

Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Theseus and the Minotaur



Theseus had a difficult job to do. He had to kill the Minotaur, a horrible monster whose favourite food was ... people.

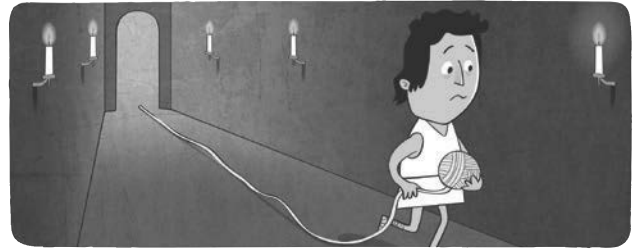
The Minotaur was half-human, half bull. It lived in a labyrinth, a maze deep underground. And all Theseus had to help him was a ball of string!

1 Which word on this page means the same as 'nasty'?

2 Where did the Minotaur live?

Theseus stepped into the dark, gloomy labyrinth.
He could hear his own heart beating:
thump- thump, thump-thump.

Theseus set off towards the
centre of the maze, unrolling
the string as he went. The string
would help him find his way out after he had killed
the Minotaur – if he was still alive by then!



3 a) How do you think Theseus felt at this point in the story?

b) Find and copy a sentence from the story that shows
how Theseus felt.

4 Why did Theseus have string with him? Tick **one** box.

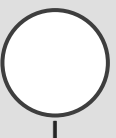
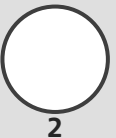
The string would help him to kill the Minotaur.

☐

The string would help him to find his way out of
the labyrinth.

☐

The string would help him to remember what he
had to do.

☐

Thump-thump, thump-thump ... Theseus's heart beat faster and faster. He was getting closer and closer to the centre of the maze ...

Suddenly he heard a loud ROAR!
It came from the most terrifying monster Theseus had ever seen – the Minotaur!



- 5** Which repeated word or phrase tells us about the sound Theseus's heart was making?
Tick **one** box.

Faster and faster

☐

Closer and closer

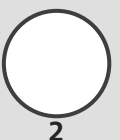
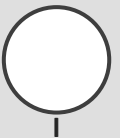
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Thump-thump, thump-thump

☐

- 6** a) What do you think is going to happen when Theseus meets the Minotaur?

b) Why do you think this will happen?



Theseus acted quickly. He jumped onto the Minotaur’s back, grabbed its horns and twisted its head back. The angry monster tried to knock Theseus off, but it was too late. There was a loud crack, and the Minotaur fell to the ground. His neck was broken.



Theseus followed the string all the way back to safety.

7 Which word on this page means the same as ‘took hold of’?

8 How does the ending of the story make you feel?

For teacher use

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Your mark | _____ out of 10 |
| What went well | |
| How to improve | |