Name: _____ Date: _____

The Big Wooden Horse

Reading level 6 · 218 words

For ten years, the Greeks waited by Troy. Its walls were very high. They could not get in.

Then a clever man named Odysseus had an idea. "Let us build a big wooden horse," he said.

The Greeks built the horse. It was as tall as a house. It had a little door in its side.

Odysseus and his men hid inside the horse. It was dark in there. They did not make a sound!

The other Greeks went to their ships. They sailed away. The beach was empty, but for the horse.

The people of Troy came out. "The Greeks have gone!" they said. Then they saw the big wooden horse.

"It must be a gift," they said. They pulled the horse into the city. They sang and danced all day.

A man named Laocoon shouted, "Do not trust it! It may be a trick!" No one listened.

That night, the people of Troy went to bed. The horse stood still in the square. It was quiet.

In the night, the little door opened. Odysseus and his men climbed out. The Greeks came out of the horse.

And so the war was over. It was a clever trick. A wooden horse had won it.

People still say, "Look twice at a gift." It might hold a trick!

Questions

1. How long did the Greeks stay by Troy?

A. One day
B. Two weeks
C. Ten years

2. Who had the idea for the horse?

A. Laocoon
B. Odysseus
C. The people of Troy

3. Where did Odysseus and his men hide?

A. Inside the horse
B. In the ships
C. Under the wall

4. Why did the people of Troy pull the horse in?

A. They thought it was a gift
B. They wanted to hide it
C. They were afraid of it

5. In this story, what does "clever" mean?

A. Very tall
B. Very loud
C. Quick at thinking up plans

6. What did Laocoon say about the horse?

A. Pull it in
B. Do not trust it
C. It is a boat

Words to know

wooden: made of wood
clever: quick to think
gift: a present
trick: a sly plan

Answer key: The Big Wooden Horse

1. C. Ten years
2. B. Odysseus
3. A. Inside the horse
4. A. They thought it was a gift
5. C. Quick at thinking up plans
6. B. Do not trust it