

Anthi APOSTOLIDOU, Lavinia ARAMĂ, Carmen-Mihaela BĂJENARU, Daniel BUKO, Agne BUTKAITE, Miguel CARRASQUEIRA, Julia CHRUŚCICKA, Radu CIUPALĂ, Robert DACHE, Andrei DUDULEA, Anamaria DUMITRIU, Chrysanthi EVANGELIDAKI, Efstathia FRAGKOGIANNI, Tiago FRANÇA, Ramune GEDMINIENE, Nazaré GRAÇA, Maria KAISARI, Angeliki KONSTANTOPOULOU, Konstantina KOUTROMANOU, Jan KOZIOROWSKI, Beatriz LAPA, David LARANJEIRO, Claudio LATORRE, Meida LIONAITE, Ewa MICHAŁEK, Lucia MARTINI, Paola MASCIULLI, Marta MASŁOWSKA, Natalia MIĄSIK, Vittorio MIRABILE, Ada MOŚCICKA, Sandra MOTUZAITE-JURIENE, Albert MURJAS, Francesco OLIVA, Panagiotis PALIOUDAKIS, Sara PALMISANO, Emilia PITERA, Cosmin-Andrei POPA, Ruta POSKEVICIUTE, Aiste RUDYTE, Rita SANTOS, Ludovica SEMERARO, Ewa SKWORZEC, Wiktoria ŚLIWA, Elpiniki TASTANI, Mariusz TOMAKA, Joana VEIGA, Oliwia WOLNICKA, Wiktoria ŻAK



EXCHANGE OF GOOD PRACTICES: MYTH-RELATED FIXED EXPRESSIONS AND CREATIVE WRITING

ISBN 978-973-0-33163-9

BRĂILA

2020

Anthi APOSTOLIDOU, Lavinia ARAMĂ, Carmen-Mihaela BĂJENARU, Daniel BUKO, Agne BUTKAITE, Miguel CARRASQUEIRA, Julia CHRUŚCICKA, Radu CIUPALĂ, Robert DACHE, Andrei DUDULEA, Anamaria DUMITRIU, Chrysanthi EVANGELIDAKI, Efstathia FRAGKOGIANNI, Tiago FRANÇA, Ramune GEDMINIENE, Nazaré GRAÇA, Maria KAISARI, Angeliki KONSTANTOPOULOU, Konstantina KOUTROMANOU, Jan KOZIOROWSKI, Beatriz LAPA, David LARANJEIRO, Claudio LATORRE, Meida LIONAITE, Ewa MICHAŁEK, Lucia MARTINI, Paola MASCIULLI, Marta MASŁOWSKA, Natalia MIĄSIK, Vittorio MIRABILE, Ada MOŚCICKA, Sandra MOTUZAITE-JURIENE, Albert MURJAS, Francesco OLIVA, Panagiotis PALIOUDAKIS, Sara PALMISANO, Emilia PITERA, Cosmin-Andrei POPA, Ruta POSKEVICIUTE, Aiste RUDYTE, Rita SANTOS, Ludovica SEMERARO, Ewa SKWORZEC, Wiktoria ŚLIWA, Elpiniki TASTANI, Mariusz TOMAKA, Joana VEIGA, Oliwia WOLNICKA, Wiktoria ŻAK

EXCHANGE OF GOOD PRACTICES: MYTH-RELATED FIXED EXPRESSIONS AND CREATIVE WRITING

**BRĂILA
2020**



**The Erasmus+ Project “From MYTHOS to LOGOS. Educational
Approaches to the European Folk Myths and Legends”
2018-1-EL01-KA229-047701**

This product is part of the Erasmus+ project mentioned above.

The content of this publication reflects the views only of the authors, and the European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

This product is free of charge.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWARD	1
Chapter 1 – MYTH-RELATED FIXED EXPRESSIONS	3
Myth-Related Fixed Expressions - GREECE	4
Myth-Related Fixed Expressions - ITALY	10
Myth-Related Fixed Expressions - POLAND	15
Myth-Related Fixed Expressions - PORTUGAL	21
Myth-Related Fixed Expressions - ROMANIA	26
Myth-Related Fixed Expressions - LITHUANIA	31
Chapter 2 – MYTH-RELATED CREATIVE WRITING	36
Prologue	36
Example 1	37
Example 2	39
Example 3	39
Example 4	40
Example 5	40



FOREWARD

The current publication is part of the end-up products resulted from implementing the Erasmus+ project “From MYTHOS to LOGOS. Educational Approaches to the European Folk Myths and Legends” (reference number 2018-1-EL01-KA229-047701, Key Action 2: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices – School Exchange Partnerships), carried out within the time framework September 1st, 2018 – August 31st, 2021. The project presented the participating teachers with the opportunity to initiate and apply innovative methods, procedures and techniques in their approach to teaching and evaluating the students involved in the implementation process.

The main three topics addressed by the Erasmus+ project “From MYTHOS to LOGOS. Educational Approaches to the European Folk Myths and Legends”, as depicted in the application form, are:

- ❖ Cultural heritage / European Year of Cultural Heritage
- ❖ ICT – new technologies – digital competences
- ❖ New innovative curricula/educational methods/development of training courses

The schools involved in the project are:

- 2nd Gymnasium of Nea Ionia Attikis, Athens, Greece (coordinating school)
- Istituto Comprensivo „Marconi-Oliva”, Locorotondo, Italy
- Szkoła Podstawowa nr 10 w Rzeszowie, Rzeszow, Poland
- Agrupamento de Escolas Dr. Mario Sacramento, Aveiro, Portugal
- Școala Gimnazială “Ion Băncilă”, Brăila, Romania
- Siauliu Dainu Progimnazija, Siauliai, Lithuania

The content that follows presents materials that were produced during the short-term exchange of groups of pupils hosted by Szkoła Podstawowa nr 10 w Rzeszowie (Rzeszow, Poland), and that have been applied afterwards within the partner schools, as part of the dissemination of the project results. These materials can be used for both lessons (be them compulsory subjects or optional classes) and extracurricular activities.

It is our desire to share this content, as we firmly believe that it may help teachers enrich their methods and encourage students to participate in the teaching process. Including such innovative materials in the educational process largely contributes to the preservation of the European cultural heritage, as well as to forming an identity as active European citizens. Also, apart from the valuable knowledge, they provide the users with an opportunity to embrace the universal values of equality, justice, tolerance and solidarity promoted by the myths content and



references and by working in teams.

The myth-related fixed expressions and creative writing not only activate vocabulary from both English and one's native language, but also stimulate the students' imagination and develop their ability to make analogies and inferences, draw conclusions and freely express themselves. The project has revealed that the application to classes of the activities presented in the current publication has fostered the cultivation of critical and creative thinking, the familiarisation with the cultural heritage and a significant linguistic improvement.

Within the pages that follow, the authors of the materials would like to share with their peers and anyone interested in the topic the results of their educational research and practice, made possible through the implementation of the Erasmus+ project "From MYTHOS to LOGOS. Educational Approaches to the European Folk Myths and Legends".



