

CLOUD-EATER: A NATIVE AMERICAN FOLKTALE

A boy, *Ahaiyuta* (ah-high-YOU-tah), *confronts a destructive monster, Cloud-Eater.*

Cloud-Eater = **Nūbedāx**

Ōlim mōnstrum, nōmine Nūbedāx, in magnō monte orientālī habitābat. Semper ēsuriēbat. Itaque cotīdiē, prīmā lūce in summō monte stābat, ōs ingēns aperiēbat, et quemque nūbem appārentem dēvorābat. Sine nūbibus, imber nōn cecidit, et mox terra ārida fiēbat. Multīs post mēnsibus, adhūc imber nōn vēnit. Itaque hominēs sē esse in magnō periculō, Nūbedāce vīvente, putābant.

- 1 **orientālī** = eastern
 2
 3 **imber** = rain
 4
 5
 6 **aviā** = grandmother; **occidentī** = western
 7 **siccitāte** = drought
 8
 9
 10
 11 **pennās** = feathers

Puer, nōmine Ahaiyūta, cum aviā in terrā occidentī habitābat. Erat fortissimus, sicut pater suus, Sōl, et celerrimus, sicut cervus. Cum aviam anxiam dē siccitāte audīvisset, inquit, “Ad illum montem ībō, et Nūbedācem necābō. Tum imbrēs venient et hominēs nostrī salvī laetīque erunt.”

“Cavē!” monuit avia. “Etiam bellātōrēs fortissimī contrā hunc hostem impotentēs factī sunt.” Cum Ahaiyūta proficīscerētur, avia eī pennās magicās dedit.

- According to lines 2-3 (*prīmā lūce...dēvorābat*), what does Nubedax **NOT** do every day? A) stand on the mountain B) visit the townspeople C) open his mouth D) devour clouds
- Nubedax lived on a mountain. In Roman history, on which mountain near the bay of Naples, did Spartacus place his camp and hide his comrades? A) Alps B) Atlas C) Vesuvius D) Etna
- In lines 3-4, what effect does Nubedax’s presence have on the community? A) Their fields become dry. B) They plant new crops. C) The people pray to the gods. D) They move to the mountain.
- In lines 4-5, what do the people think will happen if Nubedax continues to live? A) The entire valley will flood. B) Nubedax will continue to grow. C) Nubedax will cover the land in darkness. D) They will experience great danger.
- We learn that Ahaiyuta’s father is Sol. If this story were set in ancient Rome, which deity might Ahaiyuta call his father? A) Saturn B) Apollo C) Mercury D) Neptune
- What does the grandmother do that drives Ahaiyuta to take action against Nubedax (lines 7-8)? A) asks her grandson to help B) expresses her worry about the drought C) vows to destroy Nubedax on her own D) speaks to Ahaiyuta’s father
- In lines 10-11, what does the grandmother say happened to warriors when they fought Nubedax? A) They became powerless. B) They turned on their allies. C) They were distracted by hunger. D) They lost their memories.

The story continues as Ahaiyuta meets a helpful gopher.

Sōle fulgente, Ahaiyūta sitiēbat et ēsuriēbat et dēfessus fiēbat. Mox marmotae prope cavum suum stantī occurrit. Pennā magicā ūsus, Ahaiyūta sē cōntrāxit ut minimus sicut marmota fieret. Marmota inquit, “Venī in cavum meum, tum montī Nūbedācis appropinquāre poteris.” Ahaiyūta marmotam secūtus est dōnec suprā Nūbedācem gravius dormientem audīre potuērunt. Tum marmota Nūbedācī appropinquāvit et prope cor pellem abrōsit et, “Celeriter,” inquit, “mitte sagittam in cor!” Cum Ahaiyūta sagittam mīsisset, Nūbedāx ululāvit et clāmandō terram concussit.

