

Recitation D

Pandora's Box

They took care of the box under the olive tree. A long time passed, but the old man did not come back. Her brother, Epimetheus, went away for a moment.

"I wonder what is inside this lovely box," Pandora said to herself. "It must be something very special. The old man told us not to open it."

Then she put her ear up next to the box. She heard a very quiet sound: "Help us, Pandora. Please, please, open the box so we can come out."

Pandora looked around. She could not see Epimetheus. She was very curious about the box, and she could not wait. She lifted the top of the box and was surprised because it opened easily.

Suddenly, a great wind came out of the box. The evil spirits of disease, hunger, and anger came out and went everywhere in the world.

Epimetheus came back. The spirits of disease attacked him and he fell to the ground.

"Pandora, what have you done?" he cried. "Why did you open the box?"

"I'm sorry, Epimetheus. Please forgive me!" Tears went down her beautiful face.

Then a beautiful spirit with wings came out of the box. It flew to her brother and healed him. He was completely well again. The spirit flew away.

"What was that spirit?" asked Epimetheus. "It wasn't an evil spirit."

It was a spirit called Hope.

When she opened the box, Pandora brought many bad things into the world. Since then, people everywhere in the world have suffered from disease, hunger and anger. But Pandora also brought a good thing into the world. We always have hope.

(271 words)