

The Legend of Aeneas /1 (long story)	
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In [Greco-Roman mythology](#), Aeneas was a [Trojan hero](#), the son of the prince [Anchises](#) and the goddess [Aphrodite](#). His father was also the second cousin of King [Priam](#) of Troy. The journey of Aeneas from Troy (with help from Aphrodite), which led to the founding of the city [Rome](#), is recounted in [Virgil's Aeneid](#). He is considered an important figure in [Greek](#) and [Roman](#) legend and history.

Aeneas is a character in [Homer's Iliad](#). In the *Iliad*, Aeneas is the leader of the Trojan army who bravely fought off the Greeks. Aeneas was a principal lieutenant of [Hector](#), son of the Trojan king [Priam](#). In the poem, Aeneas' mother [Aphrodite](#) frequently comes to his aid on the battlefield; he is also a favorite of god [Apollo](#). Aphrodite and Apollo rescue Aeneas from many combats. Aeneas killed 28000 people in the Trojan War.

When Troy was sacked by the Greeks, Aeneas, after being commanded by the gods to flee, gathered a group: they are known as the [Aeneads](#), who traveled to [Italy](#) and became progenitors of the [Romans](#). The Aeneads included Aeneas' trumpeter [Misenus](#), his father [Anchises](#), his friends [Achates](#), [Sergestus](#) and [Acmon](#), the healer [Lapyx](#), the steady helmsman [Palinurus](#), and his son [Ascanius](#) (also known as Iulus, Julius, or Ascanius Julius). He carried with him the [Lares](#) and [Penates](#), the statues of the household gods of Troy.

After a brief but fierce storm sent up against the group at [Juno's](#) request, and several failed attempts to found cities, Aeneas and his fleet made landfall at [Carthage](#) after six years of wanderings. Aeneas had a year-long love story¹ with the [Carthaginian](#) queen [Dido](#) (also known as Elissa), who proposed that the Trojans settle in her land and that she and Aeneas reign jointly over their peoples. Once again, this was in favour of Juno, who was told of the fact that her favorite city would eventually be defeated by the Trojans' descendants.

The love between Aeneas and Dido isn't lucky. The messenger god [Mercury](#) was sent by Jupiter and Aphrodite to remind Aeneas of his journey. When Dido learned of this, she ordered her sister Anna to construct a pyre, she said, to get rid of Aeneas' possessions, left behind by him in his haste to leave. Standing on it, Dido uttered a curse that would forever pit Carthage against Rome. She committed suicide.

The company stopped on the island of Sicily during the course of their journey. After visiting Carthage, the Trojans returned to Sicily.

[Latinus](#), king of the Latins, welcomed Aeneas' army of exiled Trojans and let them reorganize their lives in [Latium](#). His daughter Lavinia had been promised to Turnus, king of the Rutuli, but Latinus received a prophecy that Lavinia would be betrothed to one from another land — namely, Aeneas. Latinus heeded the prophecy, and Turnus consequently declared war on Aeneas.

Aeneas' forces prevailed. Turnus was killed and his people were captured. Latinus died in the war. Aeneas founded the city of Lavinium, named after his wife.

After Aeneas' death, Aphrodite asked Jupiter to make her son immortal. Jupiter agreed.

The legendary kings of Britain also trace their family through a grandson of Aeneas, Brutus.

¹

The legend of Romulus and Remus (short story)

Romulus and Remus **are** Rome's twin founders in its traditional foundation myth. They are descendants of the Trojan prince and refugee Aeneas, and **are fathered** by the god Mars or the demi-god Hercules on a royal Vestal Virgin, Rhea Silvia (also known as Ilia), whose uncle **exposes** them **to die** in the wild. They **are found** by a she-wolf who **suckles** and **cares for** them. The twins are eventually **restored to** their regal birthright, acquire many followers and **decide** to found a new city.

Romulus **wishes** to build the new city on the Palatine Hill; Remus **prefers** the Aventine Hill.^[2] They agree to determine the site through augury. Romulus appears to receive the more favourable signs but each claims the results in his favour. In the disputes that follow, Remus **is killed**.^[3] Ovid has Romulus invent the festival of Lemuria to appease Remus' resentful ghost.^[4] Romulus **names** the new city Rome, after himself, and **goes on to create** the Roman Legions and the Roman Senate. He **adds** citizens to his new city by **abducting** the women of the neighboring Sabine tribes, which **results** in the combination of Sabines and Romans as one Roman people. Rome rapidly expands to become a dominant force, due to divine favour and the inspired administrative, military and political leadership of Romulus. In later life Romulus **becomes** increasingly autocratic, **disappears** in mysterious circumstances and **is deified** as the god Quirinus, the divine persona of the Roman people.

Esercizio 1 (Exercises 1):

- Traduci in inglese le parole sottolineate (Translate into English the underlined words).
- Trova le forme italiane dell'infinito dei verbi evidenziati (Find the Italian infinitive forms of signed verbs).

Esercizio 2 (Exercises 2)

Facendo riferimento al testo, rispondi in italiano (**usando il tempo presente**) alle seguenti domande (Relating to the text, answer following questions in Italian; use the present form):

- Chi è Enea (Who is Aeneas)? Che città fonda (Which town does he found)?
- Come è considerato nella leggenda e nella storia romana (How is he considered in Roman legend and history)?
- Chi è suo padre (Who is his father)?
- Quale opera racconta il viaggio di Enea (Which poem does recount Aeneas' journey)?
- Chi è Ettore (Who is Hector)?
- Chi è la madre di Enea (Who is Aeneas' mother)? Che cosa fa per lui (What does she do for him)?
- Chi sono gli Eneadi (Who are the Aeneads)?
- Chi sono i Lari e i Penati (Who are the Lares and Penates)?
- C'è una storia d'amore fra Enea e Didone (Is there a love story between Aeneas and Dido)? Il loro amore è fortunato (Is their love lucky)?
- Chi è Didone (Who is Dido)? Che cosa propone a Enea (What does she propose to Aeneas)? Che cosa fa dopo la partenza di Enea (What does she do after Aeneas' leaving)?
- Chi è Latino (Who is Latinus)? Che cosa fa (What does he do)? How does he die?
- Chi sono Romolo e Remo (Who are Romulus and Remo)? Chi li trova (Who does find them)? Che cosa decidono (What do they decide)? Che cosa desidera Romolo (What does Romulus wish)? Che cosa preferisce Remo (What does Remus prefer)?
- Che cosa fa Romolo dopo aver ucciso il fratello Remo (What does Romulus do after having killed his brother Remus)?
- Chi sono i Sabini (Who are Sabines)?
- Che cosa succede a Romolo nell'ultimo periodo della sua vita (What does it happen to Romulus in his later life?)