

4A An ancient soap opera

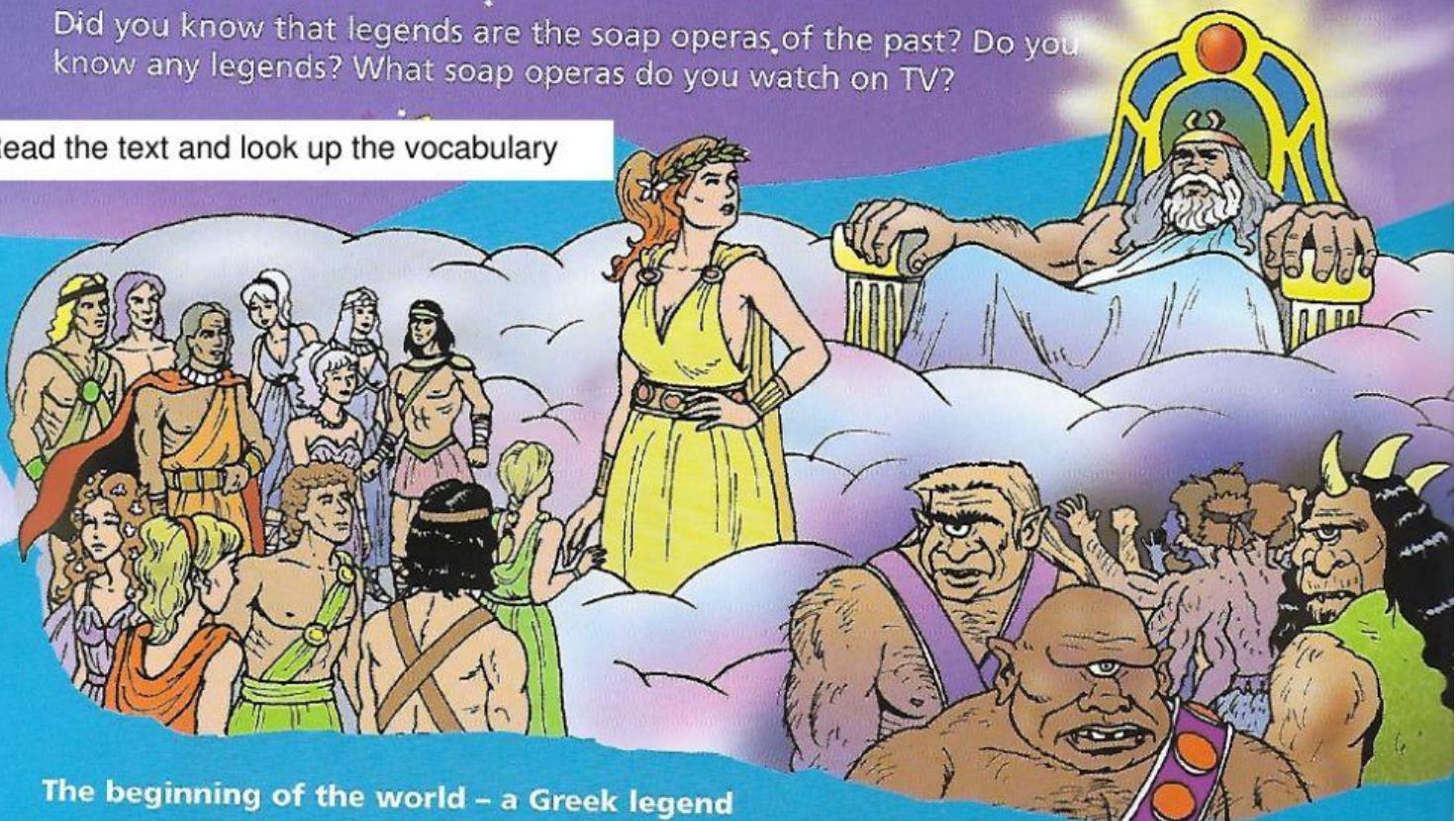
Our aim

- We are going to write an ending to a Greek legend.

Getting started

Did you know that legends are the soap operas of the past? Do you know any legends? What soap operas do you watch on TV?

Read the text and look up the vocabulary



The beginning of the world – a Greek legend

Mother Earth was good and beautiful and she married Uranus, the sky. **He** (1) was big and strong. He was the lord of the universe.

Mother Earth and Uranus had twelve children, the Titans. **They** (2) were the first gods. They were tall and handsome. There were six brothers and six sisters. Then Mother Earth had six more sons, the Cyclops and the Giants. But they weren't handsome. They were very ugly. The Cyclops had only one eye and the Giants had fifty heads and a hundred arms. They were horrible monsters!

Uranus didn't like his monster sons so he took **them** (3) to a dark prison in the centre of the earth.

Mother Earth was sad. **She** (4) loved her children. 'Go and rescue your monster brothers,' she said to her handsome sons, the Titans. But only one Titan, Cronus, obeyed his mother. The other Titans were very afraid of their strong father, Uranus.

There was a fierce battle between Cronus and Uranus. Cronus beat his father and he was the new lord of the universe. Then Mother Earth married Pontus, the sea, and she created trees, flowers, animals and people.

Cronus lived with his brothers, the Titans, and his wife, Rhea, on top of Mount Olympus. Mother Earth was angry with Cronus. **He** (5) didn't free his monster brothers and he wasn't a good father. 'I beat my father. Now my children can beat me,' said Cronus. So he ate his children. When Cronus's wife Rhea had her sixth son, Zeus, **she** (6) took the baby to the island of Crete and she gave Cronus a stone in baby clothes. Cronus ate the stone.

Zeus grew up on the island but Cronus didn't know his son Zeus was alive.

2. Describe the Greek gods.

was/wasn't were/weren't had/didn't have

Mother Earth

good
twelve children
eighteen children

Uranus

strong
small
big

the Titans

handsome
short
tall

the Cyclops

one big eye
ugly
handsome

the Giants

monsters
a hundred arms
fifty heads

Cronus

good
four children
six children

■ **Mother Earth** was good. She didn't have twelve children. She had eighteen children.

1-.....
2-.....

3-.....
4-.....

3. Match. Who do these words in the story refer to?

He (1)

Cronus

They (2)

the Cyclops and the Giants

Them (3)

Rhea

She (4)

Uranus

He (5)

the Titans

She (6)

Mother Earth

4. Answer.

Yes, _____ was/were. Yes, _____ did.

No, _____ wasn't/weren't. No, _____ didn't.

a. Did Cronus live with the Titans?

b. Were the Titans on Mount Olympus?

c. Were the Cyclops and the Giants on Mount Olympus, too?

d. Was Cronus married?

e. Was he a good father?

f. Did he eat his children?

g. Did he eat his sixth son?

5. Match and tell the legend.

1- Mother Earth was
2- Mother Earth and Uranus were
3- Uranus married
4- He liked
5- They didn't like
6- Uranus took
7- Cronus had
8- He lived
9- He ate
10 But he didn't eat
11 Zeus beat

Uranus,
 eighteen children.
 the Titans.
 the Cyclops and the Giants.
 monsters.
 the monsters to a dark prison.
 his father, Uranus.
 the second lord of the universe.
 five of his children.
 Zeus.
 on the island of Crete.

