

 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.





This text was written by Helen Betts using information from [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com).

# Geocaching



## **Geocaching [jee-oh-kash-ing]**

is a real-life treasure hunt that's happening right now, all around you. There are 2,236,843 geocaches all over the world.



### **So, what's it all about?**

Geocaching is an outdoor treasure hunting game. It uses GPS technology (a bit like a map on a computer) to find a hidden container. People playing the game follow 'way markers' on their computer or smart phone, which lead them to the treasure box. This hidden treasure box is called a geocache [jee-oh-kash] or 'cache'.



### **What does a geocache look like?**

A geocache can be lots of different shapes and sizes. It could be a large plastic box that's easy to spot, or a fake rock with secret parts! On your first adventure, choose a cache that has a difficulty rating of 1 (the easiest kind!).



### **Where are geocaches hidden?**

Geocaches can be found all over the world. They may be at your local park, in the street, or even underwater. There are hundreds of caches hidden all over the UK, just waiting to be found.



### **What should I do when I find the cache?**

Most caches have a logbook for you to sign or leave a message in. Finding the box is a reward in itself, but often you will also find objects that people have left to swap. These objects turn the adventure into a true treasure hunt, as you never know what you might find. If you take a treasure out of the box, you should leave another in its place, so be prepared. Put items in a clear, sealed bag to protect them from the weather.

When you are finished, put the cache back just as you found it. Otherwise, the next person may not be able to find it.

Afterwards, you can go home and share your geocaching stories and photos on the web.

*Have fun!*

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.

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	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?

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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?

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1 mark 2d

/ 10  
Total for this test

Name:	Class:	Date:
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# Geocaching

- 1 What is geocaching? Tick the **best** answer.
- an adventure around the world  a search for a hidden container
- a game on a computer or phone  a large plastic box of treasure
- 2 What is a geocache?
- 3 Why should you choose a cache with a rating of 1 on your first hunt?
- 4 What might you find inside a cache? Write **two** things.
- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 *Finding the box is a reward in itself...*
- What does this mean? Tick **one**.
- If you don't find the box, you don't get a reward.
- People often leave objects inside the boxes.
- It is very exciting when you find the box.
- You never know what objects you might find.
- 6 **Number** these sentences to show **the order** in which things would happen if you went geocaching. The first one has been done for you.
- You return the cache to its hiding place.
- 1 You choose a geocache to search for.
- You sign the logbook or write a message.
- You follow 'way markers' on your phone.

2c  
1 mark

2a  
1 mark

2d  
1 mark

2b  
1 mark

2d  
1 mark

2f  
1 mark

/ 6  
Total for this page

7 Draw lines to match what you should do and why you should do it.

**What you should do**

take a treasure with you

put the cache back where you found it

put any objects into a sealed bag

**Why you should do it**

so other people will be able to find it

so you can replace any objects you take

so they don't get damaged by the weather

2b  
1 mark

8 Who do you think this text has been written for? Tick **one**.

for everyone who loves the countryside

for people who are new to geocaching

for children who love computer games

for people who really like geocaching

2f  
1 mark

9 *Geocaching is a treasure hunt for the digital generation.*

What does this mean? Explain your answer as fully as you can, using the text to help you.

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2a  
1 mark

10 The following sentence could be added to the text on 'Geocaching'. Which section of the text would it **best** fit into? Tick **one**.

Many people put a cache in a place that is important to them.

*So, what's it all about?*

*What does a geocache look like?*

*Where are geocaches hidden?*

*What should I do when I find the cache?*

2f  
1 mark

/ 10  
Total for this test