo-inspired snacks might include Sun Chips and Starburst candies, and to wash it all down, be sure to have some Sunny Delight on hand as nectar for your guests.

GET YOUR PARTY STARTED!

Games and activities are always a great way to get kids excited about your event. Use the following ideas as ways to engage your partygoers from the very beginning.

ARCHERY TEAM TOURNAMENT

The sport of archery is one of Apollo's godly domains. To get into the spirit of celebrating *The Hidden Oracle*, place partygoers into two teams and use a couple of plastic, child-friendly archery kits to allow teams to have a relay-style shoot-off. Consider offering mini-prizes for best shot, most unique shooting style, and most creative arrow landing.

FASHION SHOW

As a nod to Apollo's keen fashion sense, invite guests to come dressed as their favorite Greek or Roman god or goddess. Alternatively, provide your guests with the makings of full-length Greek and Roman garb to wear at the party. You can use simple white bedsheets, paints, and even some creativity with toilet paper to make some truly fabulous costumes for your celebration! After your guests are adorned in their attire, encourage them to participate in a parade.

BONUS CHALLENGE

Make like Rhea and get off the grid for a bit (or ... at least the length of the party). Stack everyone's phones, or put them in a bowl, and put them off to the side. First one to check their phone loses!

LET THE GAMES BEGIN

WHO'S THE VILLAIN?

In *The Hidden Oracle*, Apollo must go on a quest to uncover the identity of a mysterious villain, and put an end to his troublemaking. In this game, players simply have to trade cards around the circle (no quest required). At the end of the game, the player holding the lone king card is revealed as the villain!

YOU'LL NEED:

- 1 Standard deck of cards with one king removed
- 2+ Players

DIRECTIONS:

The dealer hands out all the cards to everyone in the game, including themselves. Players do not need a specific number, but all the cards should be distributed. Each player should then take out all the matching pairs in their hand, placing them facedown in front of them (each pair must have a matching number and color). Working clockwise, the first player draws one card from the dealer's hand at random. This player places any new matches facedown in front of them. If there are no matches, they turn to the next player and have that player draw a card from their hand. This repeats until all the cards have been paired, except for the lone king—the villain!

SET THE SCENE

One person starts this tableau by standing in the middle of a cleared area and saying what they are. For example, the person says, "I am Apollo!" They sit in an Apollo-esque pose, and wait for the next person to participate. Then, the next person who feels inspired joins the first person and announces what they are. For instance, they could say, "I am Zeus," and pose as if they are shunning Apollo. The scene builds until everyone is involved in the tableau. If you have a large group, try and get creative with the final roles. There could always be a tree next to Apollo, or a thunderbolt in Zeus's hand!

RHYME TYME

The first player says a sentence (e.g., "I used to be Apollo"). Player two then comes up with a rhyming sentence—not necessarily related. This could be, "But now I am just small-o" or "There are small birds called swallows." The next player says another new sentence, with a different player responding in rhyme. These rhyming couplets continue until someone can't rhyme anymore ... at which point the player who loses the rhyme must speak in Shakespearean language until they rhyme again!

