ARACHNĒ

Arachnē puella Graeca arte clāra erat. Pater ēius lānās mūrice tinguēbat. Puella tamen per omnēs terrās nōmen memorābile habuit quamquam nōn dīves sed pauper erat. Rudem lānam in prīmos orbēs glomerābat, opus digitīs subigēbat, vellera molliēbat, teretem pollice celerī versābat. Tandem autem superba erat et haec improba verba ēdidit, "Melius labōrō quam Minerva. Sī dea veniet, facile eam vincam." Minerva haec verba audīvit et anum simulāvit; cānōs capillōs sibi addidit, baculum sumpsit quod infīrma crūra sustinuit. Cameram, ubi audāx puella laborābat, intrāvit, et opus spectāvit. Tandem dulcī vōce, "Mea fīlia," inquit, "anus sum et multa cognōvī; meum consilium audī. Magnam inter mortālēs fāmam habēs, nōlī deōs lacessere; sī deae cēdēs, veniam tibi dabit; nisi autem hōc faciēs, tē pūniet." Arachnē autem respondit, "Anus stulta es! Minerva mē timet. Cūr nōn ipsa venit? Cūr hōc certāmen vītat?" Tum dea, "Vēnit," clāmavit, suamque in formam rediit. Puella autem nōn territa erat, quamquam prīmō ērubuit, deinde expalluit. Sine morā ambae geminās tēlās intendērunt et bracchia docta mōvērunt. Minerva antīquam lītem inter deōs dē nōmine urbis Athēnārum pinxit. Duodecim dī circum Iovem in altīs sēdibus sedēbant. Aspectus Iovis rēgālis erat. Deus maris aspera saxa longō tridente feriēbat unde equus saliēbat. Minerva sē ipsam in pictūrā pinxit, et sibi clipeum et hastam et galeam dedit. Illa etiam terram feriēbat, unde olea, gravis bācīs, surgēbat. In angulīs mortālēs quī deōs lacessivērunt addidit. Arachnē contrā deōs quī errāvērunt pinxit. Pulchritūdō pictūrae mīra erat. Tandem ambae surrexērunt et dea opus puellae conspexit. "Pulchrius est!" clāmāvit, et pictās vestēs rūpit quaterque frontem puellae percussit. Infēlīx puella fūnem sumpsit et sē pendēre voluit. Minerva autem, "Vīve," inquit, "sed semper pendē, ō improba puella." Statim comae dēfluxērunt, corpus parvum, caput minimum factum est, octō crūra habuit. Stāmen remīsit unde pependit et tēlam texuit. Nōn puella, sed arānea erat!

1. Who dyed Arachne's wool with purple dye?
   a. Minerva
   b. a spider
   c. her father
   d. Arachne herself

2. Arachne
   a. had much money.
   b. had a memorable name.
   c. had a plantation of purple fish.
   d. cut her thumb on the loom.

3. Arachne turned smooth wool with her swift
   a. feet.
   b. fingers.
   c. thumb.
   d. arms.

4. The adjective which best describes Arachne is
   a. greedy.
   b. slothful.
   c. gluttonous.
   d. proud.

5. Arachne said. "I work
   a. as well as Minerva."
   b. better than Minerva."
   c. more easily than Minerva."
   d. less often than Minerva."

6. Minerva disguised herself as
   a. an old woman.
   b. an old man.
   c. a sick child.
   d. a seamstress.

7. The goddess referred to Arachne as her
   a. grandmother.
   b. son.
   c. daughter.
   d. maidservant.

8. Minerva suggested that Arachne not
   a. pardon the gods.
   b. annoy the gods.
   c. worship the gods.
   d. avoid the gods.

9. Arachne asks why Minerva
   a. is afraid of her.
   b. avoids a contest with her.
   c. pardons her.
   d. annoys her.

10. After the goddess shouted, "She has come,"
    a. she evanesced.
    b. she returned into her own form.
    c. she blushed.
    d. she turned pale.

11. Minerva depicted on her tapestry
    a. the battle of frogs and mice.
    b. a weaving contest.
    c. an ancient quarrel among the gods concerning the name of the city Athens.
    d. little antiques of the city Athens.

12. How many gods were depicted on Minerva's tapestry?
    a. 2
    b. 3
    c. 7
    d. 12

13. Minerva depicted herself as
    a. having shield, spear, and helmet.
    b. as a leaping horse.
    c. with a long trident.
    d. on sharp rocks.

14. On her tapestry Arachne portrayed
    a. mortals who annoyed the gods.
    b. an olive tree laden with berries.
    c. Minerva in armor.
    d. gods who had gone astray.

15. The goddess conceded that Arachne's work was more beautiful than her own, and then the goddess
    a. awarded the girl a golden ram.
    b. struck the girl's forehead four times.
    c. suspended the girl from on high.
    d. disappeared.

TIE BREAKERS

16. Near the end of the story, the girl wished to
    a. hang herself.
    b. shrink her head.
    c. let down her hair.
    d. continue weaving.

17. Arachne's character flaw was her
    a. inability to weave.
    b. inclination to kill herself.
    c. hubris.
    d. avarice.

18. This story represents the kind of myth known as
    a. aetiology.
    b. war story cycle.
    c. blood vengeance.
    d. divine intervention.