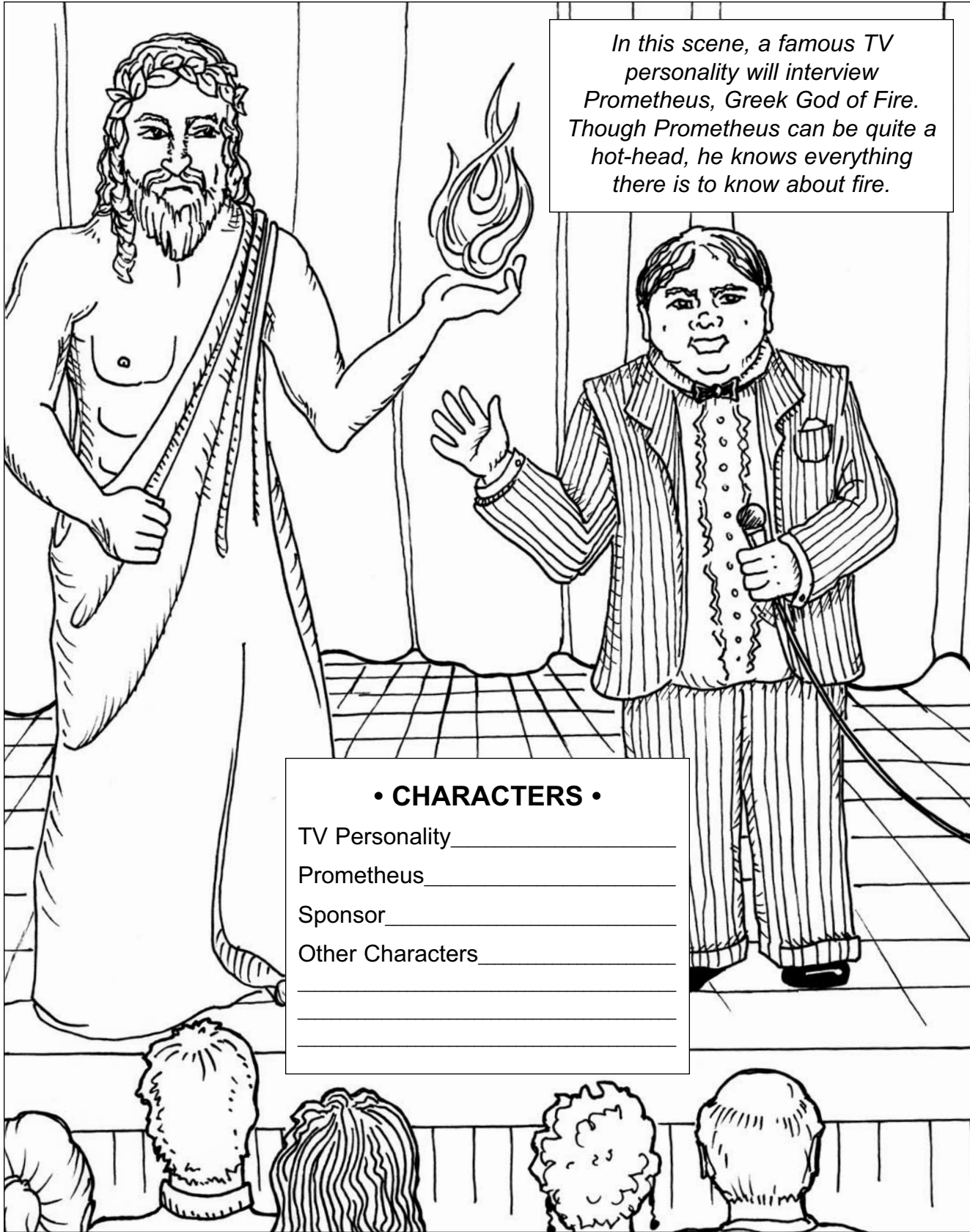


SCENE 1 SCRIPT

THE LAWS OF FIRE *(Interview with Prometheus, Greek God of Fire)*



In this scene, a famous TV personality will interview Prometheus, Greek God of Fire. Though Prometheus can be quite a hot-head, he knows everything there is to know about fire.

• CHARACTERS •
 TV Personality _____
 Prometheus _____
 Sponsor _____
 Other Characters _____

SCENE 1 SCRIPT

TV Personality Good morning to all of you. I'm sure that you will be excited to know that, because I am so famous, I have been promised a rare interview with a real Greek god. Yep, you heard me, straight from the days of Zeus and the first Olympic games...

It is my pleasure to introduce my guest, Prometheus, God of Fire.

Prometheus *(Stands silently.)*

TV Personality The strong silent type I see.

Prometheus *(Stands silently.)*

TV Personality Okay. Well maybe you could tell us a little bit about how you invented fire.

