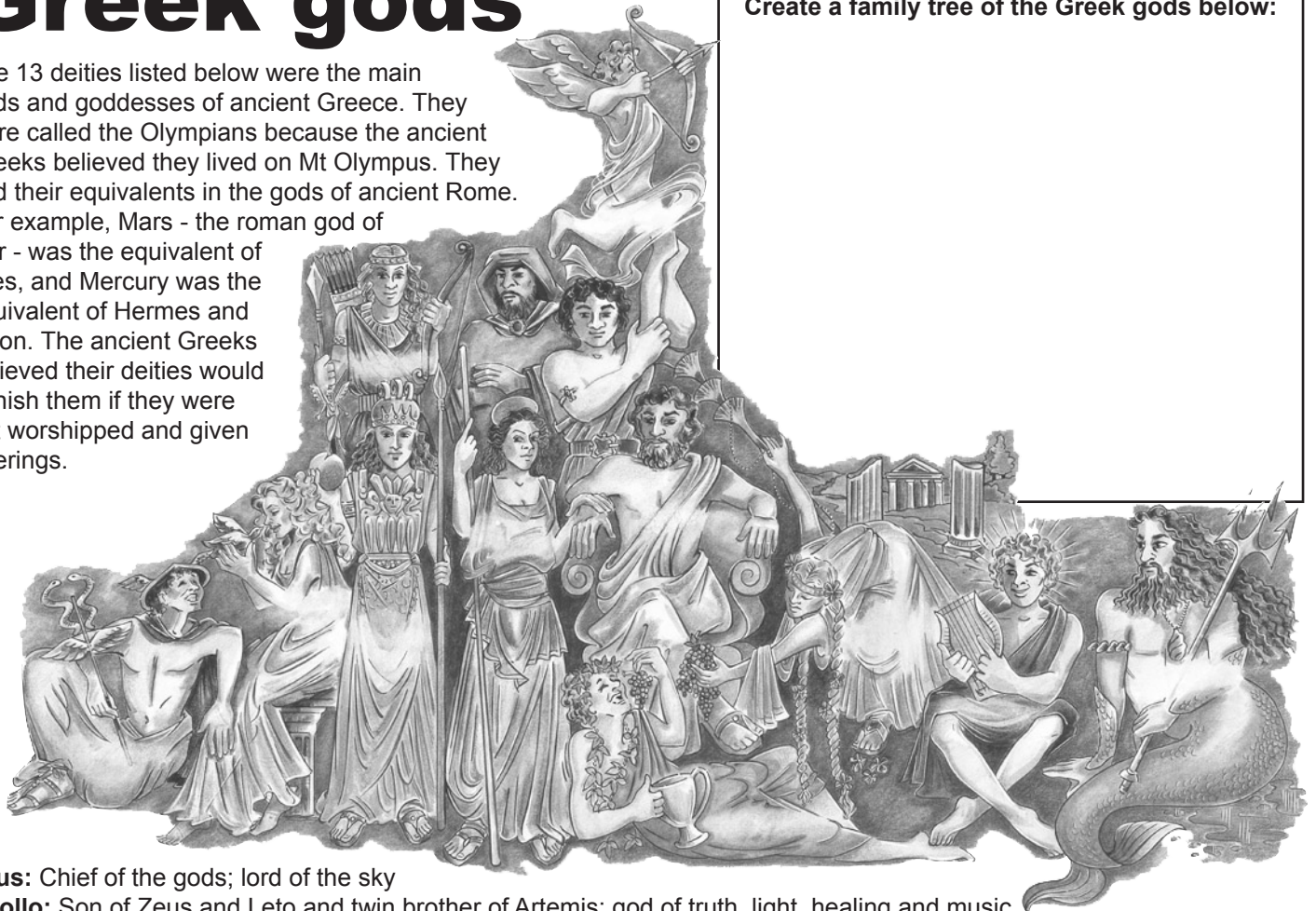


Greek gods

The 13 deities listed below were the main gods and goddesses of ancient Greece. They were called the Olympians because the ancient Greeks believed they lived on Mt Olympus. They had their equivalents in the gods of ancient Rome. For example, Mars - the roman god of war - was the equivalent of Ares, and Mercury was the equivalent of Hermes and so on. The ancient Greeks believed their deities would punish them if they were not worshipped and given offerings.



Create a family tree of the Greek gods below:

- Zeus:** Chief of the gods; lord of the sky
- Apollo:** Son of Zeus and Leto and twin brother of Artemis; god of truth, light, healing and music
- Poseidon:** Brother of Zeus and the next most powerful god after Zeus; lord of the sea
- Hephaestrus:** Son of Zeus and Hera; wife of Aphrodite; god of fire, blacksmiths and weavers
- Aphrodite:** Daughter of Zeus and Dione; goddess of beauty and love
- Hades:** Brother of Zeus; god of the dead and wealth; lord of the underworld
- Ares:** Son of Zeus and Hera; cowardly; not liked by his parents
- Hera:** Sister and wife of Zeus; goddess of marriage
- Artemis:** Daughter of Zeus and Leto and twin sister of Apollo; goddess of chastity; hunter of the gods
- Athena:** Daughter of Zeus who was born from his forehead; goddess and protector of Athens
- Hestia:** Sister of Zeus; goddess of the hearth and the fireplace
- Hermes:** Son of Zeus and Maia; god of commerce and thieves; messenger of the gods
- Polyphemus:** Son of Poseidon; a Cyclops or one-eyed giant cannibal

1. Which deities do you think the ancient Greeks would have turned to in the following situations?
 - (a) A declaration of war by Athens against Persia:
 - (b) A potter hoping to sell his pots in the agora:
 - (c) A man whose son has died of a disease:
 - (d) A merchant setting sail for Crete:
2. Which of the Olympian deities feature in the legend of Odysseus, and what was their involvement?

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References: SOSE Alive 1, pp62-63 • Retroactive 1, pp64-65 • SOSE for Queensland 1, pp100-101
 Jacaranda SOSE 1 2E, pp64-65 • SOSE Alive History 1, pp62-63