



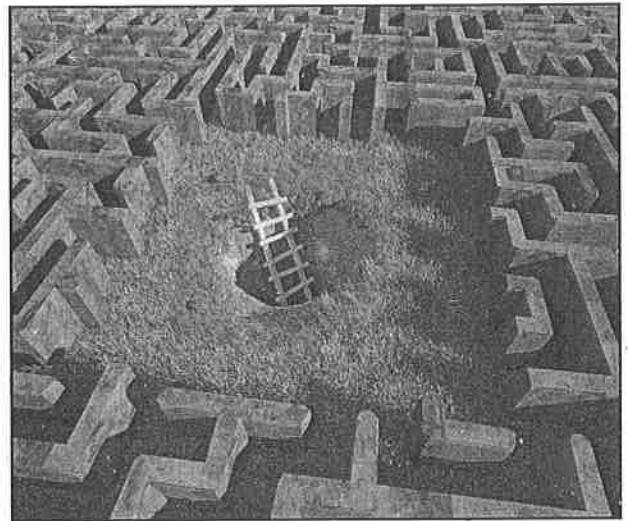
Read the selection. Then choose the best answer to each question.

The Disobedient Boy

An adaptation of the Greek myth "The Boy Who Flew Too High"

1 Long ago on the Greek island of Crete roamed a vicious beast known as Minotaur. This savage creature had the body of a man and the head of a bull. It viciously preyed on humans. The townspeople of Crete were terrified, and they pleaded with their ruler, King Minos, to rid the island of the ferocious being. King Minos, a ruthless leader, turned a deaf ear to his people, for he believed Minotaur to be the perfect weapon of war. To pacify the people, King Minos planned to construct a labyrinth to cage Minotaur. This elaborate maze of passages would make it impossible for the beast, or any other who entered it, to escape.

2 The king hired Daedalus, a great inventor and architect, to build the labyrinth. After much time, the structure was complete, and King Minos was pleased with the work of the craftsman. The labyrinth was like an enormous, unfamiliar city of many twisting and turning paths that often forked or led to dead ends. Those who entered the mystifying maze were like wandering visitors in an unknown metropolis without the benefit of a guide or map.



3 Unfortunately, the king did not trust Daedalus. He feared this man, who knew the secrets of the labyrinth, would share the route for exiting the maze. Instead of receiving payment for his network of confusion, Daedalus was imprisoned with his son, Icarus, in a lofty tower. After months of isolation in the tower, Icarus pleaded with his father to devise an escape for them. Daedalus gazed out the tower window and was reminded of the obstacles they faced. Surrounded by water, he knew they could not swim to safety, nor could they sail, as the sea was heavily guarded by the king's fleet of vessels. Furthermore, no ship was allowed to leave the island of Crete without being searched by the king's soldiers.



- 4 Suddenly, a lone seagull soared across Daedalus's field of vision and sparked his imagination. Plotting their escape, Daedalus asked King Minos for a sack of feathers, a ball of string, and some wax. The king, thinking that Daedalus was working on an invention for the townspeople, obliged and provided the supplies. For many days, Daedalus meticulously organized the feathers from the smallest to the largest, laying them in four large arcs. Once the feathers were perfectly arranged, he began the tedious task of stringing them together and fastening the rows with wax. Icarus grew weary of his father's monotonous task, thinking only of his overwhelming desire to leave the tower.
- 5 After several weeks, Daedalus's handiwork was complete. There, on the tower floor, lay two pairs of beautifully crafted wings, resembling the wings of his inspiration—the seagull. Daedalus carefully presented the first pair of wings to his son. Icarus tapped his foot impatiently as his father strapped them into place. Once Daedalus had secured his own wings, they were ready for the first test. The father and son flapped their arms, softly at first, then with increased strength and speed. Slowly, they rose from the floor and hovered in midair. Daedalus was delighted with the results of his invention. Icarus moved toward the window, ready to spread his wings and fly to freedom, but his father insisted that he be patient.
- 6 "With these wings, you will have the ability to soar as a bird," Daedalus said to his son. "But you must fly in a straight line, midway between the sea and the sky."
- 7 "Why, Father?" inquired Icarus.
- 8 "When you fly too near the water, the sea spray will soak your wings, and they will become heavy. When you fly too close to the Sun, the wax securing the feathers will melt, and your wings will separate. Thus, flying between the sea and sky is your safest route to freedom. If you neglect to follow my instructions, you will fall into the sea and drown." Icarus nodded in understanding.
- 9 After weeks of diligent practice, Daedalus deemed they were ready to make their escape. "Son, the day of our exodus has arrived. Remember, you must not lose sight of me or stray from my path. I will lead you safely home." With wings firmly in place, the father and son flew from the tower window.
- 10 The winds of freedom caught their wings and gently carried them aloft. Soon, Icarus was distracted by his reflection in the sparkling sapphire waters below. After a while, he grew tired of

