Odysseus was a famous Greek hero. He lived in Greece but for many years he was away from his wife and his son. He was fighting in a long war. At last the war ended and Odysseus began his voyage home. On the way he met many strange creatures.

The voyage of Odysseus

Scene 1

Setting: on Odysseus' ship near rocky cliffs

Characters: Odysseus; the sea captain; sailors; a monster with six heads

Odysseus:	Listen, men. There are two horrifying sea monsters nearby. The first one has twelve legs, six necks and six heads, with three sets of teeth in each one!
Captain:	That's awful! We have never seen such a terrifying creature!
Odysseus:	If a ship sails too near, the monster will ...
Sailors:	Help! The ship is rocking!
Odysseus:	Row, row as fast as you can! The monster lives in the cave under those cliffs. He may be sleeping now but I will fight him if I have to.
Sailors:	Row! Row!
Captain:	We have just passed the cave. We are safe!
Sailor 1:	No! Look at the water! We haven't escaped yet.
Sailor 2:	The ship is spinning round and round. What is happening?
Odysseus:	It is the other monster! It is a giant whirlpool. It will pull us under the sea!
Sailors:	We must row!
Monster:	Grrr!



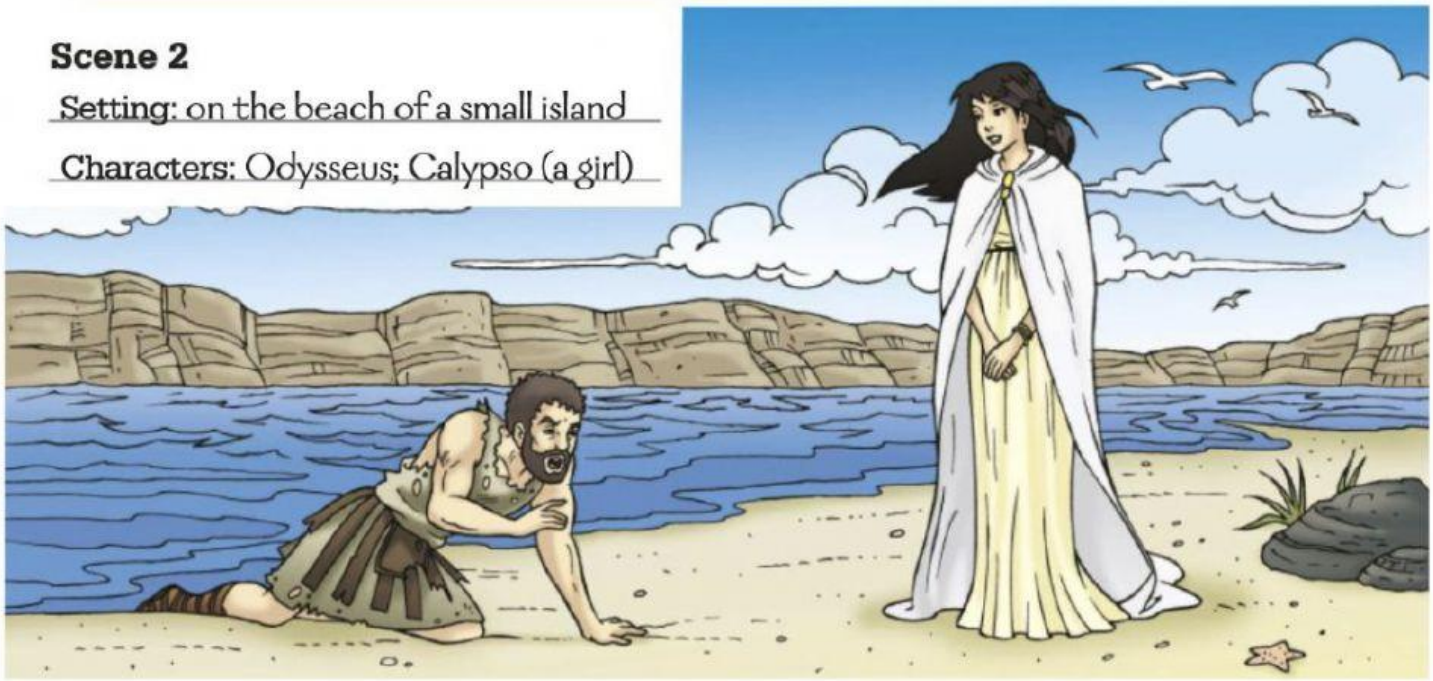
LIVEWORKSHEETS

Sailor 1: What is that?
Captain: It's a giant dog!
Odysseus: No, it is the monster with six heads!
Sailor 2: Look, it is rising out of the water!
Monster: Grrr!
Sailor 1: Help! It is attacking us.
Captain: It is grabbing the sailors. It is eating them! Row! Row!
Odysseus: Now a storm is coming! The waves are getting higher and higher.
Captain: The wind is tearing the sail.
Sailor 2: The mast has broken!
Captain: The ship is turning over! Help! Help!

