



1 CARTOONS WITH DILEMMAS

Imagine what Demetrios might think in these situations. Write what you think he would do or feel in each case:

Phidias asks the builders to work extra hours to finish an important part of the Parthenon. Menesicles is exhausted, but he knows that building the temple is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. What will he do?

A young apprentice accidentally breaks a block of marble. Some workers make fun of him. Will Menesicles join in the teasing or support him?

He hears some wealthy citizens say that builders are "vulgar and worthless people." How will Menesicles feel? Will he speak up or choose to remain silent?

2 MENESICLES' FEELINGS

What does Menesicles feel when...? Write one sentence for each situation, as if you were Menesicles.

- ..he finishes raising a column after days of hard work.

- ...he sees that the sculptors receive praise and the builders do not.

- ...he imagines the beauty the Parthenon will have when it is finished.

- ...he arrives home tired and his children run to hug him.

- ...he dreams of a peaceful life in a small house in the countryside.



3 CREATIVE ACTIVITY: A PERSONAL LETTER

Imagine that Menesicles writes a letter to a friend who works in another trade (for example, a potter or a sailor), telling him how he feels about building the Parthenon. You can start like this. Continue the letter talking about the effort, the pride, the dreams, and the difficulties of the job.

Dear friend, today I worked under the Athenian sun, placing stones heavier than a man. Sometimes every muscle in my body aches, but I also feel something else: the thrill of knowing that our hands are shaping something that will last longer than we will...

[illegible]