



Thank you for downloading this mini-lesson. Three lessons are included in this series:

[Arachne the Spinner](#)

[Orpheus and Eurydice](#)

[Daedalus and Icarus](#)



If you enjoyed this resource, you might also like the [Short Story Bundle](#). Check out the first story for free – [Cinderella](#).

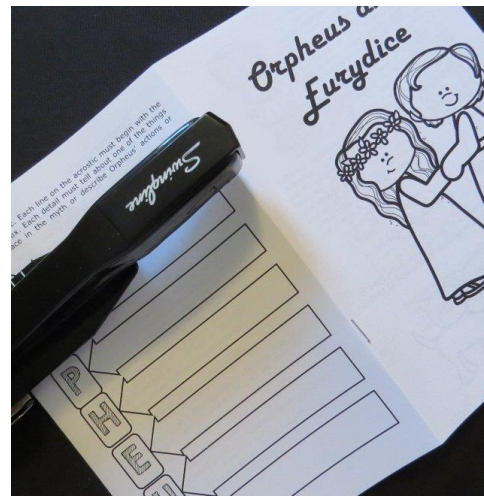


The printable contains the story as well as practice.

Your pages must be duplicated on the front and the back. I ran my pages front and back directly from the printer. This is a simple process with only a few pages. Simply place the page that has been printed on one side back into the printer for the reverse side to be printed. Once all the pages have been printed arrange them in numerical order and staple down the middle to form the book.

To print the 8 page book back-to-front follow this guide:

Pages 8 & 1 front with Pages 2 & 7 on back
Pages 6 & 3 front with Pages 4 & 5 on back



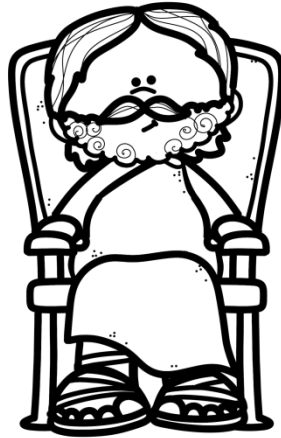
Compare and contrast the text version of the story to the video version of the story.

Write your conclusions in paragraph form.

[illegible]

Daedalus and Icarus

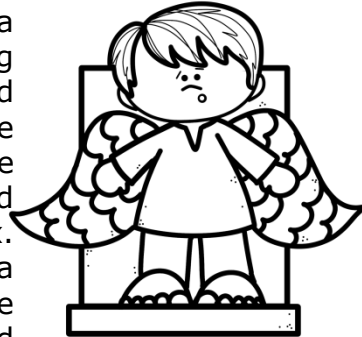
Daedalus wanted to honor the newborn princess with a special gift. He created a **mechanical** bird that chirped when the sun rose. This was quite a gift in the age of using sun dials to tell time. Everyone who saw the mechanical bird was amazed. King Minos came to Daedalus and asked if he could help with a special project. He was seeking a way to keep the **Minotaur** imprisoned. This half-bull and half-man creature was dangerous.



Daedalus came up with an idea. He built a giant **labyrinth** to hold the Minotaur. When King Minos saw this invention, he was pleased. King Minos decided to lock Daedalus and his young son Icarus in a tower. This way King Minos could make sure that no one else received any of Daedalus's inventions.

After a while, Icarus wanted to leave the tower. Daedalus could not see a way because the king kept a **strict** watch. Daedalus told his son, "Minos may control the land and sea, but not the regions of the air. I will try that way."

As Daedalus watched the seagulls, a plan came to mind. He began working on a set of wings. Daedalus shaped feathers together beginning with the smallest and adding larger. He secured the larger ones with thread and the smaller feathers with wax. Before long, he had built wings of a bird. When the work was done, he tried out the wings. Daedalus found he could lift himself in the air. Next he built wings for his son in the same manner and taught him how to fly.



Comprehension

4. Why is the setting important to the story?

- a) The story takes place about 5000 years ago before modern inventions.
- b) The story takes place on the island of Crete in the Mediterranean Sea making escape difficult.
- c) The story takes place when people worshipped gods such as Apollo.
- d) The story takes place during the reign of King Minos.