- gopher* = **marmota**
 12 **sitiēbat** = was thirsty
 13 **cōntrāxit** = shrank
 14
 15
 16
 17 **pellem abrōsit** = gnawed away the fur
 18
 19 **concussit** = shook
 20
 21



Itinere domum vix inceptō, iam pluēbat. Mox via in rīvum mūtāta est. Ahaiyūta rīsīt, nam labōrem perfēcerat et sē nōtissimum omnium futūrum esse cognōvit.

Inspired by a Native American Folktale

- In line 12, how is Ahaiyuta feeling (*Ahaiyūta...fīēbat*)? A) confused B) excited C) exhausted D) courageous
- Where does Ahaiyuta meet the gopher? A) near the river B) in his grandmother’s house C) hiding under a bush D) near a hole
- Whom does the word *stantī* (line 13) describe? A) Ahaiyuta B) Nubedax C) the gopher D) the grandmother
- How is *ut minimus sicut marmota fīeret* (lines 13-14) best translated? A) as he was very small like a gopher B) so very small like a gopher C) when he was very small like a gopher D) to become very small like a gopher
- Why does the gopher invite Ahaiyuta into his home (lines 14-15)? A) to help Ahaiyuta get closer to Nubedax’s mountain B) to allow Ahaiyuta to speak with his family C) to give Ahaiyuta a magical weapon D) to let Ahaiyuta cool off from the sun
- Consequence**, **sequel**, and **pursue** all come from the same Latin word, of which *secūtus est* (line 15) is a form. What is the meaning of that Latin word? A) write B) run C) follow D) use
- In lines 15-16, how do Ahaiyuta and the gopher know that they have reached the home of Nubedax? A) They feel the dampness of the den. B) They smell Nubedax’s feet. C) They see Nubedax’s footprints. D) They hear Nubedax snoring.
- What does the gopher do to ensure that Ahaiyuta’s attack on Nubedax is successful (lines 16-17)? A) He enchants Ahaiyuta’s sword. B) He uncovers Nubedax’s heart. C) He makes Nubedax fall asleep. D) He sharpens Ahaiyuta’s arrows.
- What action does the gopher tell Ahaiyuta to take against Nubedax (lines 17-18)? A) Shoot him with an arrow! B) Draw your sword! C) Strike him with his fist! D) Use the magic feather!

17. What happens as soon as Ahaiyuta begins his journey home? A) He is no longer hungry. B) The magic feather vanishes. C) Rain begins to fall. D) The gopher decides to join him.
18. Which of the following Latin mottoes best exemplifies the message of the story? A) *Fortūna audācēs iuvat* B) *Esse quam vidērī* C) *Caveat ēmptor* D) *Flamma fūmō proxima est*

JASON ACCOMPLISHES HIS TASK

King Aeetes of Colchis has Jason perform a heroic labor.

Ōlim Aeētes, rēx Colchidis, Iāsonī imperāvit ut magnum agrum ūnō diē arāret et ibi dentēs dracōnis sereret. Iāsōn ā Mēdēā, filiā sapientī rēgis, auxiliū petīvit. Haec unguentum magicum ex herbīs montānīs factum ēī dedit. Mox unguentum et corpus et mentem Iāsonis ad labōrem cōnficiendum firmābat.

Ortā lūce, Iāsōn magnum stabulum invēnit, in quō duo taurī ingentēs inclūsī erant. Tum hōs taurōs speciē horribilī, quī flammās ex nāsīs efflābant, in lūcem trāxit, et summā cum difficultāte iugum eis imposuit. At Aeētes, cum vidēret eum taurōs ingentēs superāre posse, magnopere mīrātus est. Ipse enim nesciēbat filiam suam auxiliū ēī dedisse. Tum Iāsōn agrum arāre coepit.

Ante meridiem tōtum opus mīrificē cōnfēcit. Hōc factō, Iāsōn ad rēgem adiit et dentēs dracōnis quaesīvit. Hōs dentēs in agrō quem arāverat magnā cum dīligentiā seruit. In eō locō ubi dentēs positī erant, virī armātī, ut dīcunt, subitō ē terrā modō mirābilī surrēxērunt. Saxō in mediōs ā Iāsone iactō, hī virī, nunc cōnfūsī, inter sē ad mortem pugnābant. Itaque Iāsōn triumphāns labōrem periculōsum sibī nullō vulnere cōnfēcit.

