# The Story of Paris and the Golden Apple

Today we will be learning about Paris and the contest of the Golden Apple! The myth will be written below in English. Some of the sentences will be in Latin and you will have to try and **fill in the gaps** to complete the sentences.

## The story.

One day, Eris (the goddess of arguments) was not invited to the wedding of Peleus, a human, and Thetis, a nymph. Nymphs were goddesses that were closely linked to nature and the sea.

Eris was furious and so she threw a golden apple into the crowd at the wedding. The words ‘to the fairest’ were inscribed on this apple.

This caused a great argument between three goddesses because they could not decide who was the ‘fairest’ and so who deserved the apple. These three goddesses were:

* Hera, wife of Zeus, and goddess of women and marriage
* Athena, goddess of wisdom
* Aphrodite, goddess of love

To decide who was the fairest, the goddesses decided to find a mortal man to be the judge of their contest.

## Complete the story (part 1)

Paris was the son of Priam, the King of Troy, a great city in Asia Minor (which is now Turkey).

**Paris amat \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (walk - ambulo).

Tip: remember that just like we say ‘I like to walk’ in English, Latin does the same thing.

If you need a reminder of this, have a look at the worksheet from week 2.

**Paris sedet \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (near) **arborem**.

Tip: ‘arborem’ means tree and is in the accusative singular. For a reminder on noun endings, have a look at the worksheet from week 3.

‘Near’ is a preposition – if you cannot remember how to say ‘near’ in Latin, take a look at the worksheet from week 4.

Hera, Athena and Aphrodite appear in front of Paris, while he was sitting near the tree. Paris is shocked to see them appear from nowhere, and quickly figured out that they must be goddesses!

**Hera \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (strong – fortis) **est.**

**Aphrodite \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (beautiful – pulcher) **est.**

**Athena \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (clever – callidus) **est.**

Tip: if you need any help with adjectives, have a look at the worksheet from week 7.

Each goddess offers different gifts to Paris to convince him to pick her as the ‘fairest’.

Hera says that she will make Paris king of all Europe and Asia!

Athena then says that she will make Paris a skilled warrior.

Finally, Aphrodite says that she will give Paris a wife who is the most beautiful woman in the world.

## Complete the story (part 2)

**Paris \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (moves – moveo) **ad Venerem.**

Tip: ‘Venerem’ is the accusative form of the Latin word for Aphrodite ‘Venus’.

**Paris donat Veneri \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (golden apple).

Tip: We haven’t yet learnt how to say ‘golden’ in Latin – it’s aureus, aurea, aureum.

‘Apple’ in Latin is ‘malum’ – try and remember what the accusative is! If you cannot have a to look at the worksheet from week 6.

When forming the adjective ‘golden’ in Latin, remember to make it agree with the gender and the case of the word ‘apple’ – if you need any help with this, you can look at the worksheet from week 7.

‘Donat’ means ‘he gives’.

‘Veneri’ means ‘to Aphrodite’.

Aphrodite was very happy to be given the title ‘fairest’. She gave Helen, the most beautiful woman in the world, to Paris as his wife.

Unfortunately, Helen was already the wife of Menelaus, King of Sparta (in Greece)!

So, when Paris made her his wife, Menelaus brought together the armies of the different Kings of Greece.

They then sailed to Troy in order to fight to get back Helen.

This war was known as the Trojan War – and if you go on to study more Latin, you will learn much more about this very famous war!

If you need any help with filling in the blanks in Latin, you will be able to find the answers on a separate worksheet.