

2012 NJCL
DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION
Levels ½ and I – Boys

Subitō magna pestilentia terram invāsit. Incolae aegrī erant neque iam in agrīs labōrābant. Dēnique haec pestilentia omnēs hominēs necāvit. Iam terra nūllōs incolās habēbat.

Rēx Aeacus benignus maximē dolēbat. Sine morā ad templum Iovis properāvit. Ante āram ita ōrāvit: "Ō Iuppiter, magna pestilentia populum meum necāvit. Aut dā mihi populum novum aut necā mē quoque!"

Prope templum erat alta quercus. In rāmīs erant multae formīcae, quae cibum portābant.

Noctū Aeacus in somniō formīcās videt, quae per rāmōs ambulant et ā rāmīs cadunt, ubi in virōs et in fēminās mūtantur.

“Aeacus et Formīcae,” *Using Latin I* (1948), p. 146, adapted and abridged

Suddenly a great plague invaded the land. The inhabitants were sick and no longer worked in the fields. Finally this plague killed all the people. Now the earth had no inhabitants.

Kindly King Aeacus was especially upset. Without delay he hurried to the temple of Jupiter. Before the altar he prayed thus: "O Jupiter, a great plague has killed my people. Either give me new people or kill me also!"

Near the temple was a tall oak tree. In its branches were many ants, which were carrying food.

In a dream at night Aeacus sees the ants, which walk through the branches and fall from the branches, where they are turned into men and into woman.