5. List 2 details that prove this story is a myth.



6. Match each cause to its effect.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| _____ king's selfishness | a) wax melts |
| _____ wanting freedom | b) Icarian Sea gets its name |
| _____ flying too high | c) being locked in a tower |
| _____ falling to death | d) a new invention |

Comprehension

1. How does the reader know *Daedalus and Icarus* is told in 3rd person point of view?
- a) The narrator uses pronouns like I, me, and my.
 - b) Only Daedalus's thoughts are told.
 - c) The narrator uses pronouns like he, she, it, and they.
 - d) The narrator tells the story to another character using the word 'you.'



2. Which character is King Minos most like?
- a) The Little Mermaid who traded her voice for legs
 - b) Veruca Salt from *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, a spoiled-rotten brat who wanted everything
 - c) The Lion from *The Lion and the Mouse Fable* who decided to let the mouse go because the mouse made him laugh
 - d) The Seven Dwarfs who took care of Snow White in the forest

Explain why you selected this character.



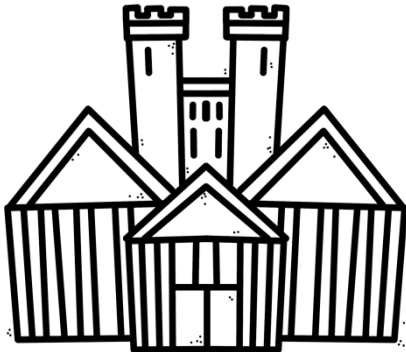
3. Sequence the following events by numbering them in the correct order.
- _____ Icarus flew too close to the sun.
 - _____ King Minos asked Daedalus to come up with a way to keep the Minotaur imprisoned.
 - _____ The sun melted the wax causing Icarus to fall into the sea.
 - _____ Daedalus built a mechanical bird.
 - _____ Daedalus built bird wings.
 - _____ Daedalus built a temple to honor Apollo.
 - _____ Daedalus invented a labyrinth.
 - _____ King Minos locked Daedalus and his son Icarus in a tower.

When all was ready for flight, Daedalus said, "Icarus, my son, you must be careful, for if you fly too low the damp sea spray will **clog** your wings. If too high the heat will melt the wings. Keep near me, and you will be safe." While he gave Icarus these instructions and fitted the wings to his shoulders, the face of the father was wet with tears, and his hands trembled. He kissed his son, not knowing that it was for the last time. Then rising on his wings he flew off, encouraging Icarus to follow. Daedalus looked back from his own flight and found Icarus managed his wings well.



As they flew, many stopped to watch. After a while Icarus left his father and began flying higher and higher. Soon the blazing sun softened the wax which held the feathers together, and they came off. He fluttered with his arms, but with no feathers, he began to fall. Icarus cried out to his father as he sank into the sea. His father cried back, "Icarus, Icarus, where are you?" At last he saw the feathers floating on the water.

Daedalus buried his son and called the sea Icaria in his memory. Daedalus safely arrived in Sicily. There he built a temple to the sun god, Apollo. In the temple, he hung up his wings as an offering to the god.



Vocabulary

1. Write one definition for each word. Use context clues to determine which dictionary definition is best.

mechanical - _____

Minotaur - _____

labyrinth - _____

strict - _____

clog - _____

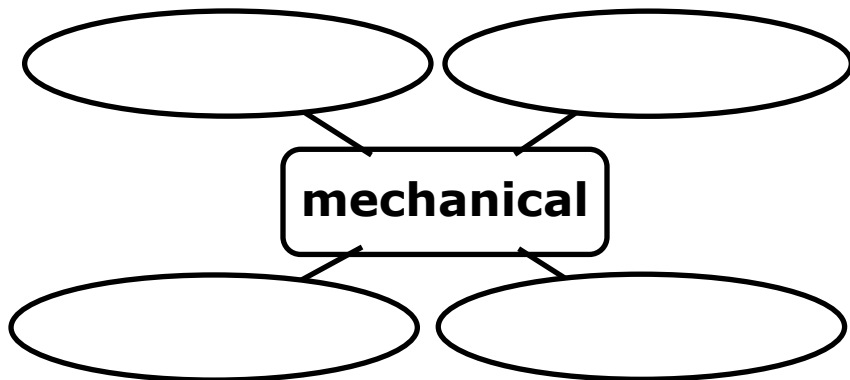


2. Circle six words in the box that are synonyms or closely related to the word **clog**.

block	clear	free
wash out	obstruct	jam
choke	release	burden
help	support	stop up



3. Fill in the word web with synonyms of **mechanical**.



Read these definitions of **strict**.