Chapter 1: MYTH-RELATED FIXED EXPRESSIONS

TASK:

There are many fixed expressions in modern languages, connected with mythology. They are used very often but we don't realize their background. We believe that in your language there are also many phrases that come from mythology. Try to write them down in your mother language. Please read the examples below. Fill in a chart with similar idioms phrases in your mother tongue. If the phrase exists, give a sentence with it. If it doesn't exist, put 'a cross (x)' in the chart.



MYTH-RELATED FIXED EXPRESSIONS - GREECE

2nd Gymnasium of Nea Ionia Attikis, Athens



English	Your mother language GREEK
<p>An apple of discord – the subject of envy or quarrel.</p> <p><i>Jane's necklace became an apple of discord. Each of us wanted to try it on.</i></p>	<p>Το μήλο της έριδας</p> <p>Η θέση της προϊσταμένης αποτέλεσε μήλο της έριδος για τις δύο γυναίκες. Θα παλέψουν κι οι δύο σκληρά για να την κατακτήσουν.</p>
<p>Ariadne's tread – help in a very difficult situation.</p> <p><i>Stella gave me an amazing advice last week. It was Ariadne's tread with my problems.</i></p>	<p>Ο μίτος της Αριάδνης</p> <p>Η πληροφορία που έδωσε ο μάρτυρας στην αστυνομία ήταν ο μίτος της Αριάδνης. Σιγά σιγά το μυστήριο διαλευκάνθηκε.</p>



<p>Augean stables – a very dirty, neglected place.</p> <p><i>What a dirty, stinking attic it is! It looks like Augean stables!</i></p>	<p>Η κόπρος του Αυγεία</p> <p>Ο νέος πρόεδρος υποσχέθηκε ότι θα φέρει τη διαφάνεια και θα αναλάβει να καθαρίσει την κόπρος του Αυγεία: να απαλλάξει την εταιρεία από τα σκάνδαλα.</p>
<p>Between Scylla and Charybdis – between two great dangers; a situation with no way out.</p> <p><i>She was between Scylla and Charybdis, because she wasn't able both to leave the house and make a phone call. It was a beginning for her to be fired from work.</i></p>	<p>Ανάμεσα στη Σκύλλα και τη Χάρυβδη</p> <p>Οι πολίτες δεν εμπιστεύονται κανέναν από τους δύο υποψηφίους. Βρίσκονται ανάμεσα στη Σκύλλα και τη Χάρυβδη.</p>
<p>Cornucopia (a horn of plenty) – an ornamental horn shown in art as overflowing with flowers, fruit and corn – infinite wealth.</p> <p><i>He is proud of his bank account. He says it's a horn of plenty to him.</i></p>	<p>Το κέρας της Αμάλθειας</p> <p>Η νέα του δουλειά, του έχει φέρει όλα τα καλά στη ζωή του. Είναι το κέρας της Αμάλθειας.</p>



<p>Cupid's arrow – love, an emerging feeling.</p> <p><i>My brother's fallen in love with Sue. He can't help being hurt by Cupid's arrow.</i></p>	<p>x</p>
<p>Golden Fleece – a precious, fabulous treasure.</p> <p><i>Christopher saved money for an expensive car. He has been able to buy it at last. The car is a Golden Fleece for him and his family.</i></p>	<p>Το χρυσόμαλλο δέρας</p> <p>Το ολόχρυσο δαχτυλίδι που του κληροδότησαν ήταν γι' αυτόν το χρυσόμαλλο δέρας. Σύμβολο εξουσίας και πλούτου.</p>
<p>To work like a Trojan – to work very hard, with great energy.</p> <p><i>Tom works like a Trojan every day. He would like to pass the exams and get into the university of his dreams.</i></p>	<p>x</p>
<p>Achilles' heel – small but weak or vulnerable point, eg. in sb's character.</p> <p><i>An English pronunciation is my Achilles' heel.</i></p>	<p>Αχίλλειος πτέρνα</p> <p>Ενώ είναι άριστος μαθητής και τα καταφέρνει πολύ καλά σε όλα, τα μαθηματικά είναι η αχίλλειος πτέρνα του.</p>



<p>Olympian calm – seriousness, not showing emotions.</p> <p><i>This detective presents an Olympian calm during investigations.</i></p>	<p>Ολύμπια υπομονή</p> <p>Η ουρά στα διόδια είναι ένα χιλιόμετρο. Οι οδηγοί πρέπει να επιδείξουν ολύμπια υπομονή.</p>
<p>Pandora's box – a source of trouble, bad luck, unhappiness.</p> <p><i>Tom doesn't want to learn maths. It's the Pandora's box for his parents.</i></p>	<p>Το κουτί της Πανδώρας</p> <p>Όταν αποκάλυψε το μεγάλο μυστικό ήταν σαν να άνοιξε το κουτί της Πανδώρας. Τότε ξεκίνησαν όλα τα δεινά.</p>
<p>Panic attack – unreasoning, uncontrolled, quickly spreading fear.</p> <p><i>There is always danger of a panic attack when an airport catches fire.</i></p>	<p>Κρίση πανικού</p> <p>Επισκέφτηκα ψυχοθεραπευτή για να αντιμετωπίσω τις κρίσεις πανικού.</p>
<p>Pyrrhic victory – one gained at too great a cost.</p> <p><i>When she told the truth, she lost her best friend. The whole situation was Pyrrhic victory.</i></p>	<p>Πύρρειος νίκη</p> <p>Μπορεί να κέρδισε το χρυσό μετάλλιο, αλλά ήταν μια πύρρειος νίκη. Το τραύμα στον ώμο του δεν θα του επιτρέψει να αγωνιστεί ξανά.</p>



<p>Shirt of Nessus – a source of a great pain, suffering.</p> <p><i>This kind of disease is a shirt of Nessus for patients.</i></p>	<p>χ</p>
<p>Sisyphean task (never-ending job) – useless job; a job without results.</p> <p><i>You aren't good at learning painting. It's Sisyphean task to teach you this.</i></p>	<p>Το μαρτύριο του Σισύφου</p> <p>Εδώ και χρόνια βιώνω το μαρτύριο του Σισύφου. Δίνω συνέχεια χρήματα για να αποπληρώσω τα χρέη μου αλλά με τους τόκους αυτό παραμένει συνέχεια στα ίδια επίπεδα.</p>
<p>Suffer tantalizing torments – severe bodily or mental pain by something close but unavailable.</p> <p><i>Stop asking silly questions now! Your father is suffering tantalizing torments by giving the answers!</i></p>	<p>Το μαρτύριο του Ταντάλου</p> <p>Είναι πολύ άτακτο αυτό το παιδί. Η κοπέλα που τον προσέχει υποφέρει το μαρτύριο του Ταντάλου κάθε φορά.</p>
<p>Trojan horse – a deceitful, dangerous gift or plan, a hidden danger.</p> <p><i>We knew that this gift was only the Trojan horse. They wanted to check our reaction.</i></p>	<p>Δούρειος ίππος</p> <p>Η συνεργασία που μας πρότειναν οι αντίπαλοι ήταν δούρειος ίππος. Στην πραγματικότητα ήθελαν να μαθαίνουν τα σχέδιά μας.</p>