PIMP MY CHARIOT

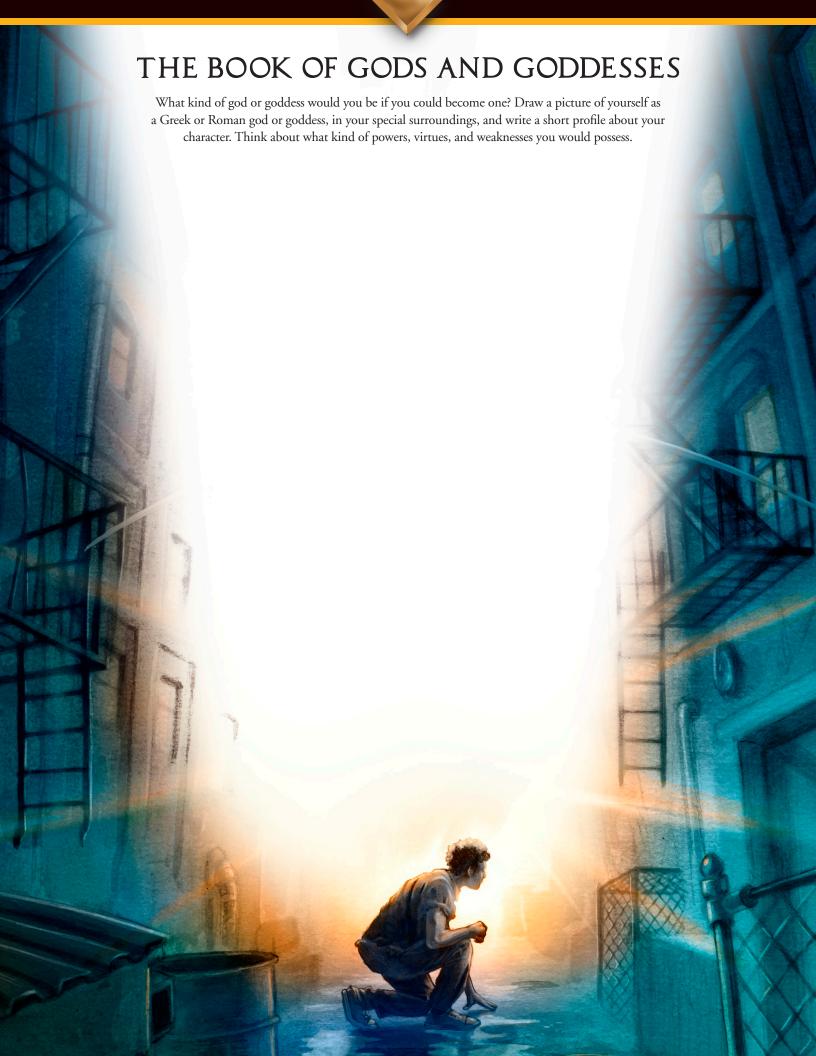
Apollo only rides in style. Think subwoofers, tinted windows, and obviously some sort of symbol emblazoned on the side. Imagine what Apollo's tricked-out chariot would look like—you can gather materials to draw, build your own, or decorate an existing mode of transportation to be like his wild ride! Suggestions include:

- Use original symbols or signs for the chosen chariot team name
- Add historically appropriate mythology symbols or references in design
- Use of any original Greek or Roman language in design
- Use other imagery imaged from characters introduced in other Riordan books

After all the chariots are decorated, host a chariot parade around your event space.



APOLLO "I AM" POEM The Sun God Apollo was also the patron god of poetry. Use this template to create an original "I AM" poem or a biopoem about Apollo or your favorite character from Greek or Roman mythology. FIRST STANZA: I am _____ (NAME THE CHARACTER) $I \ wonder \ \underline{\hspace{2cm}}^{\hspace{2cm} \hspace{2cm} \text{(something the character is actually curious about)}}$ (AN IMAGINARY SOUND THE CHARACTER MIGHT HEAR) (AN IMAGINARY SIGHT THE CHARACTER MIGHT SEE) $I \ \text{want} \ \underline{\hspace{1.5cm}}^{\text{(SOMETHING THE CHARACTER TRULY DESIRES)}}$ SECOND STANZA: I pretend _____(SOMETHING THE CHARACTER ACTUALLY PRETENDS TO DO) I feel _ (A FEELING ABOUT SOMETHING IMAGINARY) (AN IMAGINARY OBJECT) I touch ___ (SOMETHING THAT MAKES THE CHARACTER VERY SAD) I am _ (THE FIRST LINE OF THE POEM REPEATED) THIRD STANZA: $I \ understand \ \underline{\hspace{2cm}}_{(SOMETHING\ THE\ CHARACTER\ KNOWS\ IS\ TRUE)}$ (SOMETHING THAT THE CHARACTER BELIEVES IN) (SOMETHING THE CHARACTER MIGHT ACTUALLY DREAM ABOUT) $I \ try \ \underline{\hspace{1cm}} (\text{something the character really makes an effort about})$ I hope ______(SOMETHING THE CHARACTER ACTUALLY HOPES FOR) I am _ (THE FIRST LINE OF THE POEM REPEATED) **BIOPOEM:** Line 1: ______ Line 2: Three traits that describe the greek god or goddess Line 3: Relative of Line 4: Lover of _______(THREE THINGS) Line 5: Who feels ______(THREE THINGS) Line 6: Who needs (THREE THINGS) Line 7: Who fears (THREE THINGS) Line 8: Who gives _____ (THREE THINGS) Line 9: Who would like to see (THREE THINGS) Line 10: Resident of Line 11: _____ 3





