

Magic Tree House

# Hour of the Olympics

Comprehension & Text Evidence



Learning Through Lit



# HOUR OF THE OLYMPICS

## Chapter 1

1. Where are Jack and Annie going? How does Jack feel about it?

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2. Why does Jack need the secret library card?

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3. What will guide Jack and Annie?

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# HOUR OF THE OLYMPICS

## Chapter 2

1. List two facts about the Olympic Games.

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2. Why do you think they are called the “Olympic Games”?

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3. What did Annie notice that seemed strange?

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4. List two facts about Greek plays.

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5. Why was a man dressed as a woman in the play?

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# HOUR OF THE OLYMPICS

## Chapter 3

1. What philosopher spoke to Jack and Annie? What is a **philosopher**?

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2. Who wrote the story the children are looking for?

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3. Describe the roles of men, women, boys, and girls in Greece.

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# HOUR OF THE OLYMPICS

## Chapter 4

1. Why did the identity of the poet have to be kept secret?

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2. Define **anonymous**.

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3. How did life in ancient times and modern times differ for girls?

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4. How do Jack and Annie feel about the way girls are treated?

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# HOUR OF THE OLYMPICS

## Chapter 5

1. How do modern Olympic Games differ from ancient Olympics?

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2. What did Jack and Annie learn about gyms, olive trees, and Nike?

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3. Who is Zeus? What role does he play in the ancient Olympics?

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# HOUR OF THE OLYMPICS

## Chapter 6

1. Describe the Olympic parade.

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2. What is the oldest event in the Olympics?

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3. What is the greatest honor of the Olympic Games?

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4. Who was the short soldier?

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# HOUR OF THE OLYMPICS

## Chapter 7

1. Describe the scene as the chariots begin to race.

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2. What happened when Annie's helmet and cape fell off?

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3. What do you predict the guards will do with Annie?

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# HOUR OF THE OLYMPICS

## Chapter 8

1. How did Jack and Annie respond when the guards tried to arrest Annie?

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2. Why did Jack pull out the poet's scroll?

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3. What happened when he held the scroll up?

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# HOUR OF THE OLYMPICS

## Chapter 9

1. How did Jack and Annie escape?

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2. What happened to the white horse?

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3. How did Annie feel when she had to leave the horse? Why?

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# HOUR OF THE OLYMPICS

## Chapter 10

1. What did Jack and Annie discover about the white horse that rescued them?

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2. Who was one of the greatest thinkers who ever lived?

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3. Who did Morgan say was in the night sky? What did she mean?

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# HOUR OF THE OLYMPICS

## ANSWER KEY

### Chapter 1

1. Where are Jack and Annie going? How do they feel about it? **They are going to ancient Greece. They are excited but worried it may be their last mission.**
2. Why does Jack need the secret library card? **He must show it to the wisest person they meet.**
3. What will guide Jack and Annie? **The research book on Ancient Greece will guide them.**

### Chapter 2

1. List two facts about the Olympic Games.  
**The Olympic Games began in ancient Greece over 2,500 years ago.  
The festival of athletic games took place in the town of Olympia.  
More than 40,000 people traveled to the games.**
2. Why do you think they are called the “Olympic Games”? **Olympics comes from Olympia, where the games were held.**
3. Discuss what Annie noticed that seemed strange? **She didn’t see any women or girls.**
4. List two facts about Greek plays.  
**The Greeks were the first to write plays.  
Many English words for the theater come from Greek words, such as drama, scenery, and chorus.  
Many Greek plays are still performed today.**
5. Why was a man dressed as a woman in the play? **Women were not allowed to act, so men played the female roles, too.**

## Chapter 3

1. What philosopher spoke to Jack and Annie? What is a **philosopher**? **Plato spoke to them. Philosophers are lovers of wisdom.**
2. Who wrote the story the children are looking for? **A young woman wrote it.**
3. Describe the roles of men, women, boys, and girls in Greece. **Men and women lived in separate parts of a Greek house. Women spent most of their time spinning, weaving, and taking care of the kitchen. Boys were sent away to school when they were seven. Girls were not allowed to go to school.**

## Chapter 4

1. Why did the identity of the poet have to be kept secret? **It had to be kept secret because she was a woman and they were not allowed to write.**
2. Define **anonymous**. **No one knows who the author is.**
3. How did life in ancient times and modern times differ for girls? **In ancient Greece, girls couldn't write stories, go to school, or be in plays. In modern times, they can.**
4. How do Jack and Annie feel about the way girls are treated? **They think it is unfair.**

## Chapter 5

1. How do modern Olympic Games differ from ancient Olympics? **Modern Olympic Games do not have chariot races as they did in ancient Olympics.**
2. What did Jack and Annie learn about gyms, olive trees, and Nike?  
**Ancient Greeks invented gyms. It is where they trained.**  
**Olive trees are sacred in Greece. The winners of the games wear crowns made from their branches.**  
**Nike is the goddess of victory.**
3. Who is Zeus? What role does he play in the ancient Olympics?  
**Zeus is the most important Olympic god. The games are played in his honor. He is the chief god of the Greek gods and goddesses. The athletes swore to Zeus that they had trained for ten months and they promised to obey the rules of the games.**

## Chapter 6

1. Describe the Olympic parade. **Musicians playing pipes were at the front. Behind them marched the Olympic athletes. The runners were first, then the boxers, wrestlers, and discus and javelin throwers.**
2. What is the oldest event in the Olympics? **Foot races are the oldest.**
3. What is the greatest honor of the Olympic Games? **Winning a chariot race is the greatest honor.**
4. Who was the short soldier? **It was Annie.**

## Chapter 7

1. Describe the scene as the chariots begin to race. **The trumpet sounded then dozens of chariots lined up on the race track. Each chariot was pulled by four horses. The crowd went wild as the trumpet sounded a second time and the horses took off.**
2. What happened when Annie's helmet and cape fell off? **People stared at her and called the guards.**
3. What do you predict the guards will do with Annie? **Answers vary**

## Chapter 8

1. How did Jack and Annie respond when the guards tried to arrest Annie? **They both yelled for the guards to let her go.**
2. Why did Jack pull out the poet's scroll? **It was their darkest hour and they needed help.**
3. What happened when he held the scroll up? **A white horse galloped out of the dust.**

## Chapter 9

1. How did Jack and Annie escape? **They climbed over the wall and into the awaiting chariot with the white horse.**
2. What happened to the white horse? **It grew giant feathery wings and pulled the chariot into the sky.**
3. How did Annie feel when she had to leave the horse? Why? **She was very sad because she thought it was the most beautiful thing she had ever seen.**

## Chapter 10

1. What did Jack and Annie discover about the white horse that rescued them? **It was Pegasus, the great white winged horse in Greek mythology.**
2. Who was one of the greatest thinkers who ever lived? **Plato**
3. Who did Morgan say was in the night sky? What did she mean? **All of the characters who saved them on their last four missions were in the night sky. They are stars and constellations. If you connect the stars with imaginary lines you will see the characters.**

Thank you so much for  
purchasing my lesson 😊

I hope you and your  
students find these  
resources as fun and  
engaging as my students  
and I do!

Deborah Talton



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