

Reading Guide for Summer Assignments

Edith Hamilton's *Mythology*

1. Introduction to Classical Mythology

a. "Mythology of the Greeks"

b. The Greeks 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 know.

6. Part Five (optional)

7. **Part Six** read "Midas," "The Amazons," "Arachne," and "Orion" (the rest is **optional**)

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 prevalent 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* to complete this study packet:

*Introduction

1. What is the importance of the *Iliad*?
2. What was "the Greek miracle?"
3. What is "the terrifying irrational?"
4. How did Zeus change over time?

Write information about these figures and the major stories associated with them:

5. The Creation of the World

6. The Titans

- a) Cronos
- b) Prometheus
- c) Epimetheus
- d) Atlas
- e) Pandora

7. The Gods

- a) Zeus
- b) Poseidon
- c) Hera
- d) Hades
- e) Apollo
- f) Artemis
- g) Demeter
- h) Aphrodite
- i) Athena
- j) Hephaestus
- k) Ares
- l) Persephone
- m) Hermes

Heroes and Monsters Summarize their quests and tasks.

8. Heracles (Twelve Labors)

9. Perseus (Medusa)
10. Theseus (Minotaur)
11. Jason and the Argonauts (quest for the Golden Fleece)
12. Odysseus
13. Aeneas

Additional Myths

14. Pyramus and Thisbe
15. Orpheus and Eurydice
16. Pygmalion and Galatea
17. Baucis and Philemon
18. Daedalus and Icarus
19. Midas
20. Sisyphus
21. Arachne

Biblical Allusion Research, or Meanwhile in the Middle East...

The *King James Bible* is a foundational text in Western and in World Literature. However, we will read the beginning stories from the *English Standard Version* of the passages to learn to recognize allusions (look up the term) in other works of literature, much like we did with your reading of Greek Mythology.

Objectives:

- To analyze and close read text
- To recognize allusion
- To recognize and analyze comparative archetypes

Write the following definitions:

1. Allusion
2. Archetypes

Please read/research the following then answer the questions that follow each passage in the *English Standard Version (ESV)*:

The Creation— Genesis 1

The Fall— Genesis 3

The Mark of Cain— Genesis 4-6

The Flood— Genesis 6

The Tower of Babel— Genesis 11:1-9

Sodom and Gomorrah— Genesis 18

Lot and his Wife— Genesis 19

The Ten Commandments— Exodus 20:1-17

David and Goliath— 1 Samuel 17

The Book of Job

The Nativity Story— Matthew 1, Luke 2

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

Lazarus— John 11:1-12

The Last Supper— Mark 14; John 13

The Betrayal— Matthew 25 and 26

Study Guide: *The Bible*

Genesis 1: The Creation

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

Genesis 3: The Fall

2. What appeal did the serpent make to Eve?
3. What did Adam and Eve do after they sinned? Why?
4. How did God block access to the Garden of Eden?

Genesis 4-6: The Mark of Cain

5. What was Cain's major sin?
6. How did God punish Cain? Why didn't he kill him?

Genesis 6: The Flood

7. Why was the Lord "grieved" with mankind?
8. Describe the ark which Noah was commanded to build.
9. Describe how Noah got the animals he needed for the ark.

Genesis 11:1-9 The Tower of Babel

10. What was the purpose of the tower of Babel?
11. Why did God dislike the tower?
12. Why did God confuse the language of the people?

Genesis 18: Sodom and Gomorrah

13. Who were the three men who visited Abraham?
14. For what purpose did they come?
15. How did Sarah react to the message? Why?
16. Why did Abraham intervene for Sodom?
17. Why did God agree to “negotiate” with him?

Genesis 19: Lot and His Wife

18. How did the men of Sodom react to the visitors in Lot’s house?
19. What offer did Lot make to keep the men away from the visitors?
20. When the men threatened Lot, what did the visitors do?
21. How was Lot rewarded for his loyalty and faith?
22. What punishment is inflicted upon Lot’s wife? Why?

Exodus 20 The Ten Commandments

23. 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?

1 Samuel 17: David and Goliath

24. Describe Goliath, the champion of the Philistines.
25. What is the challenge Goliath gives to the armies of Israel when he comes onto the battlefield?
26. Describe the physical appearance and character of David.
27. Why does David think he can beat Goliath?
28. How did David kill Goliath? Describe the scene.

The Book of Job

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

Matthew 1, Luke 2

30. Why did Joseph want to “put away” Mary secretly?
31. What did the angel tell Joseph about the child?
32. What was Caesar Augustus’ decree?
33. What did the angels tell the shepherds?

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

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

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

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

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

Matthew 25 and 26

38. Briefly retell the parable of the ten virgins.

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

40. Why did Judas go to the chief priests?

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

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

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