APOLLO FACT OR FICTION?

Test for partygoers' knowledge of the Sun God by providing this Apollo trivia handout.

ARE THESE STATEMENTS ABOUT APOLLO FACT OR FICTION?

I. Apollo is the son of Leto and Zeus. He was born on the island of Delos.

FACT OR FICTION

2. Apollo and his twin sister, Athena, both share an aptitude for archery.

FACT OR FICTION

3. Apollo taught men the art of medicine, so he is often referred to as "The Healer."

FACT OR FICTION

4. Apollo defended the oracle at Delphi against Hercules, who was angry at the priestess for having denied him a prophecy.

FACT OR FICTION

5. The nine Muses were companions of his; they were goddesses known for inspiring art and music.

FACT OR FICTION

6. The pine, used in Greece as a status symbol, was Apollo's tree.

FACT OR FICTION

7. Apollo is alternately referred to as the God of Darkness and the God of Deception.

FACT OR FICTION

8. Apollo killed a serpent named Anaconda as a result of a contest; it was conquered by a single arrow.

FACT OR FICTION

9. The shark and duck were the animals sacred to him.

FACT OR FICTION

10. He had many love affairs with both mortals and goddesses.

FACT OR FICTION

11. Apollo is credited with killing the Cyclops in retaliation for arming Zeus with the thunderbolt.

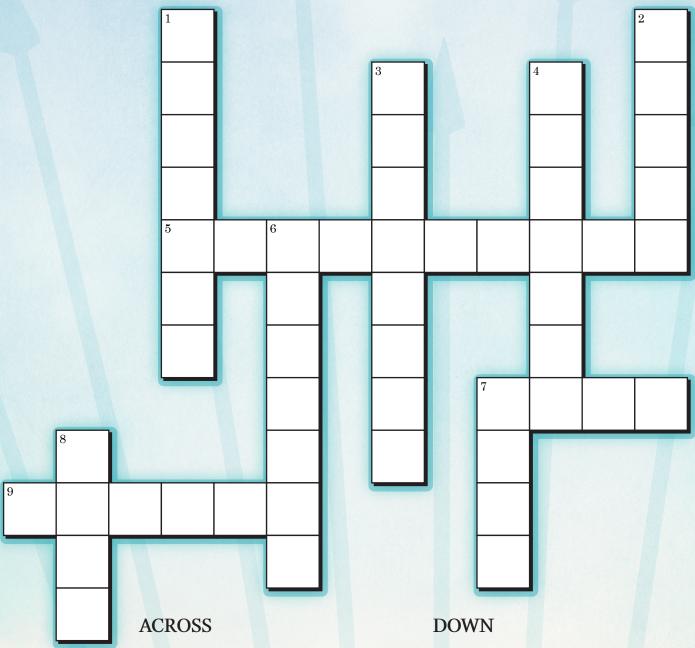
FACT OR FICTION

12. A masterful magician, Apollo was known for delighting Olympus with tunes played on his golden lyre. His lyre, a stringed instrument that resembles a small harp, was made by Hermes.

FACT OR FICTION

ALL ABOUT APOLLO CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Complete the crossword below to see how well you know the Sun God.



- 5. Apollo's companion he accidentally killed during a disc throwing contest
- 7. Instrument that Apollo was known to play
- 9. Location of Oracle that Apollo defended against Hercules

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- 1. One of Apollo's sacred animals
- 2. Apollo's companions known to inspire music and art
- 3. Apollo taught this healing art to mankind
- 4. Sport where a bow and arrow are used
- 6. Apollo's twin sister
- 7. Apollo's mother
- 8. Apollo's father

MORTAL THOUGHTS ABOUT APOLLO

Us mere mortals just can't get enough of a guy as amazing as Apollo! So

we thought we'd ask mortals what they the like to be as Apollo. Well, you can improve wonderful—and some crazy—things that the Hashtag AWESOME!

Kyle Wilson of Rickentsaid, "I think if I were Apollo, I might have a sound going to the store or so You know, like ordinary that regular mortal people d

Janson Everneddy of Marsaid, "What does a sun good day off? I mean, I like to and stuff with my friends and Do sun gods have friend like everybody else, or do thewhire people for that?"

Sandra Denelflaus of Can said, "I think it's really sweet the would be in charge of the that for us mortals. It must get hot, though. If I were the sun god, I'd want to have place-ice-cold cranberry juice around refreshing and good for you

Charles Solenecke of Wallis said, "If I could be the sun g just one day, I think I'd cool own pizza with some sweet 1., o u sunshine, baby!"

Editor's note: Us too, Chuck—us to.

Pat Suchensome of Cinnaber OH said, "You know, I think would be too much pressure. Apollo is such an awesome gu I'm sure he can handle that kind of thing, but—I don't know I'

Daven Sillentine of Parishura CA

OLLO

APOLLO'S HALL OF FAME

Apollo has fought a lot of people. His list of opponents is both impressive, and hard to remember. Help match the battle description Apollo gives to the opponent he is talking about.

This one would NOT stop causing trouble. Mischief and deceit everywhere...By the time I was four days old I'd had enough. This battle was no big deal—one shot and boom. Okay, okay, my New Year's resolution was to stop exaggerating...it took roughly a few centuries. But with all my godly strength and a powerful boom, the bad guy was gone. Revenge feels so good. (Until his mom came after me for like, months.)

These buggers are just a huge problem for everyone so, naturally, I took care of them too. Their mom was not happy with me and definitely lied about how I "think I am better than everyone" and "can just take whatever I want." I know my limits! If being mortal has taught me one thing (ahem, listen up Zeus) it is I AM fallible and NOT perfect at ALL. (Do you think he heard me? I'm desperate to get back to my godly bod...) Basically, some people died. That guy Leo was involved. Okay this wasn't all my battle at all, let's move on.

FANDRANARA

This guy was my nasty stepbrother, and was easily swayed when Gaea came to "adopt" him. She trained him in the art of darkness, and btw he was a giant. After he tried to attack my sister, I stopped by the revenge master himself: Hades. We made this great plan to have my sort-of-brother's spirit eaten by something gross, like a vulture, for eternity. There was NO way he was getting off easy for trying to get my mom. But I was the hero in this battle, not Hades. Don't forget that...

I do my own pest control*, and giant ants are no exception. They fought and fought, but in the end, I killed them with kindness...kind of.

GIANTS

MYRMEKES

PYTHON

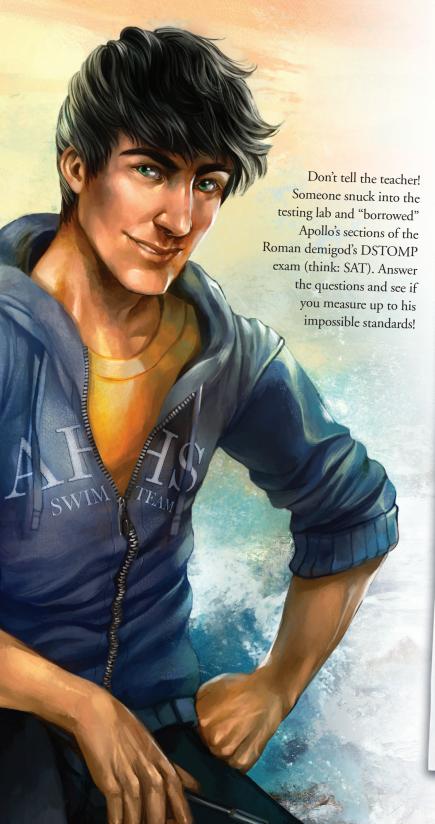
TITYOS

* Only when I am mortal. What is this about?