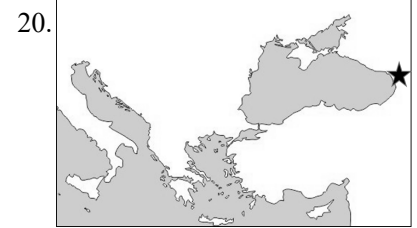
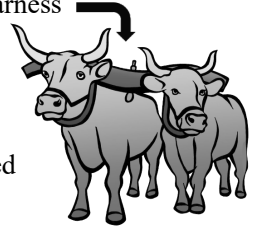
Adapted from Ritchie's *Fabulae Faciles*

19. According to lines 1-2, what was Jason ordered to do within one day? A) run a race B) complete a task C) appear before the king D) make a long journey
20. Colchis, King Aeetes' realm, marked by a star in the map to the right, was situated on what sea? A) the Adriatic Sea B) the Aegean Sea C) the Black Sea D) the Ionian Sea
21. What did Jason need to do next (line 2)? A) fight the king B) grow a beard C) help Medea D) plant teeth
22. Medea is characterized as what kind of person in lines 2-3? A) wise and helpful B) angry and dangerous C) loving and sweet D) fearful and anxious
23. What is the best meaning of *factum* in the context of line 3? A) deed B) fact C) perform D) made
24. From where did Medea get the herbs (line 3)? A) the forest B) the fields C) the mountains D) the ocean
25. According to lines 3-4, what effect did the magic ointment have? A) It helped the crops of the field grow quickly. B) It made Jason stronger and more confident. C) It made Jason fall in love with Medea. D) It made King Aeetes young again.
26. What is the best translation of *et corpus et mentem* (line 4)? A) both body and mind B) neither body nor mind C) either body or mind D) in body but not in mind
27. At what time of day did Jason find the stable (line 5)? A) at sunset B) midday C) at dawn D) at midnight
28. In lines 5-7, why was it very difficult for Jason to join the bulls to the plow? A) He was feeling weak and tired. B) He dropped the magic ointment. C) The plow was broken. D) The bulls were huge and menacing.
29. To whom or to what does *eīs* (line 7) refer? A) the bulls B) Jason and Medea C) King Aeetes D) the yoke
30. In lines 7-8 (*At Aeētes...mīrātus est*), why was Aeetes amazed? A) The ointment made Jason invisible. B) Jason overcame the bulls. C) Medea yoked the bulls to her chariot. D) The bulls easily defeated an army.
31. To whom or to what does *Ipse* refer (line 8)? A) Medea B) Jason C) one of the bulls D) King Aeetes
32. What else contributed to Aeetes' amazement (lines 8-9)? A) Aeetes thought the field was full of stones. B) Aeetes didn't realize Medea had helped Jason. C) The field was larger than Aeetes thought. D) Jason plowed half of the field with his bare hands.
33. What two-word phrase in line 10 is often abbreviated in English to mean "in the morning"? A) *Ante meridiem* B) *tōtum opus* C) *Hōc factō* D) *ad rēgem*
34. What phrase indicates that the springing up of men was "rumored" to happen? A) *In eō locō* (line 12) B) *virī armātī* (line 12) C) *ut dīcunt* (line 12) D) *subitō ē terrā* (line 12)
35. According to lines 13-14, what caused the soldiers to fight among themselves? A) a nasty insult B) a thrown rock C) a golden treasure D) the fiery bulls
36. What do we learn at the end of the passage (lines 14-15)? A) Jason is unharmed and successful. B) Jason is helped by the gods. C) Medea slays the bulls. D) Aeetes hands over his crown.

- 1 **ut...arāret** = to plow
2 **ut...sereret** = to plant
3 **unguentum** = ointment

7 **iugum** = yoke / harness

12 **seruit** = He planted



Note: This exam has only 36 questions. Please leave answers 37-40 blank on the answer sheet.