

## VOCABULARY

WORD	DEFINITION
1. appeared	first came out / was shown to people
2. created	made something new
3. travelled	went from one place to another
4. disappeared	was no longer there
5. display	show something (like a skill)
6. superhuman abilities	powers that normal people don't have
7. cape	a long piece of cloth worn on the back
8. was modelled on	was based on the example of
9. mythological	related to ancient myths and legends
10. numerous	many

**TASK 1.** Listen to the text about Superman and fill in the gaps with words that you hear



Superman comics first \_\_\_\_\_ on 18 April, 1938. It was \_\_\_\_\_ by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster. Superman was born Kal-El on the planet Krypton and \_\_\_\_\_ to Earth in rocket moments before his planet \_\_\_\_\_. He \_\_\_\_\_ up as Clark Kent. He started to \_\_\_\_\_ superhuman abilities: superhuman \_\_\_\_\_, X-ray vision, ability to \_\_\_\_\_. He wears a red \_\_\_\_\_. Green \_\_\_\_\_ is dangerous for him.



**TASK 2.** Answer the questions

1. Why is green Kryptonite dangerous for Superman?

2. Which mythological heroes was Superman modelled on?

3. Would you like to have X-ray vision? Why or why not? Give two reasons.

**TASK 3.** Read about Samson and Hercules. Fill in the table. What similarities and differences do Superman, Samson, and Hercules have?

### SAMSON

Samson is a hero from the Bible. He was born as a result of a miracle — an angel told his mother that she would have a son who would save Israel from the Philistines.

Samson's secret was his long hair. He was a Nazirite, which meant he was dedicated to God and could never cut his hair. As long as his hair remained long, he had incredible superhuman strength.

Samson performed many amazing feats:

1. He tore apart a lion with his bare hands.
2. He killed 1,000 Philistines using only the jawbone of a donkey.
3. He broke free from ropes as if they were thread.

However, Samson had a weakness: he loved a woman named Delilah. The Philistines offered her money to discover the secret of his strength. After many attempts, Samson told her about his hair. While he was sleeping, Delilah cut his hair. Samson lost his strength, was captured, and blinded.

In the end, Samson prayed to God. His hair grew back, and he pushed down the pillars of the Philistines' temple. The temple collapsed, killing Samson and thousands of his enemies.



### HERCULES

Hercules is the most famous hero of ancient Greece and Rome. He was the son of Zeus and a mortal woman. Because he was half-god, he was born with superhuman strength.

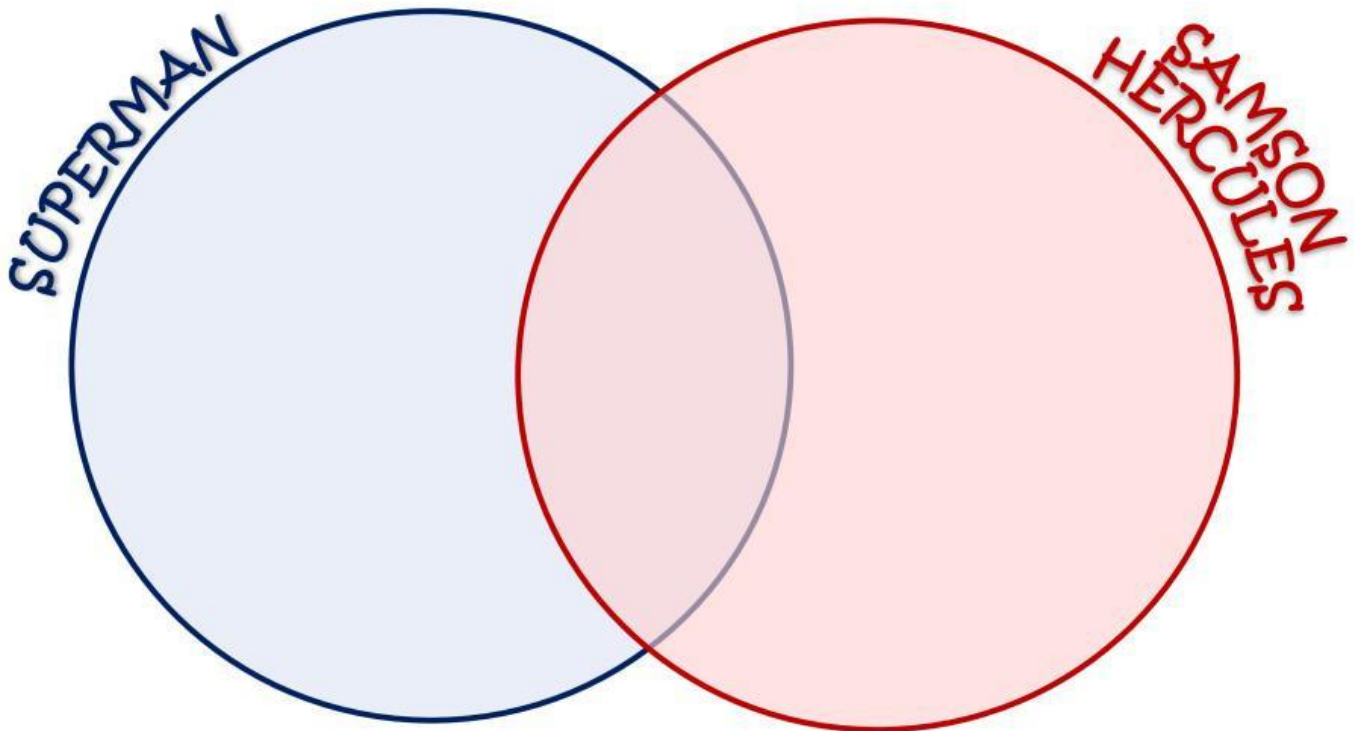
Even as a baby, Hercules showed his power. The goddess Hera sent two giant snakes to kill him in his cradle. Baby Hercules strangled both snakes with his bare hands.

As a punishment for killing his own family, Hercules was ordered to perform Twelve Labors — impossible tasks. Some of his most famous labors include:

1. Killing the Nemean Lion with his bare hands and wearing its skin.
2. Defeating the nine-headed Hydra.
3. Capturing a giant wild boar.

Hercules also had weaknesses: he had a terrible temper and was often unlucky in love. He died when his wife gave him a poisoned shirt. After his death, Zeus brought him to Mount Olympus, where he became a god.

## New hero vs Old heroes



**TASK 4.** Write a short paragraph (50-70 words) to the question

**Question:** *What supernatural abilities would you like to have? Why?*

**Plan for the answer:**