Prometheus *(Irritated.)* Let's get this straight. As far as I know, fire just is. No one "invented" it. What I did was give it to humans without Zeus's permission.

TV Personality *(Turning to audience.)* Sounds like a bit of a hot head *(laughter)*. Well you probably didn't make friends with Zeus that way.

Prometheus *(Irritated.)* Do you know anything about me? Hundreds of years chained to a rock by Zeus himself? I mean really. Don't you prepare for your interviews?

TV Personality *(Looking down at note cards.)* Well, I do have something written down about you giving people the alphabet. I was wondering, did you write the song, too? You know, "ABCDEFG..." *(in singing voice)*.

Prometheus *(Frustrated.)* No I didn't write the song, but I did give people other things like numbers and art. And I taught them how to farm and tell the seasons by the stars.

TV Personality Wow! You must be pretty smart. I bet you have some good stories.

Prometheus *(In a serious tone.)* I could tell you plenty of stories about hope and suffering and heroes and villains, but I really came to talk about fire.

TV Personality The heroes and villains stuff sounds more interesting.

Prometheus Listen. I gave people fire, but I never really told them much about it. It's been bothering me and I want to explain the laws of fire.

TV Personality What do you mean when you say "The Laws of Fire?"

Prometheus Just like parents have rules that determine the way children behave, nature has laws that determine the way fires behave. Unlike a parent's rules though, nature's laws can't be broken. The laws are very important to understand if you want to use fire safely.

TV Personality Well, then, you better get on with it.

SCENE 1 SCRIPT

- Prometheus**First, fire is a natural process. It was part of nature well before humans began to use it. It is also a very powerful force. It is powerful because it can very quickly change materials. It takes the chemical energy in a material and changes it into heat, making fire very hot.
- TV Personality**Hold on Mr. God of Fire. You're using some big words. I mean, I know what heat is, but what is chemical energy?
- Prometheus**An easy way to think of chemical energy is to think of it as the energy that holds things together. Food, for example a carrot, has a lot of chemical energy. When you eat a carrot, your body gets energy by breaking down the bonds that hold the carrot together. Fire gets energy by breaking down the bonds that hold materials, like wood, together.
- TV Personality**Does that explain why there are only ashes left after you have a campfire. I mean, I always wonder, "Where did all of the wood go?"
- Prometheus**Exactly. Most of the wood is changed into heat energy. The ashes are the part of the wood that didn't change into heat. It is a really simple way to think about how fire can change materials.
- TV Personality**The idea that fire makes heat from the energy that holds materials together makes sense, but I guess I'm still confused about the laws you talked about. You know, like what laws determine how a fire starts and stops.
- Prometheus**The law of fire behavior is called "The Fire Triangle." (*Prometheus moves from where he is standing and draws a triangle on the board.*) It is a triangle because fire needs three things to exist: heat, oxygen, and fuel. Each of these things is a side of the triangle (*labels each side*). If you take any side away, fire cannot exist.
- TV Personality**Well that is interesting, but I'm a bit confused. What do you mean when you say, "take them away?"
- Prometheus**Picture a campfire (*draws a campfire in the middle of the triangle*). To have a campfire, you need wood and matches. Wood is the fuel (*pointing to the fuel side of the triangle*) and the match is the heat (*pointing to the heat side of the triangle*).
- TV Personality**But what about the third side of the triangle, oxygen?
- Prometheus**Oxygen is in the air all around us. It is what we breathe. The fire takes the oxygen from the air.
- TV Personality**Okay. So you get the fire started, then how do you put it out?

SCENE 1 SCRIPT

- Prometheus** Good question. You can take away any of the three sides of the triangle – oxygen, heat, or fuel. The easiest way to put out a campfire is to take away the fuel and the heat. You can take away the heat by dumping water on the fire – water absorbs a lot of heat. And you can take away the fuel by making sure that there is nothing near the fire that can burn.
- TV Personality** Well that is great information Prometheus, but we are running out of time here...
- Prometheus** *(Interrupting.)* But I have more to tell you.
- TV Personality** Sorry, but it's time to break for a commercial...
- Prometheus** *(Rushed.)* But I need to tell you about the Law of Responsible Use! Fire can be dangerous. It can destroy homes. And it can also be helpful. It is part of nature.
- TV Personality** Thanks Prometheus. Great having you on the show! And now a word from our sponsors.
- Prometheus** *(In desperation while MC escorts him off of the stage.)* But I'm a God. I suffered for hundreds of years at the hands of Zeus for helping you. You can't just cut me off like...
- Sponsor** Do you ever notice in the summer that some people's feet are much whiter than the rest of their legs? Let the days of embarrassing white feet be over, with TanToes – an all new revolutionary...

• END SCENE 1 •

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the Law of Fire Behavior?
 Explain the fire triangle using the example of a campfire.
 What was Prometheus trying to say before he was escorted off of the stage?
 What do you think the Law of Responsible Use is?