<p>A sword of Damocles – threatened danger in the midst of prosperity (from the old Greek story of a man who feasted while a sword hung by a thread over him).</p> <p><i>Joe’s poor mark of the history test is a sword of Damocles for him.</i></p>	<p>Δαμόκλειος Σπάθη</p> <p>Το ένταλμα που εκδόθηκε κρεμόταν πάνω από το κεφάλι του ως Δαμόκλειος σπάθη.</p>
<p>Under the aegis of – with the patronage or support of.</p> <p><i>The performance has already taken place under the aegis of a well-known businessman.</i></p>	<p>Αιγίδα</p> <p>Το Athens Jazz Festival πραγματοποιείται κάθε χρόνο υπό την αιγίδα του Δήμου Αθηναίων.</p>
<p>If you know more, write them here</p>	



MYTH-RELATED FIXED EXPRESSIONS - ITALY

Istituto Comprensivo „Marconi-Oliva”, Locorotondo



English	Your mother language ITALIAN
<p>An apple of discord – the subject of envy or quarrel.</p> <p><i>Jane’s necklace became an apple of discord. Each of us wanted to try it on.</i></p>	<p>La mela della discordia oggetto di invidia e litigi.</p> <p>La collana di Jane e’ diventata la mela della discordia. Ognuno di noi voleva provarla</p>
<p>Ariadne’s tread – help in a very difficult situation.</p> <p><i>Stella gave me an amazing advice last week. It was Ariadne’s tread with my problems.</i></p>	<p>Il filo di Arianna aiuta in una situazione molto difficile.</p> <p>Stella mi ha dato un fantastico consiglio la scorsa settimana. È stato il filo di Arianna per risolvere il mio problema</p>
<p>Augean stables – a very dirty, neglected place.</p> <p><i>What a dirty, stinking attic it is! It looks like Augean stables!</i></p>	<p>Le stalle di Augia , un posto molto sporco e trascurato .</p> <p>Una soffitta molto sporca e puzzolente. Sembra la stalla di Augia</p>



<p>Between Scylla and Charybdis – between two great dangers; a situation with no way out.</p> <p><i>She was between Scylla and Charybdis, because she wasn't able both to leave the house and make a phone call. It was a beginning for her to be fired from work.</i></p>	<p>Tra Scilla e Cariddi tra due grandi pericoli; una situazione senza via di uscita.</p> <p>Lei era fra Scilla e Cariddi, perché non era ne' in grado di uscire di casa nè di fare una telefonata. È stato un inizio per lei essere licenziata dal lavoro</p>
<p>Cornucopia (a horn of plenty) – an ornamental horn shown in art as overflowing with flowers, fruit and corn – infinite wealth.</p> <p><i>He is proud of his bank account. He says it's a horn of plenty to him.</i></p>	<p>Cornucopia (un corno di abbondanza) - un corno ornamentale mostrato in arte traboccante di fiori, frutta e mais - ricchezza infinita.</p> <p>È orgoglioso del suo conto in banca. Dice che è un corno di abbondanza per lui.</p>
<p>Cupid's arrow – love, an emerging feeling.</p> <p><i>My brother's fallen in love with Sue. He can't help being hurt by Cupid's arrow.</i></p>	<p>La freccia di Cupido amore, una sensazione emergente.</p> <p>Mio fratello si è innamorato di Sue. Non può fare a meno di essere colpito dalla freccia di Cupido</p>
<p>Golden Fleece – a precious, fabulous treasure.</p> <p><i>Christopher saved money for an expensive car. He has been able to buy it at last. The car is a Golden Fleece for him and his family.</i></p>	<p>Vello d'oro: un tesoro prezioso e favoloso.</p> <p>Christopher ha risparmiato denaro per una macchina costosa. È stato finalmente in grado di comprarla. L'auto è un vello d'oro per lui e la sua famiglia.</p>



<p>To work like a Trojan – to work very hard, with great energy.</p> <p><i>Tom works like a Trojan every day. He would like to pass the exams and get into the university of his dreams.</i></p>	<p>Lavorare come un pazzo - lavorare molto duramente, con grande energia.</p> <p>Tom lavora come un pazzo ogni giorno.</p> <p>Vorrebbe passare gli esami e entrare nell' università dei suoi sogni.</p>
<p>Achilles' heel – small but weak or vulnerable point, eg. in sb's character.</p> <p><i>An English pronunciation is my Achilles' heel.</i></p>	<p>Tallone d'Achille - punto piccolo ma debole o vulnerabile, ad es. nel carattere di qualcuno.</p> <p>Una pronuncia inglese è il mio tallone d'Achille.</p>
<p>Olympian calm – seriousness, not showing emotions.</p> <p><i>This detective presents an Olympian calm during investigations.</i></p>	<p>Calma olimpica - serietà, non mostrare emozioni.</p> <p>Questo investigatore sfoggia una calma olimpica durante le indagini.</p>
<p>Pandora's box – a source of trouble, bad luck, unhappiness.</p> <p><i>Tom doesn't want to learn maths. It's the Pandora's box for his parents.</i></p>	<p>Scatola di Pandora - fonte di guai, sfortuna, infelicità.</p> <p>Tom non vuole imparare la matematica. È il vaso di Pandora per i suoi genitori.</p>
<p>Panic attack – unreasoning, uncontrolled, quickly spreading fear.</p> <p><i>There is always danger of a panic attack when an airport catches fire.</i></p>	<p>Attacco di panico: paura irragionevole, incontrollata e che si diffonde rapidamente.</p> <p>C'è sempre il pericolo di un attacco di panico quando un aeroporto prende fuoco.</p>



<p>Pyrrhic victory – one gained at too great a cost.</p> <p><i>When she told the truth, she lost her best friend. The whole situation was Pyrrhic victory.</i></p>	<p>La vittoria di Pirro: una vittoria ad un prezzo troppo alto.</p> <p>Quando ha detto la verità, ha perso la sua migliore amica. L'intera situazione è stata una vittoria di Pirro.</p>
<p>Shirt of Nessus – a source of a great pain, suffering.</p> <p><i>This kind of disease is a shirt of Nessus for patients.</i></p>	<p>Camicia di Nesso - fonte di enorme dolore, sofferenza.</p> <p>Questo tipo di malattia è una camicia di Nesso per i pazienti.</p>
<p>Sisyphean task (never-ending job) – useless job; a job without results.</p> <p><i>You aren't good at learning painting. It's Sisyphean task to teach you this.</i></p>	<p>La Fatica di Sisifo (lavoro senza fine) - lavoro inutile; un lavoro senza risultati.</p> <p>Non sei bravo a imparare a dipingere. È compito di Sisyphean insegnarti questo.</p>
<p>Suffer tantalizing torments – severe bodily or mental pain by something close but unavailable.</p> <p><i>Stop asking silly questions now! Your father is suffering tantalizing torments by giving the answers!</i></p>	<p>Soffrire tormenti tentatori: gravi dolori fisici o mentali causati da qualcosa di vicino, ma irraggiungibile.</p> <p>Smetti di fare domande stupide ora!</p> <p>Stai tormentando tuo padre per cercare risposte.</p>



