

TOEFL Junior : Reading Comprehension Test 6

Read the passage . 60 - 100 minutes

The Trojan War

The Trojan War is one of the most famous wars in history. It is well known for the 10-year duration, for the heroism of a number of legendary characters, and for the Trojan horse. What may not be familiar, however, is the story of how the war began.

According to Greek myth, the strife between the Trojans and the Greeks started at the wedding of Peleus, King of Thessaly, and Thetis, a sea nymph. All of the gods and goddesses had been invited to the wedding celebration in Troy except Eris, goddess of discord. She had been omitted from the guest list because her presence always embroiled mortals and immortals alike in conflict.

To take revenge on those who had slighted her, Eris decided to cause a skirmish. Into the

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Helen, set off for Sparta in Greece.

Although Paris learned that Helen was married, he nevertheless accepted the hospitality of her husband, King Menelaus of Sparta. Therefore, Menelaus was outraged for a number of reasons when Paris departed, taking Helen and much of the king's wealth back to Troy. Menelaus collected his loyal forces and set sail for Troy to begin the war to reclaim Helen.

INSTRUCTION:

Read the questions carefully and refer to the text above then choose the best answer:

1. Eris was known for _____ both mortals and immortals.

- A. scheming against
- B. creating conflict amongst
- C. feeling hostile toward
- D. ignoring
- E. comforting

2. Each goddess tried _____ to bribe Paris.

- A. boldly
- B. effectively
- C. secretly
- D. carefully
- E. Answer not available

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Answers and Explanations

1. B: The passage states that the presence of Eris, goddess of discord, "always embroiled mortals and immortals alike in conflict." Embroiling them in conflict is creating conflict amongst them. It does not mean scheming against (A) them, feeling hostile toward (C) them, ignoring (D) them, or comforting (E) them.
2. A: "Aggressively" means boldly. It does not mean effectively (B) or successfully, secretly (C), or carefully (D).
3. A: "Contradicted" means Athena disregarded Hera's statement and disputed or countered it. It does not mean she defeated (B) her statement, agreed with (C) it, restated (D) it, or questioned (E) it.

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