

LIFE IN ANCIENT GREECE



CHARACTER: FILIPIDES

TASK 1/5

My name is Pheidippides, I am 30 years old, and I am a hemerodromos: a messenger of the army who runs long distances to deliver important news. I don't have much time to talk, because I am almost always running. I trained from a young age to endure the heat, the hills, the stones... and the exhaustion. Speed is part of my life, but so are discipline and endurance. Some say I am like a shadow that passes quickly and silently along the roads of Greece.

I come from the Battle of Marathon, where our soldiers fought bravely against the Persians. As soon as the battle ended, I was entrusted with carrying the news to Athens. It is an enormous responsibility. Every step I take, every drop of sweat, is for the safety of my city. My body aches, but I will not stop. In my mind, there is only one phrase: "We have won!"



- **NAME**
Pheidippides
- **OCCUPATION**
Army messenger (hemerodrome)
- **AGE**
30 years old
- **RESIDENCE**
Athenian army camp on the outskirts

1 ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

How important is the news that Pheidippides has to deliver to Athens?

Why does Pheidippides almost never have time to talk to others?

What is Pheidippides' job, and what skills does he need to do it well?

What does the phrase "We have won!" mean to him?

What question would you ask him if you met him?

2 WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Would you like to have a job like Pheidippides'?

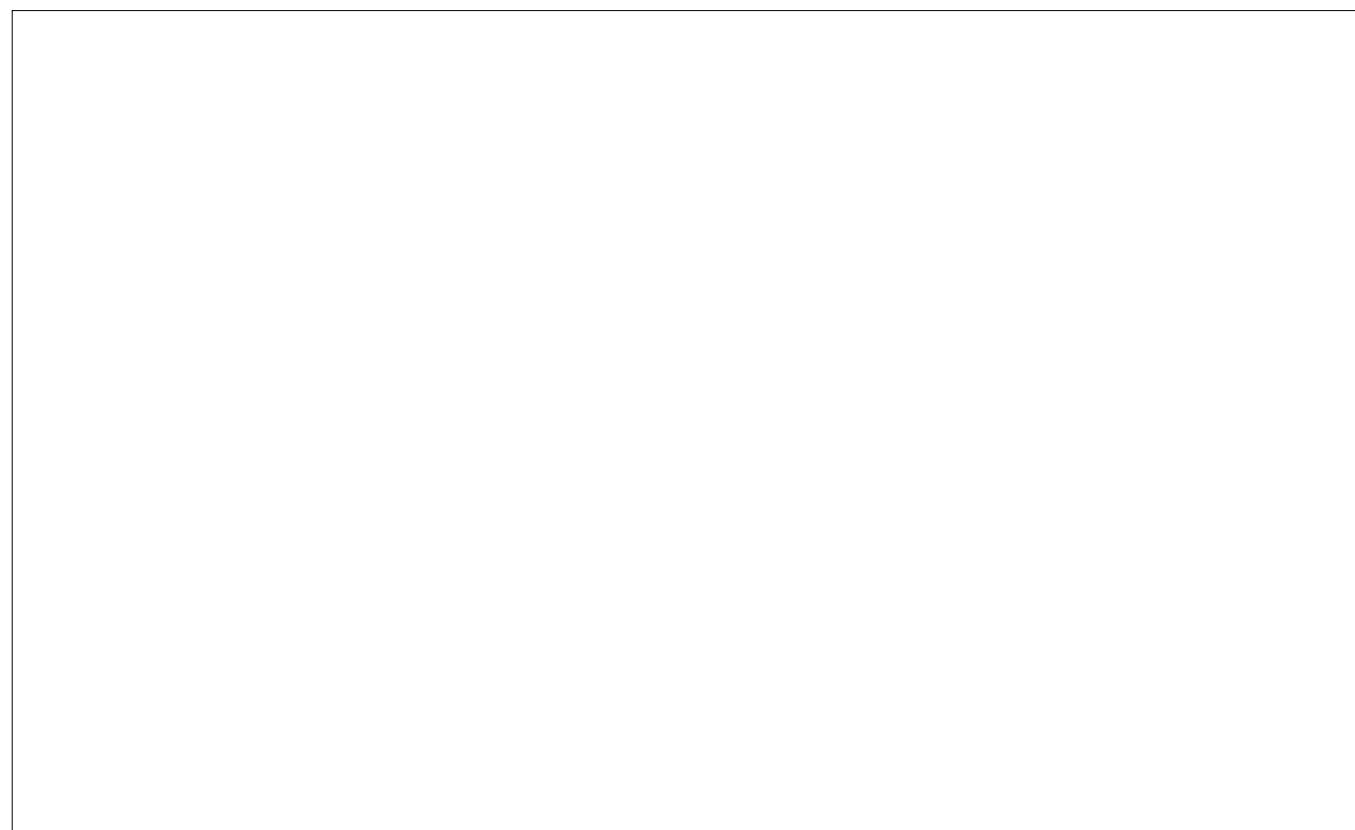


What do you think is harder: fighting in battle or running for hours with an urgent message?

Do you think there are people today with the same bravery and dedication?

3 LET YOUR IMAGINATION FLY: DRAW

Draw the path that Pheidippides travels. Imagine the landscape between Marathon and Athens. Are there mountains, fields, rivers, or forests? Is it hot? Will he meet other soldiers or travel alone? Represent the journey of this tireless messenger in a drawing.



4 LET YOUR IMAGINATION FLY: WRITE

Write a sentence he might say:
