



This text is from *Zeus on the Loose* by John Dougherty.

Zeus on the Loose

It all started at school. We'd been learning about Ancient Greece, and now we were doing a project about Greek gods. In this particular lesson we were making model temples.

I was doing a temple of Zeus. Really good, it was. Looked just like the genuine article. Except smaller, of course. And the real temple probably didn't have FREE INSIDE! GREAT SPECIAL OFFER all over the roof, because it probably wouldn't have been made out of a cornflakes box.

But other than that, it was really good. Everyone said so.

Even Troy. Troy used to be horrible, but he's been trying ever so hard to be good this term. So instead of telling me it was rubbish – like he'd have done last year, when he was mean to everyone all the time – he made a joke of it. He picked up my temple and started speaking into it in a big deep funny voice:

"Hey, Zeus! Are you in there? Come and look at this really great temple that Alex made for you!"

Everyone laughed – even Miss Wise.

I wouldn't have laughed if I'd known what was going to happen.

After school I stayed behind. My mum works in the school most days, hearing children in the infant classes read, and I usually stay till she's ready to come home.

So I was tidying up for Miss Wise, who was in a staff meeting, when suddenly, behind me, there was this big booming voice. You know when you go to the cinema, and they have the trailers, and a man with a very sore throat tells you about the film they're showing soon with exploding helicopters and someone saving the world? It was like that, but even more boomy and echoey. And what it said was:

"IT'S A BIT SMALL ISN'T IT?"

Boy, did I jump. When you're in school, the scariest voice you expect to hear is the headteacher's – but she can't do a voice anything like this one.

I turned round. There, standing on the display table, was a man. A great big bearded man, in a sort of Ancient Greek tunic, with a temple on his head. My temple.



Name:	Class:	Date:
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Zeus on the Loose

1 What is the name of the person telling the story? Tick **one**.

- Troy ☐
- Zeus ☐
- Alex ☐
- Miss Wise ☐

2b
1 mark

2 How did Alex feel about his model temple? Explain your answer as fully as you can, using the story to help you.

2d
2 marks

3 How was Alex's temple different from the real temple? Write **two** ways.

- 1

- 2

2b
2 marks

4 How is Troy different this year at school? Tick **one**.

He is:

- being nasty to everyone all the time. ☐
- making sure he tidies up for Miss Wise. ☐
- shouting at everyone in a loud voice. ☐
- doing his best not to upset anyone. ☐

2b
1 mark

/ 6
Total for this page

5

Alex gives the reader some information about Zeus. Complete the table below by writing **one thing** in each row. One has been done for you.

Name	Zeus
What he looks like	He has a beard.
What he is wearing	
Where he is	

1 mark 2b

6

What does Alex say that shows you how loud Zeus's voice was? Tick **one**.

- and what it said was: "It's a bit small isn't it?"* ☐
- he picked up my temple and started speaking into it* ☐
- it was like that, but even more boomy and echoey* ☐
- a man with a very sore throat tells you about the film* ☐

1 mark 2a

7

Why did Zeus think that the temple was too small?

1 mark 2d

8

I wouldn't have laughed if I'd known what was going to happen.

Alex says this after Troy speaks into his model temple. What does he mean?

1 mark 2d

/ 10
Total for this test