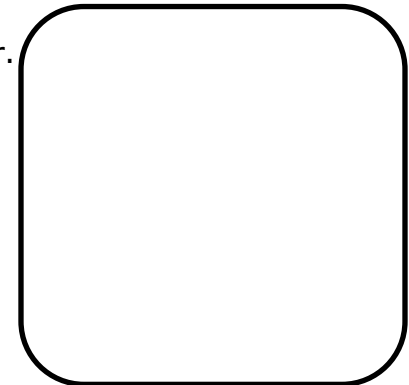
- a) used to describe a command, rule, etc., that must be obeyed
- b) demanding that people obey rules or behave in a certain way
- c) complete or thorough

Determine which definition is used in each of the sentences below. Write a, b, or c in the blanks to show your answer.

- 4. _____ She made me promise **strict** secrecy.
- 5. _____ Our country has **strict** limits on government spending.
- 6. _____ His parents are very **strict**.
- 7. _____ Our teacher insists on **strict** obedience of her rules.



8. Draw a Minotaur.



9. Match the synonyms.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| _____ strict | a) motorized |
| _____ clog | b) maze |
| _____ mechanical | c) authoritarian |
| _____ labyrinth | d) blockage |

Vocabulary Answer Key

mechanical - made of or having to do with machines; run by a machine or machines

Minotaur - a monster from mythology with the head of a bull and the body of a man

labyrinth - a place that has many confusing paths or passages

strict - complete or thorough

clog - to slowly form a block in (something, such as a pipe or street) so that things cannot move through quickly or easily

2. block, obstruct, jam, choke, burden, stop up

3. Answers will vary.

automatic
powered
motorized
machine-driven

4. C

5. A

6. B

7. C



8.

9.

___c___ strict

___d___ clog

___a___ mechanical

___b___ labyrinth

Comprehension Answer Key

1. c) The narrator uses pronouns like he, she, it, and they.

2. b) Veruca Salt from *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, a spoiled-rotten brat who wanted everything

King Minos was selfish just like Veruca Salt. Both wanted everything and did not want to share with the others.

3.

___6___ Icarus flew too close to the sun.

___2___ King Minos asked Daedalus to come up with a way to keep the Minotaur imprisoned.

___7___ The sun melted the wax causing Icarus to fall into the sea.

___1___ Daedalus built a mechanical bird.

___5___ Daedalus built bird wings.

___8___ Daedalus built a temple to honor Apollo.

___3___ Daedalus invented a labyrinth.

___4___ King Minos locked Daedalus and his son Icarus in a tower.

4. b) The story takes place on the island of Crete in the Mediterranean Sea making escape difficult. --- While each statement is true the main idea of the story is escaping.

5. Myth Details

- It is a story that explains something (usually something in nature). In this story the origin of labyrinths is explained. The story also explains how the Icarian Sea received its name.
- The story contains a Greek god, Apollo and a supernatural character, Minotaur.

6. ___c___ king's selfishness

a) wax melts

___d___ wanting freedom

b) Icarian Sea gets its name

___a___ flying too high

c) being locked in a tower

___b___ falling to death

d) a new invention

Writing Answer Key

Text Version

Daedalus makes a mechanical bird.

Daedalus and Icarus are imprisoned because King Minos wants him to build inventions for no one but him.

Daedalus builds a temple for Apollo and hangs up his wings.

Both

Daedalus builds labyrinth.

Daedalus and Icarus are imprisoned.

Daedalus builds wings to escape prison.

Icarus flies too high to the sun. The wax melts and Icarus falls.

Daedalus arrives safely in Sicily, Italy.

Video Version

Daedalus runs off with the princess and is imprisoned when caught.

A focus on the Minotaur shows how terrifying he is as well as how he was killed.

Write your conclusions in paragraph form.

Both the text and video versions of *Daedalus and Icarus* tell the same basic story of how Daedalus built wings to escape his imprisonment in Crete. Daedalus warns his son not to fly too high to the sun or the wax wings will melt. Icarus doesn't listen, the wax melts, and Icarus falls to his death.

The video version provides many additional details about the Minotaur. This ferocious beast had to be feed humans and was killed.

The reason for imprisonment for Daedalus and Icarus is different in the two versions. In the text version, Daedalus is imprisoned because King Minos wants access to all his inventions. In the video version, King Minos imprisons Daedalus for running off with his daughter.

The text version continues the story after Icarus's death. Daedalus not only safely reaches Sicily in Italy but builds a temple to honor Apollo.

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