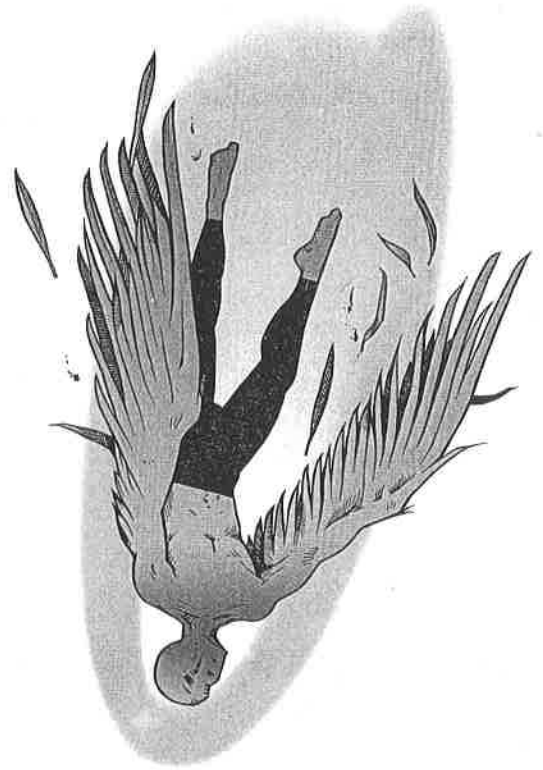


flying in a straight line behind his father. He increased his speed, flipping and swooping in the air, thrilled to have regained his glorious freedom.

11 Daedalus cried out to his disobedient son, but Icarus only flew faster and higher. As the boy peered over his shoulder, he was blinded by the golden rays of the Sun and lost sight of his father. Still, Icarus continued on, never before in his life feeling as happy and free. When he reached a new height, he glimpsed a feather floating past his face and then another and another. Icarus tried to dip lower, but there was no time. He had flown too near the fiery orb, and the wax connecting the feathers was melting. Icarus tried mightily to flap his arms, but his wings separated into tiny pieces.

12 "Father!" Icarus shouted as he plunged into the waters below.

13 Daedalus rushed toward the spot where the empty feathers drifted from the sky, but Icarus had already disappeared into the depths of the sea. Daedalus had no choice but to continue on his journey. His heart heavy with grief, he reached his homeland—alone.





- 1 In paragraph 2, an extended simile is used to —
- Ⓐ foreshadow Icarus and Daedalus’s escape
 - Ⓑ emphasize the confusing design of the labyrinth
 - Ⓒ highlight Daedalus’s skills as an architect
 - Ⓓ reveal the visual appeal of the labyrinth

- 2 Daedalus could be considered a hero in this myth because —
- Ⓕ he battles Minotaur and saves the townspeople from the cruel beast
 - Ⓖ he designs a labyrinth to help his son Icarus escape captivity
 - Ⓗ he is unable to save Icarus when he flies too close to the Sun
 - Ⓙ he devises a clever plan to outwit the devious king

- 3 Which characteristic of a myth does “The Disobedient Boy” contain?
- Ⓐ Characters who defy the laws of nature
 - Ⓑ Characters who use magic
 - Ⓒ Characters who overpower others
 - Ⓓ Characters who are rebellious

- 4 How does Icarus’s annoyance with the slow progress of the escape plan foreshadow the outcome of the myth?
- Ⓕ It emphasizes Icarus’s inquisitive nature.
 - Ⓖ It exposes Icarus’s intelligence and ambition.
 - Ⓗ It reveals Icarus’s impatience and lack of foresight.
 - Ⓙ It highlights Icarus’s arrogant attitude.



