

Allusions

Answer Key

An **allusion** is a figure of speech that indirectly references a famous person, event, or thing from history or works of literature.

Example:

Although Linda finally won the court case, it was a **Pyrrhic victory**.

Underline the allusion in each sentence.

- 1) Movies and soccer are Nelson's kryptonite.
- 2) Florida proved to be the Cinderella team of the playoffs.
- 3) The book is a spiritual odyssey.
- 4) If only people in power stopped fiddling while Rome burns.
- 5) Jeff's remarks are a case of sour grapes from a failing writer.
- 6) The dessert that Aunt Helen made was sheer ambrosia.
- 7) Mr. Jones is notorious for his mercurial temperament.
- 8) As a singer, Grace is capable of walking on water.
- 9) Kevin's essay is far too long. He forgot brevity is the soul of wit.
- 10) Successful people never sit on their laurels.