How is there not a better way to deal with insects than with one's own hands??

CLASSIFIED

DEMIGOD STANDARD TEST OF MAD POWER MUSIC

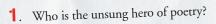


- 1. Who is the most unsung hero in music history?
 - a. Apollo
 - b. Antonio Vivaldi
 - c. Hootie and the Blowfish
 - d. The rest of Destiny's Child
- **2.** The Mixolydian mode has semitones between which degrees of the scale?
 - a. 1 and 2, 4 and 5
 - b. 2 and 6, 7 and 8
 - c. 1 and 8, 7 and 2
 - d. 3 and 4, 6 and 7
- **3.** What key is Apollo's favorite to sing in?
 - a. Bass
 - b. Tenor
 - c. Alto
 - d. Baritone
- **4.** Who invented the lyre?
 - a. Ludwig Van Beethoven
 - b. Leonardo da Vinci
 - c. Apollo
 - d. God
- 5. How do you breathe?
 - a. Through the lungs
 - b. Through my nose
 - c. Through my diaphragm
 - d. Through the automatic process of my respiratory system
- **6.** What are the categories of instruments?
 - a. Wind, string, brass, percussion
 - o. Wind, wood, whistling, whacking
 - c. Round, long, and tall
 - d. Floor or handheld
- **7.** When is a song considered to have "gone platinum"?
 - a. When written by Apollo
 - o. When it sells more than x amount
 - c. When the president says so
 - d. When the artist becomes a god
- 8. Who leads musicians when they are performing?
 - a. Apollo
 - b. Conductor
 - c. Metronome
 - d. Passion
- **9.** Billie Holiday, yes or no?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Maybe

CLASSIFIED

DEMIGOD STANDARD TEST OF MAD POWER

POETRY ANALYSIS



- a. Apollo
- b. Robert Frost
- c. Homer
- d. Rick Riordan
- **2**. What is the best word related to poetry?
 - a. Onomatopoeia
 - b. Alliteration
 - c. Hyperbole
 - d. Personification
- 3. What is the most aggressive form of poetry?
 - a. Haiku
 - b. Epic
 - c. Limerick
 - d. Tetractys
- **4.** What do you call incompetent writers who try to make poetry?
 - a. Prosers

THURST AND TOUR

- b. This isn't a quiz question, it is just funny.
- **5**. Finish this line: I fly through the sky in my gold chariot
 - a. My bedtime is coming, but I just don't care quite yet.
 - b. On my way to the United Nations Secretariat.
 - c. My music is loud and attitude arrogant.
 - d. I am the Sun God.
- 6. What is the best form of poetry?
 - a. Limerick
 - b. Haiku
 - c. Epic
 - d. Tetractys
- **7**. What is the worst form of poetry?
 - a. Limerick
 - b. Haiku
 - c. Epic
 - d. Trick question.



8. Fill in the blank:

When a line of poetry has 12 syllables, it is known as a _____ poem.

- a. Limerick
- b. Alexandrine
- c. Tetractys
- d. Haiku
- **9**. When was the first poem ever written?
 - a. 2nd Millennium BC
 - b. 1700 BC
 - c. 0 AD
 - d. 0 AA (After Apollo)

GET IN GODLY SHAPE: EXERCISES FOR MORTALS

(OR GODS-WHO-ARE-TEMPORARILY-MORTAL)

We can't have all of eternity to be fit, like the gods. Here are a few exercises Apollo found useful for staying fit as a mortal.

