

**\*Instruction: Parents please ensure that the child reads the summary and the chapter twice before attempting the exercises given below.**

Summary of the chapter: This story is about Greek mythological gods and goddesses. The main characters are Ceres, Proserpine, Pluto, Jupiter and Mercury. Pluto falls in love with Proserpine and abducts her. Ceres unaware of the incident, searches her daughter. On not being able to find Proserpine, she walks on the earth making a desert at every step. She goes to Jupiter and asks him to help her. Worried Jupiter sent his son, Mercury to sort out this matter. Mercury succeeds in convincing Pluto to send Proserpine to her mother. Pluto agrees on a condition that Proserpine will have to live with him for four months while she can remain at her mother's place for rest of the year. It is believed that the four seasons came into being because of this deal. This story also gives glimpse of the gods who live up in the heavens- handsome and beautiful and god of the underworld-dark and scary.

According to Greek and Roman mythology, their gods and goddesses lived on top of Mt. Olympus in Greece. It is said that they were **immortal** and were ruled by Jupiter, the king of the heavens. Each god and goddess was given charge of some work to do in heaven or on earth.

Proserpine (*Pro/ser/pine*) was the beautiful daughter of Ceres, (*Sae/res*) Goddess of agriculture and harvest on earth. Both loved each other very much and enjoyed being together. But Ceres would be busy the entire day and return to the loving arms of her darling daughter only in the evenings. While Ceres was away, Proserpine would amuse herself playing with her nymph companions and would hurry home in order to welcome her dear mother, as she returned home after seeing to the crops across the earth.

One fine day, Proserpine and her nymph friends were plucking violets and daisies by the lake, to make garlands with. Proserpine, with her blue eyes and golden hair shining in the bright sunlight, was laughing with delight as she ran to the other side of the lake, leaving her friends far behind.



It was at that moment that Pluto, the dark and handsome God of the Underworld, happened to set his eyes upon her, and it was at that moment that he fell in love with her! He was riding that way on his chariot, drawn by four black horses, when he first saw her.

"How beautiful she is!" Pluto cried out. "I will take her away. She will be my wife, the Queen of the Underworld," he decided.

Quick as lightning, Pluto drove his chariot close to her, scooped her into his arms, threw the startled girl on the seat of his chariot and hurled it down into the darkest depths of the underworld, taking the lovely Proserpine with him.

The other maidens, unaware of what had happened, looked for her, then deciding that she must have gone home, went away too.

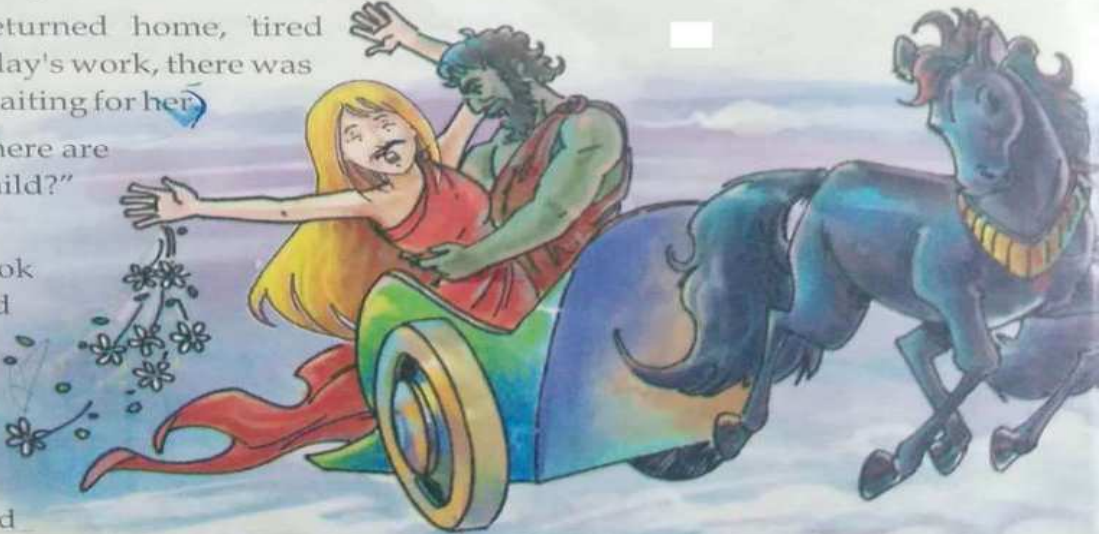
When Ceres returned home, tired after the whole day's work, there was no Proserpine waiting for her.

"Proserpine, where are you, my dear child?" she called out.

She began to look for her here and there. Not finding her at home, she searched the entire neighbourhood

but she could not find her daughter anywhere. It seemed as if Proserpine had vanished into thin air!

Flaming torch in hand, eyes streaming with tears, the sorrowing mother sought her daughter throughout the earth. Not a blade of grass grew, nor any corn, nor any fruits or flowers. She walked the earth, making a desert at every step. After having searched for her in every corner of the earth, Ceres fell down on her knees and cried out for help to Jupiter.



[To be continued in the next worksheet]

**EXERCISE 1-** Complete the following sentences:-

1. The gods and goddesses were ruled by \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Ceres was the Goddess of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Pluto was riding past on his \_\_\_\_\_ when he first saw \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Not a \_\_\_\_\_ of grass grew, nor any \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
5. When Ceres returned home and found Proserpine missing, she \_\_\_\_\_.

**EXERCISE 2-** Answer the following with reference to the context:

"I will take her away....."

1. Who is the speaker?
2. Describe the speaker.
3. Who is 'her'? Describe 'her'.

EXERCISE 3- Answer in one word:

1. Who was the king of the heavens?
2. Who ran to the other side of the lake?
3. Who fell in love with Proserpine?
4. Who cried out for help to Jupiter?
5. How many horses were drawing the chariot?

EXERCISE 4: Make sentences:

Amused, delight, startled, unaware, vanished

EXERCISE 5: Write and learn the following long question and answers:

**Q1.)** How would Ceres and Proserpine spend the day away from each other?

**A1.)** Ceres would be busy the entire day and return to the loving arms of her darling daughter only in the evenings. While Ceres was away, Proserpine would amuse herself playing with her nymph companions and would hurry home in order to welcome her dear mother, as she returned home after seeing the crops across the earth.

**Q2.)** Why did Proserpine's companions not know what had happened?

**A2.)** Proserpine's companions did not know what had happened because while plucking the flowers, Proserpine ran to the other side of the lake leaving her friends far behind and then, from there Pluto took Proserpine into the darkest depths of the underworld. Her friends looked for her then deciding that she must have gone home, went away too.

**Q3.)** How is the mother described in the story as she searches for her daughter throughout the earth? Why do we feel sorry for her?

**A3.)** A flaming torch in her hand, eyes flowing with tears, the sorrowing mother searched for her daughter throughout the earth. She walked the earth, making a desert at every step. We feel sorry for her because when she failed to find her daughter, the goddess fell on her knees and begged desperately for help to the king of the gods, Jupiter.

**END**

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