Scene 2

Setting: on the beach of a small island

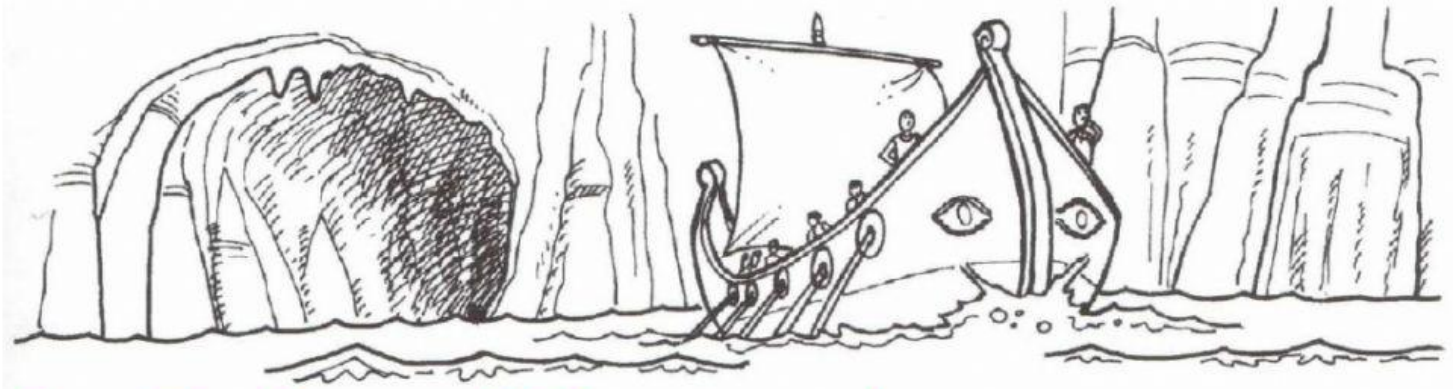
Characters: Odysseus; Calypso (a girl)



Odysseus: I was in the sea for ten days. Now I have reached an island. But is this a safe place? I don't know.
Calypso: Hello. My name is Calypso. What has happened to you?
Odysseus: I have just swum to this island. My name is Odysseus. I am travelling to my home.
Calypso: Where is your ship?
Odysseus: There was a terrible storm. My ship disappeared under the water and all the sailors drowned.
Calypso: That is dreadful. Come to my home. My parents will look after you.
Odysseus: Thank you. You are very kind. I am exhausted, it's true.

Rewritten from The adventures of Odysseus, a Greek legend adapted by Gill Munton (Macmillan English Explorers, level 4)

LIVEWORKSHEETS



Read The Voyage of Odysseus again. Match the sentence beginnings and endings.

1 Odysseus was	pulled down by the whirlpool.
2 Odysseus' boat passed	Calypso.
3 The first monster had	the ship's sail.
4 The other monster was	a famous Greek hero.
5 The wind tore	an island.
6 The ship's mast broke	a giant whirlpool.
7 The sailors were	in the storm.
8 The ship was	eaten by the monster.
9 Odysseus swam to	the monster's cave.
10 The girl's name was	six heads.

Read these words from the play. Match them with the words below.

horrifying dreadful exhausted attack voyage creature

1 tired _____

2 journey _____

3 fight _____

4 animal _____

5 terrifying _____

6 awful _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Read the words and the definitions. Write the word next to the correct definition.

mast nearby sail escape horrifying

1 very frightening	(a)
2 to get away from	(v)
3 not far from	(adv)
4 the tall piece of wood in the middle of a sailing boat	(n)
5 the big piece of cloth that hangs from the mast of a sailing boat	(n)

wife rock row whirlpool tear hero

1 to pull into pieces	(v)
2 a dangerous place in a river or sea where water spins round and round	(n)
3 to move from side to side	(v)
4 a married woman	(n)
5 a very brave man	(n)
6 to move a boat by pulling on oars (long pieces of wood)	(v)

LIVEWORKSHEETS