

TRANSLATION P. 254

Laocoon, chosen by lot as Neptune's priest, was sacrificing a huge bull at the solemn altar(s). Behold, however, twin snakes with huge coils—I shudder recalling [the episode]—make their way on the sea, [coming] from [the island of] Tenedos over the calm deep, and side-by-side advance to the shore(s). Their breasts are raised amidst the waters and their blood-red crests surpass the waves. The remaining part [of their body] skims the sea behind [them] and twists their immense backs in a coil. A sound is made as the sea foams; now they arrived upon the fields, and, having suffused their burning eyes with blood and fire, they licked their hissing mouths with their vibrating tongues. We scattered [in all directions], pale at (or from) the sight. The snakes seek Laocoon in a sure line; and, first of all, each snake having enfolded the small bodies of his two sons, entwines [them] and devours their pitiable limbs with its fangs. Afterward, Laocoon himself, approaching for the purpose of helping [his sons] and bearing weapons, the snakes seize and bind with their huge coils; and now having enfolded his middle twice [and] having placed their scaly backs around his neck twice, they rise above [him] with their heads and tall necks. That one not only strives to tear apart the coils [of the snakes] with his hands, [he] having soaked his headbands with gore and black poison, but at the same time he raises horrific shouts to the stars.



TEACHING TIP

p. 254

The teacher may wish to assess the students' learning by asking for the definition and effect of the following figures of speech that were learned previously.

- sibilance – lines 201–202*
- hyperbaton – lines 203–204
- alliteration – line 205*
- sibilance – line 207*
- alliteration – lines 207–208*
- sibilance and onomatopoeia – line 209
- sibilance – line 210
- chiasmus – line 211
- onomatopoeia – line 211*
- alliteration – line 213*

©2016 Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, Inc. this sample was created
www.BOLCHAZY.com
This document will expire May 31, 2017.