<p>Trojan horse – a deceitful, dangerous gift or plan, a hidden danger.</p> <p><i>We knew that this gift was only the Trojan horse. They wanted to check our reaction.</i></p>	<p>Cavallo di Troia - un regalo o un piano ingannevole e pericoloso, un pericolo nascosto.</p> <p>Sapevamo che questo dono era solo un cavallo di Troia. Volevano controllare la nostra reazione.</p>
<p>A sword of Damocles – threatened danger in the midst of prosperity (from the old Greek story of a man who feasted while a sword hung by a thread over him).</p> <p><i>Joe's poor mark of the history test is a sword of Damocles for him.</i></p>	<p>Una spada di Damocle - minacciava il pericolo in mezzo alla prosperità (dalla vecchia storia greca di un uomo che banchettava mentre una spada era appesa a un filo sopra di lui).</p> <p>Il brutto voto di Joe nel test di storia è una spada di Damocle per lui.</p>
<p>Under the aegis of – with the patronage or support of.</p> <p><i>The performance has already taken place under the aegis of a well-known businessman.</i></p>	<p>Sotto l'egida di - con il patrocinio o il sostegno di.</p> <p>Lo spettacolo si è già svolto sotto l'egida di un noto uomo d'affari.</p>
<p>If you know more, write them here</p>	



MYTH-RELATED FIXED EXPRESSIONS - POLAND

Szkola Podstawowa nr 10 w Rzeszowie, Rzeszów



English	Your mother language POLISH
An apple of discord – the subject of envy or quarrel. <i>Jane's necklace became an apple of discord. Each of us wanted to try it on.</i>	Jabłko niezgody- powód kłótni Przybycie nowego kolegi do naszej klasy stało się dla koleżanek jabłkiem niezgody.
Ariadne's tread – help in a very difficult situation. <i>Stella gave me an amazing advice last week. It was Ariadne's tread with my problems.</i>	Nić Ariadny- pomoc w trudnych sytuacjach. Pomoc kolegi na klasówce była jak nić Ariadny w ciemnym labiryncie.
Augean stables – a very dirty, neglected place. <i>What a dirty, stinking attic it is! It looks like Augean stables!</i>	Stajnia Augiasza- bardzo brudne miejsce. Pokój Janka przypominał stajnię Augiasza, jakby nie sprzątał w nim co najmniej kilka tygodni.



<p>Between Scylla and Charybdis – between two great dangers; a situation with no way out.</p> <p><i>She was between Scylla and Charybdis, because she wasn't able both to leave the house and make a phone call. It was a beginning for her to be fired from work.</i></p>	<p>Między Scyllą a Charybdą- sytuacja bez wyjścia.</p> <p>Znalazłam się między Scyllą a Charybdą, kiedy musiałam wybrać czy stanąć po stronie przyjaciółki, czy jej mamy.</p>
<p>Cornucopia (a horn of plenty) – an ornamental horn shown in art as overflowing with flowers, fruit and corn – infinite wealth.</p> <p><i>He is proud of his bank account. He says it's a horn of plenty to him.</i></p>	<p>Róg obfitości - symbol bogactwa i niewyczerpane zasoby.</p> <p>Wygrana w totka stała się dla mnie prawdziwym rogiem obfitości.</p>
<p>Cupid's arrow – love, an emerging feeling.</p> <p><i>My brother's fallen in love with Sue. He can't help being hurt by Cupid's arrow.</i></p>	<p>Strzała Kupidyna- miłość od pierwszego wejrzenia .</p> <p>Moją koleżankę trafiła strzała Kupidyna, ponieważ zobaczyła przystojnego chłopaka.</p>
<p>Golden Fleece – a precious, fabulous treasure.</p> <p><i>Christopher saved money for an expensive car. He has been able to buy it at last. The car is a Golden Fleece for him and his family</i></p>	<p>Runo złotego barana - cenny wspaniały skarb.</p> <p>Nowa Gra sims 4, którą dostałam na święta, jest dla mnie runem złotego barana .</p>



<p>To work like a Trojan – to work very hard, with great energy.</p> <p><i>Tom works like a Trojan every day. He would like to pass the exams and get into the university of his dreams.</i></p>	<p>Praca jak Trojan - pracować ciężko z dużą energią.</p> <p>Przez cały rok zbierałam pieniądze, pracując jak Trojan, dzięki temu mam dom i nie mieszkam pod mostem.</p>
<p>Achilles' heel – small but weak or vulnerable point, eg. in sb's character.</p> <p><i>An English pronunciation is my Achilles' heel.</i></p>	<p>Pięta Achillesa- słaby punkt</p> <p>Moją piętą Achillesową jest matematyka.</p>
<p>Olympian calm – seriousness, not showing emotions.</p> <p><i>This detective presents an Olympian calm during investigations.</i></p>	<p>Spokój olimpijski - nieokazywanie emocji.</p> <p>Przed sprawdzianem w sali panuje olimpijski spokój.</p>
<p>Pandora's box – a source of trouble, bad luck, unhappiness.</p> <p><i>Tom doesn't want to learn maths. It's the Pandora's box for his parents.</i></p>	<p>Puszka Pandory- źródło nieszczęścia</p> <p>Dziś wszystko, co robili uczniowie, było prawdziwą puszką pandory.</p>
<p>Panic attack – unreasoning, uncontrolled, quickly spreading fear.</p> <p><i>There is always danger of a panic attack when an airport catches fire.</i></p>	<p>Atak paniki-niekontrolowany, szybki atak strachu.</p> <p>Panicznie przestraszyłam się, gdy zobaczyłam pająka.</p>



<p>Pyrrhic victory – one gained at too great a cost.</p> <p><i>When she told the truth, she lost her best friend. The whole situation was Pyrrhic victory.</i></p>	<p>Pyrrusowe zwycięstwo - pozorne, osiągnięte zbyt dużym kosztem.</p> <p>Ta nominacja kosztowała go wiele wyrzeczeń, czasu oraz strat osobistych. Po pewnym czasie określił tę nominację jako Pyrrusowe zwycięstwo.</p>
<p>Shirt of Nessus – a source of a great pain, suffering.</p> <p><i>This kind of disease is a shirt of Nessus for patients.</i></p>	<p>Koszula/szata Dejaniry, działanie które przynosi złe skutki, jest źródłem nieszczęścia i cierpienia</p> <p>Porzucił tę myśl, bo paliła jego sumienie, jak szata Dejaniry,</p>
<p>Sisyphean task (never-ending job) – useless job; a job without results.</p> <p><i>You aren't good at learning painting. It's Sisyphean task to teach you this.</i></p>	<p>Szyfowa praca -praca bezskuteczna, bez sensu, niekończąca się, nieprzynoszącą żadnych efektów</p> <p>Uświadomienie chłopom potrzeby aktywnego uczestniczenia w życiu publicznym było szyfową pracą. Nie przyniosło to żadnego efektu i było bezcelowe.</p>



