

## Fact File: Jupiter

- The Roman Jupiter is the head of the Olympic gods and
- god of light and thunder. Jupiter is lord of life, having
- absolute power over life and death. He remains the
- supreme god of heaven and never appears upon earth.
- The most celebrated temple of Jupiter is that on the
- Capitoline Hill in the city of Rome, where he is
- worshipped under the names of Jupiter-Optimus-Maximus,
- Capitolinus and Tarpeius.
- The Romans represent him seated on a throne of ivory,
- holding in his right hand a sheaf of thunderbolts and in
- his left a sceptre, whilst an eagle stands beside his throne.



## Questions



1. Give **two** other names for Jupiter.



2. Find **two** words or phrases which suggest that Jupiter was in charge.

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3. Why does the author tell us that Jupiter **never** appears upon earth?

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4. Why do you think that Roman statues represent Jupiter holding thunderbolts and a sceptre?









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- 60 Capitoline Hill in the city of Rome, where he is
- 66 worshipped under the names of Jupiter-Optimus-Maximus,
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- 90 holding in his right hand a sheaf of thunderbolts and in
- 101 his left a sceptre, whilst an eagle stands beside his throne.







## **Answers**



Give two other names for Jupiter.
 Accept: Jupiter-Optimus-Maximus, Capitolinus or Tarpeius.



2. Find **two** words or phrases which suggest that Jupiter was in charge.

Accept any two of the following: head; supreme; lord; absolute power.



3. Why does the author tell us that Jupiter never appears upon earth?
Pupils' own responses, such as: It tells us how important Jupiter was because he was the head of the gods so he would remain in heaven to lead

the other gods.



4. Why do you think that Roman statues represent Jupiter holding thunderbolts and a sceptre?

Accept an explanation that focuses on the fact that he was god of thunder and a leader so these items represented these things.



