

PROJECT

LIFE IN ANCIENT GREECE



CHARACTER: **MELANIA**

TASK 1/5

My name is Melania, and I am 35 years old. I work with my hands, with care and passion. In my small workshop, on a quiet street in Athens, I make musical instruments: mainly lyres and auloi. People say that my instruments sound as if they have a soul, and that fills me with pride. I do not seek fame, but musicians from all over the city come to me to order unique pieces.

I am not very talkative; I prefer the silence of the workshop, the smell of freshly cut wood, and the soft singing that sometimes escapes my lips while I work. I like to think that each instrument carries a little piece of my soul. I polish every string, every mouthpiece, every part, until everything sounds exactly as it should. Some say I am too much of a perfectionist... but music deserves it.

Sometimes, while I work, I imagine a young poet playing my lyre under an olive tree, or a young woman making my aulos sing at a festival. Then I smile and work even harder. Because in every note that sounds, there will also be a piece of my voice.



- **NAME**
Melania
- **OCCUPATION**
Musical instruments
craftswoman
- **AGE**
35 years old
- **RESIDENCE**
Middle-class neighborhood
of Athens

1 ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

Where does Melania live?

What does Melania do for living?

What does she like or worry about?

Do you like her or not? why?

What question would you ask her if you met her?

2 WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What instrument would you like to create with your own hands?



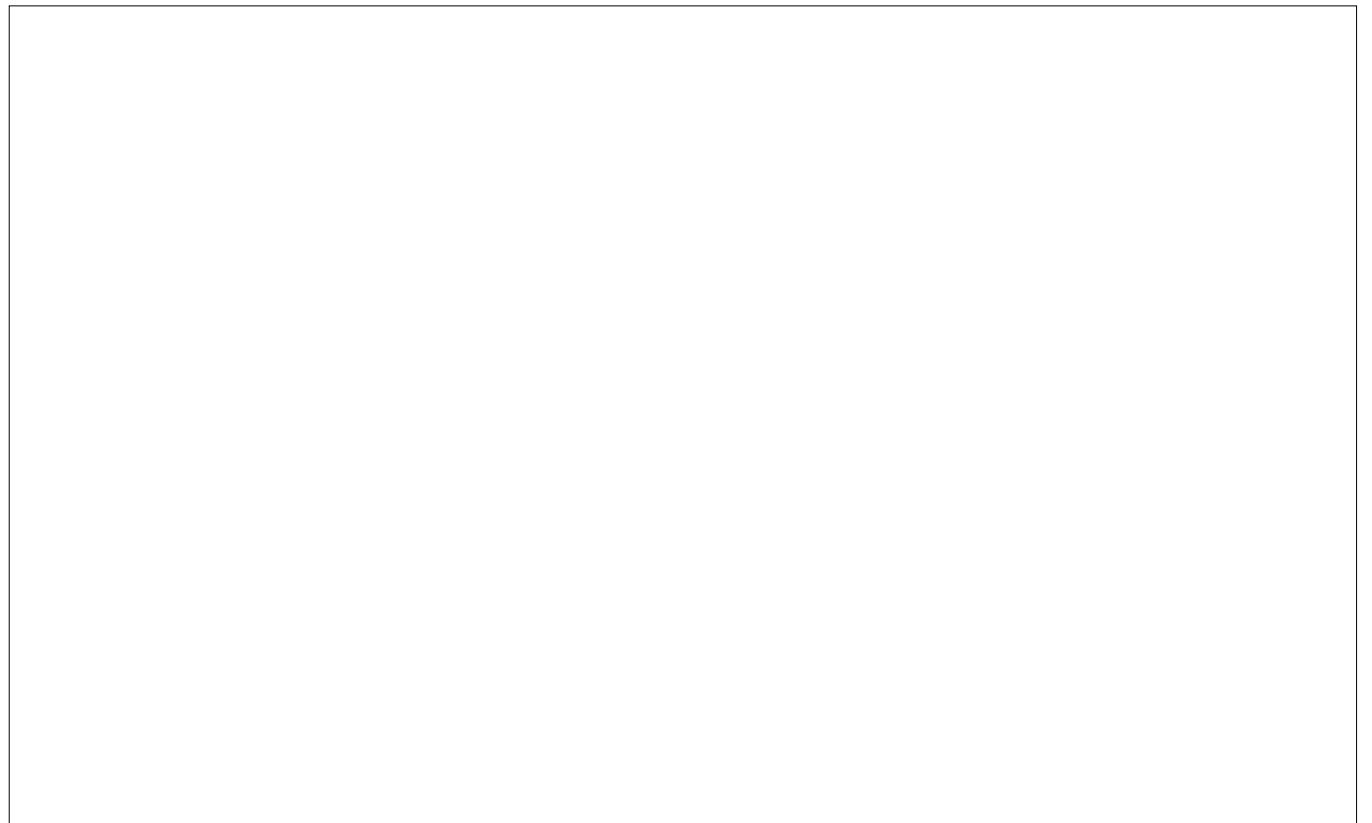
Do you think it's important to pay attention to details in handcrafted work?

What sounds do you think can be heard in Melania's workshop?

Is technique or emotion more important when making music?

3 LET YOUR IMAGINATION FLY: DRAW

Make a miniature drawing of Melania in her workshop. Is she sitting down carving a lyre? Are there tools around her? Is she alone or is there a customer watching? Does she have a focused or relaxed expression? Show the artisanal and musical atmosphere around her.



4 LET YOUR IMAGINATION FLY: WRITE

What might Melania say while tuning a lyre or when she finishes an instrument she's satisfied with?
