



MRS OSH TUTORS

On an Odyssey

Discover the story of Odysseus - an exciting tale of a brave and noble leader with a sharp intelligence. Can you match the underlined words to their meanings in the box below before completing the crossword?

The story of Odysseus and his epic journey is around 3,000 years old and was long performed as a poem before it was eventually written down by Homer (the ancient Greek poet - not the TV character)! Spanning 10 years, it tells of Odysseus' adventures as he travels home from the Trojan War: a great war between the Greeks and the city of Troy.

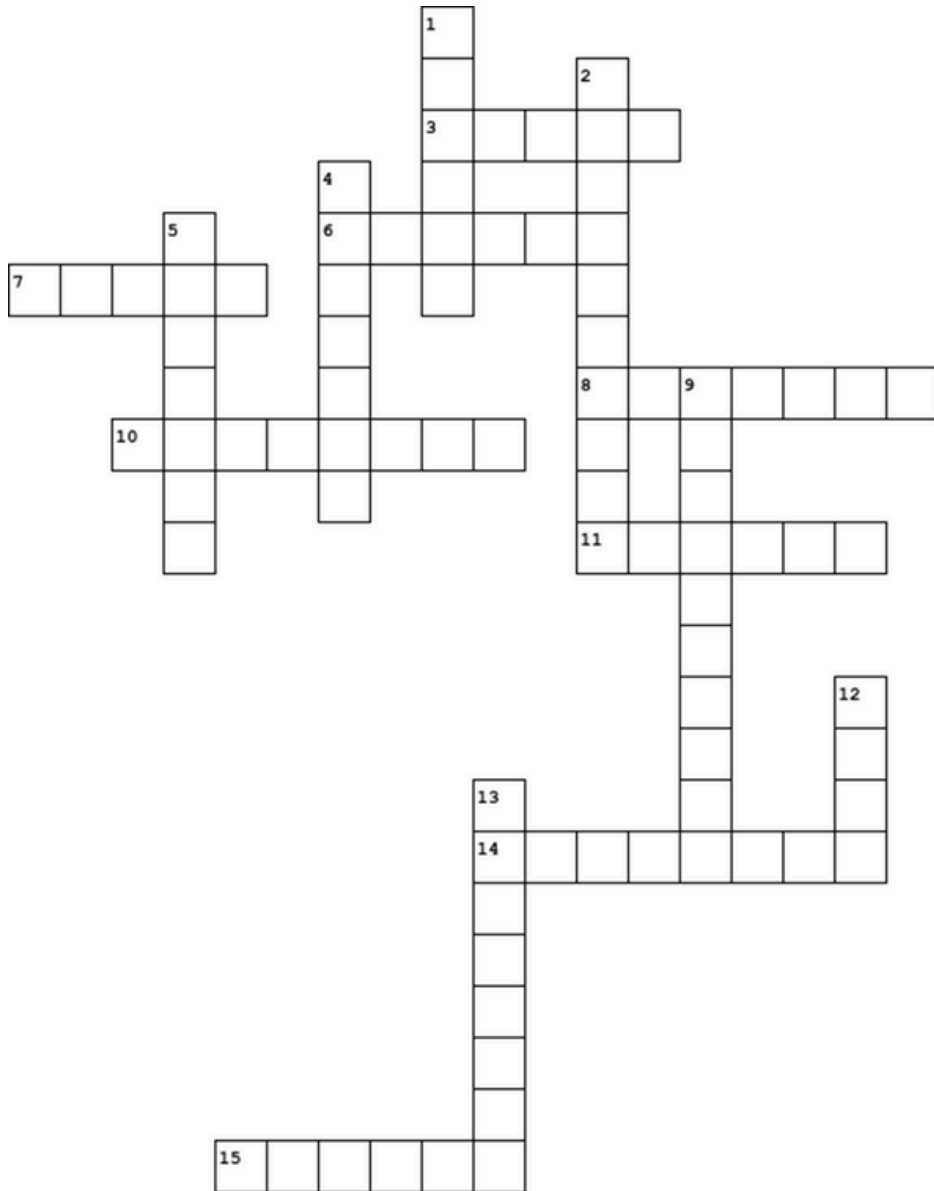
Odysseus - a courageous and quick-witted hero - longs to return to his beautiful wife, Penelope, in Ithaca. Many men have sought to marry her in his absence to gain his throne and his son, Telemachus, strives to deter the suitors long enough for his father's return. But Odysseus' travels home are delayed year after year as he is forced to battle mythical creatures and angry gods whilst hampered by a greedy, lazy crew on his ship. After ten years of fighting in the Trojan War and a further decade voyaging home, it has been 20 years since he last saw his wife and son.

On his arduous journey, Odysseus defeats a cyclops, prevails through a storm sent by the god Poseidon and resists the sirens' alluring songs. He escapes capture by the lotus-eaters and survives punishment by Zeus - king of all gods. On his eventual arrival home, he must win a contest to prove his identity and slaughter the suitors before finally retaking the throne of Ithaca!

Celebrated ever since as a story of heroic determination, an 'odyssey' has come to mean a long, eventful and adventurous journey or experience.

Match the words to their meanings

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 1 epic | A discourage |
| 2 spanning | B triumphs |
| 3 strives | C lasting |
| 4 deter | D mermaid |
| 5 suitor | E held back by, obstructed |
| 6 hampered | F long, often historic and with a lot of action |
| 7 arduous | G difficult |
| 8 prevails | H admirer |
| 9 siren | I tries hard to |



Across

- 3. The Greek poet who wrote down the story of Odysseus
- 6. Period of ten years
- 7. Ancient civilisation from which this story originates
- 8. A mythical creature that Odysseus defeats during his journey
- 10. Slowed down or got in the way of
- 11. The creatures whose songs almost lure sailors to their doom
- 14. The hero of the story, known for his cleverness and bravery
- 15. The war between the Greeks and the city of Troy

Down

- 1. The island where Odysseus' wife, Penelope, waits for him
- 2. Odysseus' son, who helps keep the suitors away
- 4. A type of journey Odysseus undergoes, now associated with long, adventurous travels
- 5. Also known as a 'siren'
- 9. Synonym for 'brave'
- 12. The king of all gods, who punishes Odysseus
- 13. The god of the sea, who sent storms to delay Odysseus



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Answers

Answers Match the words to their meanings

- 1F
- 2C
- 3I
- 4A
- 5H
- 6E
- 7G
- 8B
- 9D

