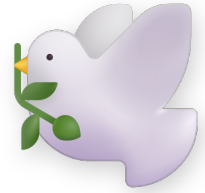




Read each myth or legend carefully. Use details from the passage to answer the questions in complete sentences.

## The Sabine Women: Rome's First Families



Long ago, after Romulus founded the great city of Rome, his new city was strong with brave men but lacked women. Romulus knew that for Rome to truly grow, it needed families. He sent messengers to nearby towns, asking them to allow their daughters to marry Roman men. However, the neighboring Sabines and other peoples refused, fearing Rome would become too powerful.



Romulus, a clever leader, decided to host a grand festival dedicated to Neptune, the god of the sea. He invited all the neighboring peoples, including the Sabines, to come and celebrate with the Romans. Many Sabines, curious and eager for a good festival, brought their families, including their unmarried daughters.



During the joyous celebrations, at a signal from Romulus, the Roman men suddenly seized the Sabine women and carried them away. The Sabine fathers were furious and fled, vowing revenge. They gathered their armies and marched on Rome to reclaim their daughters. A fierce battle began between the Romans and the Sabines.

But then, something remarkable happened. The Sabine women, who had now become Roman wives and mothers, rushed onto the battlefield. With their children in their arms, they pleaded with their fathers and their new husbands to stop fighting. They begged for peace, not wanting to see their loved ones kill each other.



Moved by their pleas, both sides agreed to lay down their weapons. The Romans and Sabines decided to unite, becoming one people. This event



taught the importance of peace and how different groups could come together to build a stronger society, laying the foundation for Rome's future greatness.

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**COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS**

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**(1) Who is the main character in this myth, and what is their role?**

- (A) Romulus, the founder and first king of Rome.
- (B) Jupiter, the king of the gods.
- (C) Aeneas, the Trojan hero who founded the Roman people.
- (D) Mars, the god of war.

**(2) In this myth, Romulus hosted a grand festival to \_\_\_\_\_ .**

*— continue writing on the lines below*

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**(3) What does the word 'diplomacy' mean as it is used in the story?**

- (A) Using clever tricks to get what you want.
- (B) Talking and negotiating to solve problems peacefully.
- (C) Fighting a battle with an enemy.
- (D) Organizing a large celebration or festival.

**(4) Why did the Sabine women rush onto the battlefield? What does this tell us about their values?**

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**(5) What do you think this myth was trying to explain or teach? How does its message connect to something in real life today?**

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