DUMPSTER PULL-UP

Find a surface about dumpster-height from your shoulder. Lucky for you, it does not have to be an actual dumpster, just a level that you can firmly grab on to with two hands—maybe a strong desk, or, in a pinch, the side of your bed (although you have to get a little creative with that one). Place all your weight in your hands (if necessary, bend your knees to create space between them and the floor). Now, try to straighten your arms as if crawling out of last week's trash. (Note: the smell that would normally motivate you to be strong is helpful, but also not necessary.) You have now done a Dumpster Pull-Up. Repeat as you find yourself in tricky trash-related situations.

BRUSHING OFF DISEASE MIST CLOUDS

Sometimes, gods become mortals, and mortals fall on their backs in battle and are hopeless against clouds of smoke that are actually disease-ridden and angry beings. Lie down on your back, cross your hands over your chest to protect your lungs, and raise your shoulders slightly to check if the smoke cloud is coming your way.

And, because smoke can come from pretty much any direction, vary this movement by also raising your shoulders and looking to the left, resting on the ground, then raising your shoulders and looking to the right. Oh, yeah, mortals call these crunches.

RUNNING FROM GIANT ANTS

Try to get from point A to point B quickly enough that the giant ants don't catch you. No pressure. The distance from A to B can be as short or long as you choose—hopefully the ants aren't too persistent that day.

LONG CAR RIDE ANKLE STRENGTHENERS

Traffic is such a mortal's problem. To pass the time, draw the alphabet with one foot, and then the other. This can really be done anywhere you are sitting. In especially long traffic, modifications can be made to this exercise—try drawing

pictures of what you see out the window with your foot, or challenging yourself to do both feet at once.

MOUNT OLYMPUS REACHES

You are a long way from the splendor and wonder that is up on Mount Olympus. To get a tiny bit closer, one can stand with their feet firmly planted shoulder-width apart, as straight as possible, with their hands down to their sides. Then:

- 1. Swoop one arm up from your side until it is reaching as high in the sky as possible.
- 2. Repeat on side two.
- 3. While reaching, take the deepest breath you have ever taken.
- 4. Then do three things at once: exhale slowly, hold your arms straight by your ears, and bend at the waist until you are reaching for the ground.
 - 5. Slowly stand up while leaving your arms hanging by your side.
 - Repeat as necessary before you feel prepared to tackle your day as a mortal.

MEDITATION

Mental exercise is just as necessary as physical to a god who has to deal with mortal problems for the first time. After completing the above exercises, sometimes it is nice to sit and check in on your mental presence. Find a quiet place, and sit in a position that you can maintain for a while. Then, close your eyes and focus on how your breathing moves your shoulders up and down. Obviously, your brain is going to think of other things (like acne, and grocery shopping, and why so-and-so doesn't respond to you as positively as when you were a god). This is okay. Your mortal brain is like a puppy, and the only thing you need to do is make note of the distraction, accept the thought as interesting, and guide your mind gently back to your breathing pattern and presence in that moment. Finding calm like this is helpful for gods in tough situations, and falling down to earth and becoming mortal certainly qualifies as one of those.