<p>Suffer tantalizing torments – severe bodily or mental pain by something close but unavailable.</p> <p><i>Stop asking silly questions now! Your father is suffering tantalizing torments by giving the answers!</i></p>	<p>Męki Tantala, cierpienie wynikające z niemożności osiągnięcia tego co jest w obfitości i zasięgu ręki</p> <p>Cierpiałem widząc osoby, które jadły ten apetycznie wyglądający tort. Nie mogłem skosztować ani kawałka, gdyż postanowiłem nie być łakomczuchem!</p>
<p>Trojan horse – a deceitful, dangerous gift or plan, a hidden danger.</p> <p><i>We knew that this gift was only the Trojan horse. They wanted to check our reaction.</i></p>	<p>Koń trojański - podstęp.</p> <p>Szef podłożył swoim pracownikom prawdziwego konia trojańskiego, instalując specjalny system monitorujący ich pracę.</p>
<p>A sword of Damocles – threatened danger in the midst of prosperity (from the old Greek story of a man who feasted while a sword hung by a thread over him).</p> <p><i>Joe's poor mark of the history test is a sword of Damocles for him.</i></p>	<p>Miecz Damoklesa - nieuchronne niebezpieczeństwo zagrażające komuś.</p> <p>Termin sprawdzianu był dla nas, jak miecz Damoklesa, a nikt nie był jeszcze dobrze przygotowany.</p>



<p>Under the aegis of – with the patronage or support of.</p> <p><i>The performance has already taken place under the aegis of a well-known businessman.</i></p>	<p>Tarcza Zeusa - pod patronatem, pod opieką.</p> <p>Akcja uświadamiająca zagrożenia dla środowiska wynikające ze stosowania herbicydów, została zaprezentowana pod egidą ONZ.</p>
<p>If you know more, write them here</p>	



MYTH-RELATED FIXED EXPRESSIONS - PORTUGAL

Agrupamento de Escolas Dr. Mario Sacramento, Aveiro



English	Your mother language PORTUGUESE
<p>An apple of discord – the subject of envy or quarrel.</p> <p><i>Jane's necklace became an apple of discord. Each of us wanted to try it on.</i></p>	<p>O pomo da discórdia</p> <p>O colar da Maria tornou-se o pomo da discórdia. Todós queríamos usá-lo.</p>
<p>Ariadne's tread – help in a very difficult situation.</p> <p><i>Stella gave me an amazing advice last week. It was Ariadne's tread with my problems.</i></p>	<p>Ver a luz ao fundo do tunel</p> <p>To see the light at the end of the tunnel</p> <p>After all these problems, I began to see the light at the end of the tunnel.</p>
<p>Augean stables – a very dirty, neglected place.</p> <p><i>What a dirty, stinking attic it is! It looks like Augean stables!</i></p>	<p>Parecer uma pocilga</p> <p>Looking like a pigsty</p> <p>Maria`s bedroom looks like a pigsty. She should clean it up.</p>



<p>Between Scylla and Charybdis – between two great dangers; a situation with no way out.</p> <p><i>She was between Scylla and Charybdis, because she wasn't able both to leave the house and make a phone call. It was a beginning for her to be fired from work.</i></p>	<p>Estar entre a espada e a parede In between the sword and the wall</p> <p>I was in between the sword and the wall when making that decision.</p>
<p>Cornucopia (a horn of plenty) – an ornamental horn shown in art as overflowing with flowers, fruit and corn – infinite wealth.</p> <p><i>He is proud of his bank account. He says it's a horn of plenty to him.</i></p>	<p>X</p>
<p>Cupid's arrow – love, an emerging feeling.</p> <p><i>My brother's fallen in love with Sue. He can't help being hurt by Cupid's arrow.</i></p>	<p>Seta do Cupido</p> <p>Eu fui atingido pela seta do Cupido.</p>
<p>Golden Fleece – a precious, fabulous treasure.</p> <p><i>Christopher saved money for an expensive car. He has been able to buy it at last. The car is a Golden Fleece for him and his family.</i></p>	<p>X</p>



<p>To work like a Trojan – to work very hard, with great energy.</p> <p><i>Tom works like a Trojan every day. He would like to pass the exams and get into the university of his dreams.</i></p>	<p>Trabalhar como um negro</p> <p>Work like a slave</p> <p>Susie works like a slave every day. She wants to get a good job.</p>
<p>Achilles' heel – small but weak or vulnerable point, eg. in sb's character.</p> <p><i>An English pronunciation is my Achilles' heel.</i></p>	<p>O calcanhar de Aquiles - Matemática é o meu calcanhar de Aquiles</p> <p>Maths is my Achilles' heel</p>
<p>Olympian calm – seriousness, not showing emotions.</p> <p><i>This detective presents an Olympian calm during investigations.</i></p>	<p>Ser frio</p> <p>Be cold</p> <p>Felix is a very cold person. She's very calm in troubled situations.</p>
<p>Pandora's box – a source of trouble, bad luck, unhappiness.</p> <p><i>Tom doesn't want to learn maths. It's the Pandora's box for his parents.</i></p>	<p>Caixa de Pandora</p> <p>Ex. o passado dela era uma caixa de pandora (segredos)</p>
<p>Panic attack – unreasoning, uncontrolled, quickly spreading fear.</p> <p><i>There is always danger of a panic attack when an airport catches fire.</i></p>	<p>Ataque de panico</p> <p>Ex. Estou muito nervoso</p> <p>I am very nervous</p>



<p>Pyrrhic victory – one gained at too great a cost.</p> <p><i>When she told the truth, she lost her best friend. The whole situation was Pyrrhic victory.</i></p>	<p>Vitória de Pirro</p>
<p>Shirt of Nessus – a source of a great pain, suffering.</p> <p><i>This kind of disease is a shirt of Nessus for patients.</i></p>	<p>Colete de forcas</p> <p>Ex. Eu gostava de ser médica mas matemática é um colete de forcas para mim</p>
<p>Sisyphean task (never-ending job) – useless job; a job without results.</p> <p><i>You aren't good at learning painting. It's Sisyphean task to teach you this.</i></p>	<p>x</p>
<p>Suffer tantalizing torments – severe bodily or mental pain by something close but unavailable.</p> <p><i>Stop asking silly questions now! Your father is suffering tantalizing torments by giving the answers!</i></p>	<p>Sofrer dores atroses</p> <p>Ex. suplício de Tântalo - alguma coisa que está bastante perto mas que mesmo assim nós não conseguimos chegar</p> <p>Está tao perto mas tao longe</p>



