

Teaching notes on 1.06 The Myth of Achilles

Slide 1

Learning objective: To make a mini dictionary and to use our Latin vocabulary knowledge to read and illustrate the Myth of Achilles. This is the first session of vocabulary consolidation in the course. The students will make a mini dictionary that they will gradually fill in over the next few units. They will then go to encounter and translate this vocabulary in a story, which they will illustrate in comic format.

Slide 2



This slide draws on the previous lesson's learning and can either be used as a quiz for the class or as a refresher. Four questions will appear on mouse-click, and once students have had a chance to think, subsequent mouse-clicks will put the correct words in the gaps.

Slide 3



A visual step-by-step guide of how to make the mini dictionary which the class can follow along as they fold and snip their dictionaries. The back 'cover' of the dictionary remains blank so it can be stuck into their books or folders.

Slide 4



Once the dictionaries have been made, it's time to put in the first six words in the relevant sections. Before the pupils write in the words and their English meanings, just run through them on the board. They are *magnus* (big), *femina* (woman), *victoria* (victory), *aqua* (water), *vacca* (cow) and *optimus* (best).

Slide 5



Another walk-through, this time showing how to complete the worksheet:

1. Read the story, remembering or working out what the Latin words mean (these are words that they've just put in their dictionaries, so they should hopefully recall them).
2. Draw pictures that illustrate the scene or action in each panel.
3. Fill in the English meaning of the Latin words at the bottom.

There is one English word that may be a challenge: *invincible*. It may be useful to gloss this before the students start the exercise.

Slide 6

The plenary slide:

Question 1 In English, does the object of a sentence come before or after the verb?

Question 2 What is the Latin word for 'woman'? [femina]

Question 3 How did Achilles die? [He was shot in the heel with an arrow, which is the spot that didn't get covered with the magical waters of the Styx when he was a baby. We still call the tendon connecting the heel to the calf the Achilles tendon, and when we talk about someone's 'Achilles heel', it means their fatal weakness, either physical or metaphorical]