ANSWER KEYS

CLASSIFIED: DEMIGOD STANDARD TEST OF MAD POWER MUSIC KEY

- 1. Who is the most unsung hero in music history?
 - A. APOLLO—THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS APOLLO.
 - Antonio Vivaldi
 - Hootie and the Blowfish
 - d. The rest of Destiny's Child
- 2. The Mixolydian mode has semitones between which degrees of the scale?
 - 1 and 2, 4 and 5
 - b. 2 and 6, 7 and 8
 - c. 1 and 8, 7 and 2
 - D. 3 AND 4, 6 AND 7—HONESTLY PEOPLE, YOU SHOULD KNOW THIS.
- 3. What key is Apollo's favorite to sing in?
 - a. Bass
 - TENOR—NO NOTES DOWN LOW FOR THIS GODLY VOICE.
 - Alto
- d. Baritone
- Who invented the lyre?
 - a. Ludwig Van Beethoven
 - b. Leonardo da Vinci
 - C. APOLLO—THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS APOLLO.
 - God
- How do you breathe?
 - a. Through the lungs
 - Through my nose
 - THROUGH MY DIAPHRAGM—WHAT, DID YOU THINK THIS WAS A JOKE?
 - Through the automatic process of my respiratory
- What are the categories of instruments?
 - A. WIND, STRING, BRASS, PERCUSSION
 - Wind, wood, whistling, whacking
 - Round, long, and tall
 - d. Floor or handheld
- When is a song considered to have "gone platinum"?
 - A. WHEN WRITTEN BY APOLLO—THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS APOLLO.
 - When it sells more than x amount
 - When the president says so
 - When the artist becomes a god
- Who leads musicians when they are performing?
- A. APOLLO—THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS APOLLO.
 - Conductor b.
- Metronome
- d. Passion
- 9. Billie Holiday, yes or no?
- A. YES-ALWAYS YES.
 - b. No
 - Maybe

CLASSIFIED: DEMIGOD STANDARD TEST OF MAD POWER POETRY ANALYSIS KEY

- Who is the unsung hero of poetry?
 - APOLLO—THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS APOLLO.
 - Robert Frost
 - Homer
- Rick Riordan
- What is the best word related to poetry?
 - A. ONOMATOPOEIA—THEY ARE SO USEFUL IN HAIKUS!
 - Alliteration
 - Hyperbole
 - Personification d.
- What is the most aggressive form of poetry?
 - Haiku a.
 - Ь. Epic
 - C. LIMERICK-EVEN THE WORD IS **AGGRESSIVE**
 - Tetractys
- What do you call incompetent writers who try to make poetry?
 - A. PROSERS—DID YOU LAUGH? NO LAUGH = NO PASS.
 - This isn't a quiz question, it is just funny.
- Finish this line: I fly through the sky in my gold chariot
 - My bedtime is coming, but I just don't care quite yet.
 - On my way to the United Nations Secretariat.
 - My music is loud and attitude arrogant.
 - D. I AM THE SUN GOD-AND NEVER FORGET
- What is the best form of poetry?
 - a. Limerick
- HAIKU—IF YOU SAID LIMERICK IT COUNTS AS TWO POINTS OFF, BECAUSE YOU ARE DOUBLE WRONG.
- Tetractys
- 7. What is the worst form of poetry?
 - A. LIMERICK—IF YOU GET THIS RIGHT, YOU GET TWO POINTS ADDED, BECAUSE YOU KNOW I DON'T BELIEVE IN TRICK QUESTIONS AND YOU KNOW THAT LIMERICKS ARE TERRIBLE.
 - Haiku
 - Epic
 - Trick question.
- Fill in the blank: When a line of poetry has 12 syllables, it is known as a___ poem.
 - Limerick
 - ALEXANDRINE—THESE ARE POSITIVELY
 - Tetractys
- When was the first poem ever written?
 - A. 2ND MILLENNIUM BC
 - b 1700 BC
 - c. 0 AD
 - d. 0 AA (After Apollo)

APOLLO'S HALL OF FAME

- 1—PYTHON
- 2—GAEA'S GIANTS
- 3—TITYOS
- 4—MYRMEKES

APOLLO FACT OR FICTION?

- 1. FACT
- FICTION—Apollo's twin sister is Artemis.
- FACT
- 4. FACT
- FACT
- FICTION—The laurel was Apollo's tree.
- FICTION—Apollo is alternately referred to as the God of Light and the God of Truth.
- FICTION—Apollo killed Python with a single arrow.
- FICTION—The dolphin and swan were the animals sacred to him.
- 10. FACT
- 11. FACT
- 12. FACT

ALL ABOUT APOLLO CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- HYACINTHUS
- LYRE
- DELPHI 9.

Down

- DOLPHIN 1.
- MUSES
- **MEDICINE**
- ARCHERY 6. ARTEMIS
- LETO
- ZEUS

