Unit 4

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Reader's Notebook

The First Olympic Games

During Reading

1. Complete this story map as you read the story.

Characters

Zeus, Pelops, old man, Hippodamia, the king, stable boy.

Setting

Kingdom of Elis, fields of Olympia.

Problem

Pelops wants to marry Hippodamia, but he has to beat the king in a chariot race first.

Events

Zeus gives Pelops a horse and chariot; Pelops meets the old man, who suggests Pelops go to the kingdom of Elis to marry Hippodamia; Pelops goes to Elis and meets the king and Hippodamia; Hippodamia wishes that her father would lose the race; the stable boy overhears her and sabotages the king's chariot; Pelops and the king race; the king's chariot breaks and he dies; Pelops and Hippodamia marry; they have a funeral for the king and invite heroes from all over Greece to take part in athletic games; Pelops decrees that the games take playce every 4 years; 500 years after the games start, an earthquake buries the fields of Olympia and people forget about the games; 1500 years later, archeologists uncover the fields and the Olympic games start again; the Olympic Games are now held every four years in different countries; the flame is kept burning during the entire games; runners carry the flame to the host city.

Solution

Pelops wins, the old king is killed. Pelops and Hippodamia start the Olympic Games in the king's memory.

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After Reading

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