

CAN YOU GUESS?

FILL IN BLANK

The god of music. Now a theater and a famous music hall in New York City carry his name.

A super-strong Greek warrior who fought in the Trojan War. Now his name is in the grocery store with the cleaning supplies.

One of the Titans—the gods who ruled the earth before the Olympian gods overthrew them. He was doomed to support the heavens on his shoulders as punishment for siding against Zeus. Now his is the name of a moving company that can handle heavy loads.

The Olympian messenger god with winged sandals. His image appears in the logo of a flower delivery service.

The winged goddess of victory who flies swiftly to defeat her enemies. Now a famous company sells shoes with her name.

The Greek historian Herodotus described a race of women warriors. Now theirs is the name of an online bookstore.

The name of Homer's story of the hero of the Trojan War, who tried for ten years to return home, has come to mean any long journey. It has been borrowed by many travel businesses. NASA even named its 2005 Mars spacecraft after this tale.



Here are a few other expressions that come from Greek mythology. Can you figure out which myths they are from? Can you think of any more?

Achilles' heel ■ Siren's song ■ Titanic strength ■ Rich as Croesus
Pandora's box ■ Midas touch ■ Stygian gloom ■ Gorgon stare

Answers: Apollo, Ajax, Atlas, Hermes, Nike, Amazon, Odysseus



MACGILLIVRAY FREEMAN'S GREECE SECRETS OF THE PAST FAMILY FUN GUIDE

AN EDUCATIONAL
ACCOMPANIMENT TO THE
LARGE FORMAT FILM

Archaeology is rather like a vast, fiendish jigsaw...since:

- a) it will never be finished,*
- b) you don't know how many pieces are missing,*
- c) most of them are lost forever,*
- d) you can't cheat by looking at the picture.*

—PAUL BAHN





ABOUT THE FILM


GREECE: SECRETS OF THE PAST presents an overview of the remarkable culture and achievements of the ancient Greeks. The film focuses on two time periods and places: the Bronze Age island civilization represented by the people of Santorini, whose volcanic island exploded in one of the most devastating eruptions ever known, and classical Athens of the fifth century BCE, the “Golden Age” of Greece. Aerial shots and sweeping views illuminate the geography and magnificent seascape, while famous images of art and architecture are supplemented with reconstructions. The eruption of Santorini is reproduced in detail, and the Parthenon on the acropolis of Athens is restored to its former colorful glory. Throughout, the film makes connections with today and shows the enduring impact of this ancient culture on our own.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Archaeologists excavate and study the physical remains of the past to understand human culture. If these remains include written records, we are lucky; many times they do not! And often, even if they do, what survives is only a partial record of what really happened. Archaeology shares many approaches with science and, in both fields, theories and conclusions change as new evidence emerges. Unlike the depiction in modern movies of archaeologists as treasure hunters, the discipline requires painstaking techniques, exact records, and thorough analysis.

 Like detectives at a crime scene, archaeologists are trained to evaluate and record an archaeological site to preserve everything on it. They work together with many other specialists to interpret the evidence, consider what seems to be missing, and develop a theory about what happened.

 As at a crime scene, if something is not recorded or if an object is missed, information will be lost forever. It is a great responsibility to excavate and record everything properly. While archaeologists are digging to learn about the past, they are destroying their source of information. Once they have dug a site up, they can't go back and correct any mistakes; there is nothing left! For this reason, a dig team usually leaves part of the site for future study.

 As archaeologists dig, they locate every find vertically and horizontally. Their most important tool is a flat trowel (a mason's “pointing” trowel, not a gardener's trowel). The excavator slowly scrapes away the soil with the trowel, working horizontally—and never digging holes or taking artifacts out of the ground before cleaning all around them to see what else is nearby! The archaeologist draws and describes all finds in position, and a photographer photographs everything in the ground and then again after it has been removed, cleaned, and recorded. The dirt is even sieved for small finds.

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