<p>Trojan horse – a deceitful, dangerous gift or plan, a hidden danger.</p> <p><i>We knew that this gift was only the Trojan horse. They wanted to check our reaction.</i></p>	<p>O cavalo de Tróia</p>
<p>A sword of Damocles – threatened danger in the midst of prosperity (from the old Greek story of a man who feasted while a sword hung by a thread over him).</p> <p><i>Joe's poor mark of the history test is a sword of Damocles for him.</i></p>	<p>A espada de damocles</p>
<p>Under the aegis of – with the patronage or support of.</p> <p><i>The performance has already taken place under the aegis of a well-known businessman.</i></p>	<p>Sob a égide de...</p>
<p>If you know more, write them here</p>	



MYTH-RELATED FIXED EXPRESSIONS - ROMANIA

Școala Gimnazială "Ion Băncilă", Brăila



English	Your mother language ROMANIAN
<p>An apple of discord – the subject of envy or quarrel.</p> <p><i>Jane's necklace became an apple of discord. Each of us wanted to try it on.</i></p>	<p>Mărul discordiei</p> <p>Când toată grupa a primit o singură cutie cu bomboane, aceasta a devenit mărul discordiei pentru cei cinci elevi. Nimeni nu voia să le împartă cu ceilalți.</p>
<p>Ariadne's thread – help in a very difficult situation.</p> <p><i>Stella gave me an amazing advice last week. It was Ariadne's thread with my problems.</i></p>	<p>Firul Ariadnei</p> <p>Când am găsit informația pe internet, după lungi ore de căutări, aceasta a constituit firul Ariadnei pentru realizarea proiectului.</p>
<p>Augean stables – a very dirty, neglected place.</p> <p><i>What a dirty, stinking attic it is! It looks like Augean stables!</i></p>	<p>X</p>



<p>Between Scylla and Charybdis – between two great dangers; a situation with no way out.</p> <p><i>She was between Scylla and Charybdis, because she wasn't able both to leave the house and make a phone call. It was a beginning for her to be fired from work.</i></p>	<p>x</p>
<p>Cornucopia (a horn of plenty) – an ornamental horn shown in art as overflowing with flowers, fruit and corn – infinite wealth.</p> <p><i>He is proud of his bank account. He says it's a horn of plenty to him.</i></p>	<p>Cornul abundenței</p> <p>Insula Mare a Brăilei reprezintă Cornul abundenței pentru România, în ceea ce privește cerealele.</p>
<p>Cupid's arrow – love, an emerging feeling.</p> <p><i>My brother's fallen in love with Sue. He can't help being hurt by Cupid's arrow.</i></p>	<p>Săgeata lui Cupidon</p> <p>Băiatul nu s-a îndrăgostit de acea fată; săgeata lui Cupidon a ratat.</p>
<p>Golden Fleece – a precious, fabulous treasure.</p> <p><i>Christopher saved money for an expensive car. He has been able to buy it at last. The car is a Golden Fleece for him and his family.</i></p>	<p>Lâna de aur</p> <p>Pacea și iubirea reprezintă lâna de aur pentru familie.</p>



<p>To work like a Trojan – to work very hard, with great energy.</p> <p><i>Tom works like a Trojan every day. He would like to pass the exams and get into the university of his dreams.</i></p>	<p>x</p>
<p>Achilles' heel – small but weak or vulnerable point, eg. in sb's character.</p> <p><i>An English pronunciation is my Achilles' heel.</i></p>	<p>Călcâiul lui Ahile</p> <p>„Chimia reprezintă călcâiul lui Ahile pentru voi” zise Andrei.</p>
<p>Olympian calm – seriousness, not showing emotions.</p> <p><i>This detective presents an Olympian calm during investigations.</i></p>	<p>Calm olimpian</p> <p>Doamna profesoară a dat dovadă de un calm olimpian în corectarea lucrărilor și comunicarea rezultatelor.</p>
<p>Pandora's box – a source of trouble, bad luck, unhappiness.</p> <p><i>Tom doesn't want to learn maths. It's the Pandora's box for his parents.</i></p>	<p>Cutia Pandorei</p> <p>Modul în care și-a spus părerea a reprezentat cutia Pandorei pentru întregul colectiv.</p>
<p>Panic attack – unreasoning, uncontrolled, quickly spreading fear.</p> <p><i>There is always danger of a panic attack when an airport catches fire.</i></p>	<p>Atac de panică</p> <p>Când nu și-a găsit telefonul în buzunar, a făcut un atac de panică.</p>



<p>Pyrrhic victory – one gained at too great a cost.</p> <p><i>When she told the truth, she lost her best friend. The whole situation was Pyrrhic victory.</i></p>	x
<p>Shirt of Nessus – a source of a great pain, suffering.</p> <p><i>This kind of disease is a shirt of Nessus for patients.</i></p>	x
<p>Sisyphean task (never-ending job) – useless job; a job without results.</p> <p><i>You aren't good at learning painting. It's Sisyphean task to teach you this.</i></p>	<p>Muncă de Sisif</p> <p>Construirea Mănăstirii Curtea de Argeș, a reprezentat o muncă de Sisif pentru meșterul Manole.</p>
<p>Suffer tantalizing torments – severe bodily or mental pain by something close but unavailable.</p> <p><i>Stop asking silly questions now! Your father is suffering tantalizing torments by giving the answers!</i></p>	x
<p>Trojan horse – a deceitful, dangerous gift or plan, a hidden danger.</p> <p><i>We knew that this gift was only the Trojan horse. They wanted to check our reaction.</i></p>	<p>Calul troian</p> <p>Minciuna lui Cornel a constituit calul troian în disputa dintre moștenitori.</p>



<p>A sword of Damocles – threatened danger in the midst of prosperity (from the old Greek story of a man who feasted while a sword hung by a thread over him).</p> <p><i>Joe’s poor mark of the history test is a sword of Damocles for him.</i></p>	<p>Sabia lui Damocles</p> <p>Examenul final reprezintă sabia lui Damocles pentru elevii care învață mai puțin.</p>
<p>Under the aegis of – with the patronage or support of.</p> <p><i>The performance has already taken place under the aegis of a well-known businessman.</i></p>	<p>Sub egida</p> <p>Această carte a fost publicată sub egida Primăriei orașului nostru, Brăila.</p>
<p>If you know more, write them here</p>	



MYTH-RELATED FIXED EXPRESSIONS - LITHUANIA

Siauliu Dainu Progimnazija, Siauliai



English	Your mother language LITHUANIAN
<p>An apple of discord – the subject of envy or quarrel.</p> <p><i>Jane's necklace became an apple of discord. Each of us wanted to try it on.</i></p>	<p>x</p>
<p>Ariadne's tread – help in a very difficult situation.</p> <p><i>Stella gave me an amazing advice last week. It was Ariadne's tread with my problems.</i></p>	<p>Kaip aklai vištai grūdas.</p> <p>Onutė man paaikino matematiką, tai buvo lyg aklai vištai grūdas.</p>
<p>Augean stables – a very dirty, neglected place.</p> <p><i>What a dirty, stinking attic it is! It looks like Augean stables!</i></p>	<p>Pas tave kambaryje, tik gyvačių trūksta.</p>



