Name _____ Date _____ Per _____

Study Guide – "Arachne" retold by Olivia E. Coolidge

1. Arachne is described as being neither "_____" nor beautiful and came from a Greek village that was

"_____" or not well-known suggesting very humble beginnings.

2. Arachne's father was a _____ of wool and produced some of the best bright scarlet colors, which came from

"_____".

3. Better than her father's skill, Arachne was known for her talent at weaving wool and creating beautiful cloth on a

high-standing "_____".

4. Often-times authors will use poetic devices in their texts to make the sounds flow. Coolidge uses some sound devices
throughout her text particularly at the end of paragraph 1 when she is describing how Arachne is able to weave.

> Her eyes were light and her hair was a dusty brown, yet she was quick and graceful, and her fingers
> roughened as they were, went so fast that it was hard to follow their flickering movements. So soft
> and even was her thread, so fine her cloth, so gorgeous her embroidery, that soon her products were
> known all over Greece.

 Two devices that are quite apparent in the text above include **alliteration** and **repetition**. Identify an example of each
used in this text excerpt.

    A. Alliteration _____

    B. Repetition _____

5. To provide some **hyperbole** to Arachne's great skills, Coolidge suggests that even the "_____" would come
to marvel at her talent.

6. Why would people compare Arachne's skill to that of Athena? What was Athena's title that would fit with the subject

of this story? _____

7. On page 2, it was noted that "_____ was all she lived for."

8. What fault/sin did Arachne make in paragraph 3 that brought Athena to come and visit her? _____

_____

9. Unlike most gods/goddesses, Athena gives Arachne a chance to ask for a "_____" . . . "for your

_____."

10. What did Arachne say to the old woman in paragraph 5 that so angered Athena? _____

_____

11. According to paragraph 6, Arachne's success was partially due to her _____ skill in _____.

12. Of the two contestants, _____ was "the quicker of the two."

13. Within Athena's cloth, was an image of the _____ tree, a central figure of Athena as she competed against,

_____ for possession of the city of _____.

14. The corners of the goddess' piece had images of 4 _____ who attempted to be like the gods but received an awful fate. This was a warning to Arachne.

15. To make matters worse for herself, Arachne had created scenes of the gods performing evil or "_____" actions.

16. Athena's "_____" eyes blazed with anger as she tore Arachne's insulting work and then she

_____ her in the face.

17. Arachne was humiliated by the scene and was about to _____ herself with a nearby rope had not Athena

touched her and turned her into a _____.

18. Though the Greeks believed that mortals should take pride in their work, they also believed that mortals should not

attempt to _____

when it comes to pride.