

Allusions

Read the text and answer the questions.

When Achilles was born, Thetis dipped the baby Achilles in the River Styx so that Achilles could gain immortality. While Thetis was dipping Achilles, she held him by the heel. This meant although the whole body of Achilles was dipped in the magic waters of the river, his heel remained out of the water. The spot on his heel was left untouched by the water. Consequently, Achilles couldn't be fully immortal; he had one weak spot: his heel. Today, we use "Achilles heel" to refer to an individual's weakness.

- 1) What does the word "immortal" mean as used in the text?
 - a) too strong to be defeated
 - b) living or lasting forever
 - c) always determined to achieve something new

- 2) Which part of Achilles is not immortal?
 - a) forehead
 - b) hands
 - c) heel

- 3) Identify the sentence the information contained in which is not given in the text.
 - a) Thetis purposely held Achilles by the heel when she dipped him in the river.
 - b) "Achilles heel" describes an individual's weak point.
 - c) The spot on Achilles's heel was left untouched by the water.