

DESCRIBING CHARACTERS

Guided Instruction

RL.3.3

WORDS TO KNOW

approaching
expert
murmur
offering

Think about details that help you **understand characters** and why they do what they do.

CITE EVIDENCE

A Each **character** has **feelings, qualities, or motivations** that help explain how he or she acts. Underline the words in paragraph 1 that tell how the king is feeling.

B In paragraph 2, circle the sentence that explains why Artemis sent the boar. Folktales and myths often have fantastical creatures in them. Which other story in this unit features a giant creature?



Atalanta the Huntress

(Genre: Myth)

- 1 In troubled days, when the tribes were on the edge of war, King Oineus made **offerings** to the gods with a heavy heart. To the goddess of the harvest, he gave the first fruits of the field. To the god of grapes, he poured fine wine. To the goddess of wisdom, he offered shimmering oil from her sacred trees. To each god who dwells on Mount Olympus, the king gave what was fitting—except one. Full of worries, he forgot to offer flowers to Artemis, goddess of the hunt.
- 2 The goddess was offended. In anger, she sent a giant boar to the land around the city. The great boar ran wild. It tore up crops and farms. It chased the dogs and ruined the herds. It attacked farmers and travelers alike. Brave men did their best to put an end to the terror. They failed, one after another. The king was too old to go after the beast. And his good son, Meleager, was away on another adventure. Now the people were afraid. What was the king to do?