

Name: _____ Pd. _____ Date: _____

Syntax and Diction Challenges

Challenge #1: *Combine the following sets of information into one coherent, complex sentence.*

1. Helen's father was Tyndareus.
Helen's father forced her suitors to sign a contract.
Helen's father made them promise to protect Helen and the suitor he chose.
Helen's father chose Menelaus to marry Helen.

Possible Answers

- Before choosing Menelaus to marry his daughter, Helen, Tyndareus forced all her suitors to sign a contract in which they promised to protect Helen and whichever suitor he chose.
 - After forcing all of his daughter's suitors to sign a contract promising to protect Helen and her husband, Tyndareus chose Menelaus to marry Helen.
 - Helen's father, Tyndareus, made all his daughter's suitors sign a contract before he chose Menelaus as her husband; the contract ensured the suitors would protect Helen and her husband.
2. Odysseus had signed the contract.
Menelaus came to ask Odysseus to fight.
Odysseus pretended to be insane.
Odysseus did not want to fight in the Trojan War.
Odysseus was plowing his crops.
Odysseus was naked.
Odysseus was plowing his fields with salt.
 3. Menelaus saw Odysseus acting crazy.
Menelaus did not believe Odysseus was insane.
Menelaus decided to trick Odysseus.
Menelaus placed Odysseus's son in front of the plow.
Odysseus's son was named Telemachus.
Odysseus stopped plowing.
Menelaus knew Odysseus was pretending to be insane.
 4. Thetis knew Achilles would not return from Troy.
Thetis told Achilles not to go.
Achilles dressed up as a girl.
Odysseus knew Achilles was hiding.
Odysseus sold weapons.
A girl bought a sword from Odysseus.
Odysseus knew the girl was Achilles.

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Challenge #2: *Without using any of the following verbs, write at least one paragraph in which you characterize Achilles and Odysseus based on their actions.*

is	are	was	were	am	be
been	do	did	does	shall	should
may	might	must	have	has	had
	can	could	will	would	