<p>Between Scylla and Charybdis – between two great dangers; a situation with no way out.</p> <p><i>She was between Scylla and Charybdis, because she wasn't able both to leave the house and make a phone call. It was a beginning for her to be fired from work.</i></p>	<p>Situacija tarp dangaus ir žemės.</p> <p>Važiuojant autobusu, jis sugedo, o man reikėjo į svarbų susitikimą. Jaučiausi lyg tarp dangaus ir žemės.</p>
<p>Cornucopia (a horn of plenty) – an ornamental horn shown in art as overflowing with flowers, fruit and corn – infinite wealth.</p> <p><i>He is proud of his bank account. He says it's a horn of plenty to him.</i></p>	<p>Gausybės ragas.</p> <p>Pas močiutę lyg gausybės rage, nes maisto niekada netrūksta.</p>
<p>Cupid's arrow – love, an emerging feeling.</p> <p><i>My brother's fallen in love with Sue. He can't help being hurt by Cupid's arrow.</i></p>	<p>Kupidono strėlė.</p> <p>Prieš dešimt metų į mano tėvus pataikė Kupidono strėlė.</p>
<p>Golden Fleece – a precious, fabulous treasure.</p> <p><i>Christopher saved money for an expensive car. He has been able to buy it at last. The car is a Golden Fleece for him and his family.</i></p>	<p>x</p>



<p>To work like a Trojan – to work very hard, with great energy.</p> <p><i>Tom works like a Trojan every day. He would like to pass the exams and get into the university of his dreams.</i></p>	<p>Ari kaip arklys.</p> <p>Šią savaitę artėja egzaminai, todėl ariu (dirbu) kaip arklys.</p>
<p>Achilles' heel – small but weak or vulnerable point, eg. in sb's character.</p> <p><i>An English pronunciation is my Achilles' heel.</i></p>	<p>Achilo kulnas.</p> <p>Visuose dalykuose esu gabi, bet fizika mano Achilo kulnas.</p>
<p>Olympian calm – seriousness, not showing emotions.</p> <p><i>This detective presents an Olympian calm during investigations.</i></p>	<p>Olimpinė ramybė.</p> <p>Už kelių minučių prasidės plaukimo varžybos, visi jaudinasi, bet pas mane olimpinė ramybė.</p>
<p>Pandora's box – a source of trouble, bad luck, unhappiness.</p> <p><i>Tom doesn't want to learn maths. It's the Pandora's box for his parents.</i></p>	<p>Pandoros skrynja.</p> <p>Modestui nesiseka anglų kalba. Tėvams tai Pandoros skrynja.</p>
<p>Panic attack – unreasoning, uncontrolled, quickly spreading fear.</p> <p><i>There is always danger of a panic attack when an airport catches fire.</i></p>	<p>Paniška baimė.</p> <p>Kai esu mažoje patalpoje, man paniška baimė.</p>



<p>Pyrrhic victory – one gained at too great a cost.</p> <p><i>When she told the truth, she lost her best friend. The whole situation was Pyrrhic victory.</i></p>	x
<p>Shirt of Nessus – a source of a great pain, suffering.</p> <p><i>This kind of disease is a shirt of Nessus for patients.</i></p>	x
<p>Sisyphean task (never-ending job) – useless job; a job without results.</p> <p><i>You aren't good at learning painting. It's Sisyphean task to teach you this.</i></p>	<p>Pasaka be galo.</p> <p>Rudenį grėbiu lapus, bet pučia stiprus vėjas ir juos išdraiko. Atrodo lyg pasaka be galo.</p>
<p>Suffer tantalizing torments – severe bodily or mental pain by something close but unavailable.</p> <p><i>Stop asking silly questions now! Your father is suffering tantalizing torments by giving the answers!</i></p>	x



<p>Trojan horse – a deceitful, dangerous gift or plan, a hidden danger.</p> <p><i>We knew that this gift was only the Trojan horse. They wanted to check our reaction.</i></p>	<p>Trojos arklys.</p> <p>Matematikos testo metu draugė parodė teisingą atsakymą, bet tai buvo Trojos arklys, nes mokytoja pamatė ir parašė blogą įvertinimą.</p>
<p>A sword of Damocles – threatened danger in the midst of prosperity (from the old Greek story of a man who feasted while a sword hung by a thread over him).</p> <p><i>Joe's poor mark of the history test is a sword of Damocles for him.</i></p>	<p>Pakišo koją.</p> <p>Kiek besistengčiau, lietuvių kalbos pažymiai man nuolatos kiša koją.</p>
<p>Under the aegis of – with the patronage or support of.</p> <p><i>The performance has already taken place under the aegis of a well-known businessman.</i></p>	<p>x</p>
<p>If you know more, write them here</p>	



Chapter 2: MYTH-RELATED CREATIVE WRITING

Creative writing activities represent attractive methods of getting the students involved into exploring mythology and acquiring cultural knowledge. The teachers may have the students become familiarised with the particular myth or legend they would like to base their activity upon, so that the students receive a clear background on the storyline, the characters and the key elements. Then, each group of students is provided with either the beginning/the main body of the myth or legend, or with key words to be used in writing the continuation, or both.

PROLOGUE

Each country and its inhabitants have their own history, tradition and customs. However everything can't be found in books. In this reason the stories/legends are created and told. Try to imagine for a while that you are a story-teller.

Let's move to a fascinating land, full of fairy-stories. Let's awake our imagination to prepare an unusual story. Myths and legends hide a great wisdom, which has to be handed down to the future generation. This is a task for story-tellers. So let your creative writing begin...

Once upon a time three brothers, Lech, Czech and Rus went to look for a safety place for living. Rus headed for the east, Czech – for the south. Lech was marching to the west. He came to the beautiful place covered with a lot of forests and wonderful, green meadows. While Lech and his servants, knights were resting under spreading oaks, he noticed a magnificent bird, flying in the sky. It was feeding its chicks. It was an amazing, white eagle. The knight was delighted in this view – the beauty of flight. Lech thought that the eagle had chosen this place for its own, so he and his companions would find this countryside as a homeland. Lech decided to build a town which was a first capital of Poland - Gniezno. The white eagle was chosen as an emblem of the country. It became a royal bird. It was shown on a red background because the red is a colour of the king's



gowns. According to this rich, friendly place, the nation was called 'Polanie'. The country was named Poland. Lech and his subjects were leading a very prosperous life. They loved changing seasons of the year. They didn't feel hungry, because there were a lot of animals in the forests. Fertile fields gave great crops.

