Name: _____ Date: _____

Pandora Opens the Jar

Reading level 6 · 155 words

The Greeks told a tale of Pandora. The gods made her. Each god gave her a gift.

Last, Zeus gave her a big clay jar. "Do not open it," he said. "Not ever."

Pandora took the jar home. It was tall and round. The lid was heavy.

All day she looked at the jar. What was in it? She just had to know.

One day she was all alone. "Just a peek," she said. She lifted the lid.

Out flew gray Troubles with wings! They were Sad and Cross and Worry. They buzzed out of the window.

Pandora shut the lid with a bang. But the Troubles were gone. They flew all over the world.

She sat down and cried. Then a small voice spoke from inside the jar.

She peeked in. A gold light glowed. "I am Hope," it said.

Hope stayed with Pandora. The Troubles are in the world, but Hope is too.

Questions

1. What did Zeus give Pandora?

A. A red bird
B. A big jar
C. A gold ring

2. What did Zeus tell her to do?

A. To sell it
B. To hide it in a tree
C. Not to open it

3. What flew out of the jar?

A. Troubles
B. Birds
C. Bees

4. Why did Pandora lift the lid?

A. Zeus told her to
B. It fell open
C. She wanted to know what was inside

5. What was left in the jar?

A. Gold
B. Hope
C. Nothing

6. In this story, what does "hope" mean?

A. A good wish
B. A loud noise
C. A big jar

Words to know

jar: a tall pot
lid: a cover
troubles: bad things
hope: good wishes

Answer key: Pandora Opens the Jar

1. B. A big jar
2. C. Not to open it
3. A. Troubles
4. C. She wanted to know what was inside
5. B. Hope
6. A. A good wish