Reading Guide for summer assignments

Edith Hamilton's *Mythology*

Read the works and complete this packet. You are responsible for all information contained herein.

1. **Introduction to Classical Mythology**
    a. "Mythology of the Greeks"
    b. The Greek and Roman Writers of Mythology (optional—just know that they were many, were poets, playwrights, historians, and had differing views of the veracity of the stories)
2. **Part One** "The Gods, The Creation, and The Earliest Heroes"
    Read all except "Europa" and "The Cyclops Polyphemus" (optional)
3. **Part Two**
    a. Read all except "Ceyx and Alcyone," "Endymion," "Daphne" and "Alpheus and Arethusa," "Otus and Ephialtes" (optional)
4. **Part Three** "The Great Heroes Before The Trojan War
    a. All except "Atalanta"
5. **Part four** "The Heroes of the Trojan War"
    a. Read all that you do not know. Refamiliarize yourself with what you do.
6. **Part Five** (optional)
7. **Part Six** (optional, except "Midas, "The Amazons," "Arachne," "Orion"
8. **Part Seven (optional)**

Objectives for this unit:

- Allusion, and the reading and writing skills that come along with recognizing them. I cannot emphasize this enough. Mythology is ubiquitous in literature, pop culture, even in advertising.
- Emphasis on the "Greek Miracle" and the foundation of Western Culture.
- The origin and purposes of mythology
- Comparative Mythology and Archetypes: how stories and figures are similar and different and what that reveals about culture and the Human Condition
- How myths are treated in other art forms, particularly in paintings, poetry, and drama
- Relevance to today

Study Guide: *Mythology*

Use Hamilton's *Mythology* or the following useful websites to complete this study packet:

*** Introduction**

What is the importance of the *Iliad*?

What was "the Greek miracle?"

What is "the terrifying irrational?"

How did Zeus change over time?

Know these figures and the major stories associated with them:

The Creation of the World

The Titans

Cronos

Prometheus

Epimetheus

Atlas

Pandora

The Gods

Zeus

Poseidon

Hera

Hades

Apollo

Artemis

Demeter

Aphrodite

Athena

Hephaestus

Ares

Persephone

Hermes

Heroes and Monsters Summarize their quests and tasks

Heracles (Twelve Labors)

Perseus (Medusa)

Theseus (Minotaur)

Jason and the Argonauts (quest for the Golden Fleece)

Odysseus

Aeneas

Additional Myths

Pyramus and Thisbe

Orpheus and Eurydice

Pygmalion and Galatea

Baucis and Philemon

Daedalus and Icarus

Midas

Sisyphus

Arachne

Biblical Allusion research , or Meanwhile in the Middle East…

The *Kings James Bible* is a foundational text in Western and in World Literature. We will read the beginning stories from the *King James* Version of the Bible to explore the language of the passages, as well as learn to recognize allusions in other works of literature, much like we did with your reading of Greek Mythology. **This is a literary, not a religious study.** You may reference the English Standard Version (ESV) of the Bible to do a parallel read. You may NOT solely read the ESV.

Objectives: Students will be able:

To analyze and close read text

To recognize allusion

Recognize and analyze comparative archetypes

Please read/ research the following then answer the questions that follow each passage:

The Creation – Genesis chapter 1

The Fall – Genesis chapter 3

The Flood – Genesis chapter 6

The Mark of Cain – Genesis chapters 4-6

The Tower of Babel – Genesis chapter 11:1-9

The Book of Job

Sodom and Gomorrah – Genesis, chapter 18

Lot and his Wife – Genesis chapter 19

The Ten Commandments – Exodus chapter 20:1-17

David and Goliath – I Samuel chapter 17

The Nativity Story – Matthew chapter 1, Luke chapter 2

The Sermon on the Mount – Matthew chapter 5:3-7:27, Luke chapter 6:17-49

Lazarus – John chapter 11:1-12:11

The Last Supper – Mark chapter 14, John chapter 13

The Betrayal – Matthew chapters 25, 26

Genesis Chapter 1 The Creation:

1. In what ways is the Christian account of The Creation similar / different from the Greeks?

Genesis Chapter 3 The Fall:

1. What appeal did the serpent make to Eve?

2. What did Adam and Eve do after they sinned? Why?

3. How did God block access to the Garden of Eden?

Genesis Chapter 6 The Flood:

1. Why was the Lord "grieved" with mankind?

2. Describe the ark which Noah was commanded to build.

3. Describe how Noah got the animals he needed for the ark.

Genesis Chapters 4-6 The Mark of Cain:

1. What was Cain's major sin?

2. How did God punish Cain? Why didn't he kill him?

Genesis Chapter 11:1-9 The Tower of Babel:

1. What was the purpose of the tower of Babel?

2. Why did God dislike the tower?

3. Why did God confuse the language of the people?

The Book of Job

1. What explanation does the story of Job provide for suffering of the righteous?

Genesis Chapter 18 Sodom and Gomorrah

1. Who were the three men who visited Abraham?

2. For what purpose did they come?

3. How did Sarah react to the message? Why?

4. Why did Abraham intervene for Sodom?

5. Why did God agree to "negotiate" with him?

Genesis Chapter 19 Lot and His Wife:

1. How did the men of Sodom react to the visitors in Lot's house?

2. What offer did Lot make to keep the men away from the visitors?

3. When the men threatened Lot, what did the visitors do?

4. How was Lot rewarded for his loyalty and faith?

5. What punishment is inflicted upon Lot's wife? Why?

Exodus Chapter 20 The Ten Commandments:

1. List three of the Ten Commandments and briefly describe what each one means. What values are implicit in them? How are these values similar / different from the Greeks?

I Samuel Chapter 17 David and Goliath:

1. Describe Goliath, the champion of the Philistines.

2. What is the challenge Goliath gives to the armies of Israel when he comes onto the battlefield?

3. Describe the physical appearance and character of David.

4. Why does David think he can beat Goliath?

5. How did David kill Goliath? Describe the scene.

Matthew Chapter 1, Luke Chapter 2:

1. Why did Joseph want to "put away" Mary secretly?

2. What did the angel tell Joseph about the child?

3. What was Caesar Augustus' decree?

4. What did the angels tell the shepherds?

5. What did Jesus do in the temple when he was 12?

6. What did he tell Mary and Joseph when they found him there?

Matthew Chapter 5:3-7:27, Luke Chapter 6:17-49 The Sermon on the Mount

1. The first few verses of Matthew chapter 5 are called the Beatitudes. Briefly summarize what Jesus is teaching the people to be like.

2. What does Jesus say about the laws of murder and adultery?

Matthew Chapters 25, 26

1. Briefly retell the parable of the ten virgins.

2. What comparison is being made and what lesson is to be learned?

3. Why did Judas go to the chief priests?

4. When Christ was arrested what did the disciples do?

5. How did Peter deny Jesus three times just as Jesus said he would?

6. What was Peter's reaction when he realized what he had done?