But some day the peace was interrupted. After Lech had eaten a delicious dinner, he went outside to look at a winding river. It was a snowy weather. Suddenly Lech saw an old man and a younger one, coming straight to him. The men had a team consisted of 20 strong warriors. Lech was famous for his hospitality, thus he welcomed the newcomers and invited them to warm by the fireplace. The ruler of Poland asked what the names of the strangers were. To his surprise the first man introduced himself as 'Odysseus', but the second – Jason. Both of them had the same destination of their wandering – looking for something, which would make people from their countries perpetually happy, kind and glad. Odysseus and Jason said that they were from very remote countries (Ithaca and Iolcos). They were sailing a long distance. Odysseus started to tell about two monsters – Scylla and Charybdes. Fortunately he managed to escape from them. Nothing happened without gods' will. The goddess Athena was Odysseus' guardian. Illnesses were common among his crew. Nevertheless he met Jason and the Argonauts. Odysseus asked them to sail altogether. At last they reached on Lech's land. They claimed that they wouldn't come back home unless they found 'this something'. From this time the life of Lech and his subjects had never been the same. The arrival of these two strangers changed their life forever.

Here are some examples of creative writing that our students have provided while working in mixed groups during an international meeting in Poland, hosted by Szkoła Podstawowa nr. 10 Rzeszowie. The students were divided into five groups and got a chance to practise their English while brainstorming for ideas and applying the knowledge gained throughout the activities of the project in order to create original materials.

Example 1

They were both strong-spirited but very tired of the trip. The kind king let them rest and get familiar with the new place and people. Immediately after their rest they went out to the



village's market for supplies, because of the journey back. However, Odysseus wandered too much and he ended in a new country called Baltai, which is Lithuania today. He was confused and starved but he kept going. Suddenly, he met heavily armed soldiers with large shields. Odysseus didn't recognize the symbol of them: they were red with a white horse and a knight on it with blue details. They arrested him and took him to the ruler of that place - Duke Gediminas.

It was said that one night, he saw a wonderful dream: an iron wolf standing at the top of a hill. He went to a magician and demanded the meaning of it. He told him that the implement of it was that he had to build a castle at that hill. Gediminas sent his men but they were killed because there was a creature in a lake nearby. He was very intelligent and diplomatic as well, so he proposed him a deal "If you kill the creature, I will let you go".

Having no other choice, he accepted. Next day, armed with a sword and a shield he went to face the monster. Once he was near, he heard crying. Turning his head he saw a beautiful woman halfway in the water. Ulysses shortened the distance between them and tried to help her. Surprised she turned and with that movement her tail was shown. She was a mermaid! Seeing him, her facial features changed dramatically: eyes narrowed, pointed eyebrows and a hissing sound coming out of her mouth. She told him "Leave this place at once and never come back!". "Why are you doing this? Why did you kill those men?" he replied. She told him that she was afraid of the building of the castle. The only "home" known by her would be destroyed and she would be killed. Hearing her words he felt sorrow to her and his resourceful nature came to the surface. So he explained her his plan. After their encounter he returned to the Duke. When Gediminas saw no blood on Ulysses' sword or his uniform he thought he hadn't succeed to his mission. Then Odysseus told him "If you want your kingdom safe and your dream come true, you have to give me a ship with the crew and I will take care of your problem".

And indeed that happened, Odysseus was chosen to command the ship. And Gediminas' issue was solved as Odysseus took the mermaid with him and gave her freedom which she was longing for. Accepting his kind gesture, she gave him the immortal water. After some days of traveling he reached 'Polanie'. Jason and the Argonauts and the king felt a relief but they were struck as well by the view of the ship. When they asked him what happened he replied by telling the story and how he retrieved the immortal water. The last but not with a little position, Jason



and his men were ready to sail to their countries that they missed so much. In the end, Odysseus gave the immortal water to the ruler of Poland as thanks for his hospitality and help.

Example 2

Next morning Lech woke up frightened. Terrible noises were heard in the woods. He knew that he had to check what was the cause of this noise. He decided to go to the woods. While he was checking, he noticed more spirits that were staring at him. Or they were bruised but it was not what it seemed to be. Those ladies were “IELE”, wicked fairies. They wanted the safety of the forest and to help them to leave the forest and create a new life. Lech finally reached a city full of friendly people. Lech had his family and he was leading his life in happiness to the end of his time. The moral of this story is to be optimistic.

Example 3

The three men started travelling and searching for ‘this something’ that would improve their lives. They followed the winding river together and, eventually, got to a shore... They heard about a mermaid that lived there. She had a Golden Apple that would make the soldiers immortal, that way they could defeat any monster and get over any illness. In order to get the Apple even though, they had to complete three tasks:

1. They had to find a four leaf clover and bring it to her.
2. Collect the immortal water (water of life) as this represented the magical powers given by the Apple.
3. Plant a field of sunflowers... These represented the yellow glow of the Apple.

And so they did... After some days they found the clover; Three months in, and they found an old druid who pointed them to a fountain... A fountain was located on the top of a mountain... The one that would give them the immortal water.

The last task was to be completed; It was the hardest one so it took the most time out of all to be completed. One year later, they had a strong sunflower plantation.

They went to see the mermaid and present their achievements.



She asked them a complex question:

“What’s the name of your brother Czech’s wife?” she said...

Lech hadn’t seen his brother since he left him and so he didn’t even know he was married... They travelled to the south and as they finally got there, they found out that the brother had passed away not long ago. Because of that, they couldn’t find the woman and ask her about the name. They came back with empty hands and the mermaid told them a valuable lesson. Lech left his brothers behind and had no interest in their well-being and their lives... Lech felt the guilt taking over his body... He had realized his mistake and said this, they went back to the village... The two men kept asking for his help to find ‘this something’ they desperately wanted... They eventually found it but that’s a story for another day.

Lech learned that family is more important than his selfish thoughts and he regretted not telling it to his brothers before.

Example 4

They were looking for a beautiful mermaid, who they saw in a dream. They found out that she was in a cave near the river, so they came to her.

When the mermaid saw them, she asked “What are you looking for?” - they answered “We are here looking for you!”. She was really scared, because she didn’t want to get out of her little house - she had work to do. Odysseus and Jason grabbed her and got out of the house with her. Then, they told her to do some magic. “Make us handsome!” - they said. Suddenly, Lech came to them, grabbed mermaid and ran away. “Really, not again!” - shout beautiful being. “Don’t worry, I don’t want to hurt you.”. They looked at each others eyes and kissed.

Meanwhile the dragon had flown and opened his big mouth - he wanted to eat the mermaid. Lech took his sword and killed the big dragon. Then they got married and lived happily.

We can learn from this story that a bad situation can be changed into a good one.

Example 5

As they were builders they decided to build a church so they could pray to God for luck. After they had built the church they prayed for happiness and God gave them roosters. They were



unhappy with what they got from God and decided to leave the roosters in the church. Next morning they woke up because of a very beautiful sound made by roosters, it made them happy. The noise was so beautiful that it made the devil go to the church and destroy it with a big rock. While he was carrying the rock, the noise became stronger and nicer so the devil started to like it and became a better person. Also a lot of people came to this place because they weren't afraid of the devil anymore.

The moral of the story is that you can find happiness and joy in everything, even little things.

ISBN 978-973-0-33163-9