

THE TROY PLOY

By War Correspondent **Ares**

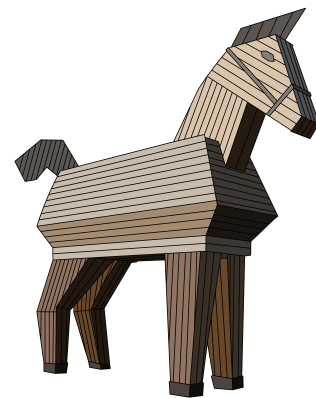
Yesterday, the brave Greek army finally gained entry into Troy in a daring act of subterfuge. An end to the war finally appears to be in sight after 10 years of endless fighting. A full-scale battle is currently being waged inside the walls of Troy, but our sources tell us that the Greek soldiers are on top.

Finding a way to breach the gates of Troy has been an aim for the Greek army for a long time. Unfortunately, the cowardly soldiers of Troy have hidden away behind their walls.

The leader of the Greek army is the mighty Agamemnon. He said last week, "Something needs to be done soon. Their scoundrel of a prince kidnapped my brother's wife, Helen. We've had to fight for nearly a decade to get her back. I want the people of Greece to know we have a cunning plan that I think will end this once and for all."

Keeping this plan a secret was a top priority for Agamemnon and his allies. There were concerns when the army retreated from Troy and sailed to Tenedos. Ultimately, this was all part of the scheme.

Once the citizens of Troy were convinced that the Greeks had retreated, a courageous Greek named Sinon delivered a giant wooden horse. The horse had been carved by the esteemed carpenter Epeius and was presented as a gift honouring Athena.



The horse was wheeled into the city just before dusk. It wasn't until later that the real plan revealed itself. A dozen Greek soldiers had been carefully hidden inside the horse's belly ready to escape.

While all this had been taking place, the Greek army had surreptitiously returned to Troy. The hidden soldiers then unlocked the city gates from the inside. The Greek army had finally gained entry into Troy.

Our reporters managed to catch up with some of the fleeing Trojans. One said that he was sorry for the trouble they'd caused. He added that the plan had been rather good. However, he'd have preferred not to be woken up in the middle of the night by a raging horde.

Helen was rescued just after midnight and returned safely to her husband. The happy couple has said that they will issue a statement at a later date.

We have reached out to the King of Troy for comment, but so far he hasn't responded. There are rumours that this is because he is dead. We will bring you news of any changes as soon as we get it.

INFERENCE FOCUS

1. How does the reporter feel about the Greek army? How do you know this?
2. How does the reporter feel about the Trojan army? How do you know this?
3. Why were there concerns when the army retreated to Tenedos?
4. Why was Sinon “courageous”?
5. When the fleeing Trojan was interviewed, he said he was sorry for the trouble the caused.
What did he mean?

VIPERS QUESTIONS

V

What does the word “surreptitiously” tell you about how the Greeks returned?

S

What happened after the horse had been wheeled into the town?

V

Write a definition for “subterfuge”.

R

What relation was Helen to Agamemnon?

R

What was Epeius’s job?

Answers:

1. The reporter thinks they are “brave”
2. The reporter thinks that the Trojans are “cowardly”
3. People would have thought the Greeks were leaving the battle and the Trojans had won
4. He had to deliver the horse to enemy alone. They might have killed him
5. He was sorry that they had kidnapped Helen and started the war

V: They did it secretly without anybody noticing

S: The soldiers left the horse and opened the gate for the army

V: To trick somebody or use a sneaky method (or similar)

R: His brother’s wife (or sister-in-law)

R: A carpenter