- 5 Icarus's actions in paragraphs 11 and 12 show that he is —
- Ⓐ cautious
 - Ⓑ curious
 - Ⓒ reckless
 - Ⓓ demanding
- 6 What effect does Icarus's restlessness have on Daedalus?
- Ⓐ It provides the reason that Daedalus is determined to take action.
 - Ⓑ It allows Daedalus the opportunity to grow closer to his son.
 - Ⓒ It makes the conflict between Daedalus and Icarus tense.
 - Ⓓ It gives Daedalus a purpose for his remaining days.
- 7 What is one message the author conveys in the myth?
- Ⓐ Freedom is worth any price.
 - Ⓑ Impulsive actions lead to great rewards.
 - Ⓒ Forgiveness frees the spirit as well as the mind.
 - Ⓓ The wisdom of parents provides the foundation for good choices.
- 8 Because the story is written from a third-person omniscient point of view, the reader is able to understand —
- Ⓐ King Minos's reasons for imprisoning Icarus
 - Ⓑ the motivations of King Minos, Daedalus, and Icarus
 - Ⓒ Daedalus's thoughts about Icarus's stubbornness
 - Ⓓ the supernatural powers of King Minos, Daedalus, and Icarus



- 9 The author uses imagery in paragraph 10 to —
- (A) emphasize Icarus’s joy with regaining his independence
 - (B) reveal the motivations of Daedalus and Icarus
 - (C) highlight the danger of Icarus’s movements
 - (D) express the anxiety felt by Daedalus and Icarus

- 10 Why does Daedalus give his son specific instructions for flying as they make their escape?
- (F) To control his son’s actions
 - (G) To encourage his son to be brave
 - (H) To protect his son from danger
 - (I) To calm his son’s nerves

- 11 In paragraph 4, the word meticulously means —
- (A) harmlessly
 - (B) carelessly
 - (C) passionately
 - (D) precisely

- 12 Read these sentences from paragraphs 11 and 12.

Icarus tried mightily to flap his arms, but his wings separated into tiny pieces.

"Father!" Icarus shouted as he plunged into the waters below.

These sentences show that Icarus —

- (F) regrets the consequences of his actions
 - (G) discourages his father from supporting his decision
 - (H) finds pleasure in the strength he displays
 - (I) appreciates the freedom of his escape
- 13 The message conveyed by the image next to paragraph 11 is that Daedalus’s decision —
- (A) provides a reason to escape captivity
 - (B) results in a necessary outcome
 - (C) requires careful planning
 - (D) has fatal consequences



Motivation Station

Read the incomplete analogies. Determine and record the relationship for each set of words. Then write the word in the blank that best completes each analogy.

Example relationship—*specific to general*

Minotaur:beast as King Minos:man

1. relationship—

dead end:labyrinth as wax:_____

2. relationship—

King Minos:ruler as Daedalus:_____

3. relationship—

Daedalus:father as Icarus:_____

4. relationship—

wings:escape as _____:captivity

5. relationship—

Sun:sky as _____:Greece

6. relationship—

tower:Daedalus and Icarus as _____:Minotaur

7. relationship—

obedience:safety as disobedience:_____

Write three original analogies that have a connection to the selection. Challenge: Attempt to use a different relationship for each analogy you write.

relationship—

8. _____ : _____ as _____ :

relationship—

9. _____ : _____ as _____ :

relationship—

10. _____ : _____ as _____ :