“**Pandora”**

**Scheme**: (noun) a plan OR (verb) to plan

**Summon:** to ask or order someone to come to you

**Disgrace:** the loss of other people’s respect

**Offense:** a crime, breaking a rule OR anger and resentment (“Please don’t be offended”)

**Ungrateful:** not being thankful or appreciative

**Dawdle:** to take more time than necessary

**Tunic:** shirt

**Shackles:** rings used to chain someone or something up (a shackle is like a bracelet that goes around a write or ankle and attaches to a chain).

**Foul:** disgusting, awful

**Spite (noun):** ill will; the desire to harm someone

**Spite (verb):** doing something to someone just to cause them pain

**Beset:** to trouble or bother

**Kin:** relatives

**Sorrow:** extreme sadness

**Foreboding:** the feeling or sense that something bad is about to happen

1. What gifts do the gods give the girl Hephaestus made out of clay (Pandora)?
2. ***According to Hermes***, why does Zeus want Epimetheus to have Pandora? Is this the real reason Zeus wants Epimetheus to have Pandora?
3. Why did the gods give Pandora a box she is not allowed to open and curiosity?
4. What comes out of the box when Pandora finally opens it?
5. Why would things have been much worse if Foreboding, the final spite, had gotten out of the box?
6. What is the purpose of this myth? What does it explain about the world?

**“Phaethon”**

**Boast:** brag

**Swoon:** faint

**Befit:** to be suitable or appropriate for something

**Revive:** to give new energy or life to someone or something

**Appallingly:** shockingly, disgustingly

**Taunt:** tease

**Resolved (verb):** in this case means to make a firm, definite decision (can also mean to solve a problem).

**Rash**: impulsive, acting without thinking

**Affront**: an insult

**Breed**: a species, or a kind/type of something

**Sacred**: holy

**Oath**: promise

**Warrant**: a guarantee

**Withdraw**: to remove or take away

**Persevere**: to persist; to keep trying to do something and not give up

**Feeble:** weak

**Bewildered**: confused

**Swift:** fast

1. Phaethon tells Epaphus that he often goes to see his father Apollo and Apollo teaches him many things, but that is not true. Why does Phaeton lie to Epaphus?
2. Why does Phaethon brag that that he will drive the sun chariot?
3. Why does Apollo say to Phaethon, “Well, you’re my son, all right” ? (68)
4. How does Phaethon get Apollo to agree to let him drive the sun chariot?
5. Why doesn’t Phaethon listen to Apollo when Apollo warns him that he won’t be able to drive the sun chariot?
6. Why doesn’t Phaethon listen to Apollo when Apollo tells him not to drive the chariot too low or too high?
7. Why doesn’t Phaethon wind up destroying the earth?
8. What is the purpose of this myth? What does it explain about nature and human nature?

**“Orpheus”**

**Courting:** trying to get someone to like you (i.e. “courting her favor”)

**Embark**: to set off on a journey or to get on a ship

**Sentinel**: a guard

**Litigants:** a person involved in a law suit (these litigants are presenting complaints to Hades)

**Stern:** serious, harsh, grim

**Minstrel**: musician

**Decrees:** orders or laws; commands

**Nullify:** to cancel something or to make something invalid (not count)

**Torment:** suffering, torture

**Conjure:** to call up or bring about; to summon

**Assuage:** to soothe or to relieve

**Precedent:** an action or decision from the past that can be used as an example for future, similar circumstances;

**Illumine**: to light up

**Perception:** the way you see something

**Monarch:** ruler (king or queen)

**Dour:** unfriendly

**Repute:** reputation

**Eloquence:** beautiful language

**Leniency:** not being very hard on someone, not harsh

**Revoke:** to take back

**Visualize:** to imagine a picture in your head

**Cataract**: a large waterfall (in this case)

**Implacable:** impossible to move, comfort or satisfy

**Thwart**: to prevent something from happening

**Terrain**: land

**Relent**: to become less strict and allow someone to do something that used to be against the rules

**Dire**: serious, desperate, dangerous circumstances

**Mourner:** someone who is sad and grieving

**Crevasse**: a deep crack

1. What evidence does the author give to show what talented musician Orpheus was? Do you see any examples of hyperbole (exaggeration)?
2. Why does Orpheus decide he wants Eurydice? Is he really in love with her or not?
3. Why does Aristeus charge towards Eurydice when he sees her by the river?
4. Why does Eurydice wind up stepping on a nest of snakes?
5. Why does Orpheus go to the Underworld after Eurydice? Is it love or not?
6. How does Orpheus’s music help him get past all the challenges of the Underworld?
7. Why does his music even convince Hades to listen to him?
8. What argument does Orpheus make to convince Hades he should let someone go from the Underworld just this one time?
9. When Hades agrees to let Orpheus lead Eurydice from the Underworld, what does he warn Orpheus will happen if he looks back at Eurydice at any time?
10. Why does Orpheus look back at Eurydice even though Hades warned him not to?
11. What happens when Orpheus looks back?
12. What is the purpose of this myth?

**“Narcissus and Echo”**

**Cease:** stop

**Wretched:** horrible

**Meddle:** to interfere in someone else’s business (i.e. sticking your nose in someone’s business)

**Endure**: to bear and put up with a lot of hardship or pain

**Vexation:** irritation

**Nimbus**: a bright cloud or halo

**timid:** scared, shy

**coax**: to gently persuade

**Narcissist**: someone who is in love with himself or herself (adj is narcissistic)

1. Why does Aphrodite like Echo enough to offer to have Eros make someone of Echo’s choice fall in love with Echo?
2. Why doesn’t Echo take Aphrodite up on her offer?
3. Why is Narcissus lonely? Why does he have no one to love?
4. Why does Hera punish Echo? What is Echo’s punishment?
5. Why does Echo pray to Aphrodite to make her disappear?
6. How does Aphrodite take revenge against Narcissus for Echo?
7. Why does Narcissus stay by the stream forever, watching his own reflection?
8. What is the purpose of this myth?

**“Eros and Psyche”**

**Upstart:** a person who suddenly becomes important and starts to think too much of him/herself. (Someone who was once humble, but became vain.)

**Wounded:** hurt

**Suitor**: a man who is trying to get a woman to marry him

**Quarrel:** fight

**Feud**: a long, drawn out fight

**Torment**: torture

**Unadorned:** undecorated

**Listless:** having no energy

**Sullen:** grumpy

**Vanquishes:** defeats

**Appease:** to say or do something to make someone less angry

**Garments:** clothes

**Melancholy**: a feeling of depression or sadness; gloomy

**Mourning:** sadness

**Anointed**: to rub on an oil or liquid

**Renew:** to begin again; to reestablish

**Acquaintance**: a person someone is familiar with or a person you know a little bit

**Bewildered:** confused

**August:** dignified

**Barbed:** cutting or stinging; deliberately hurtful

**Shrew:** a bad-tempered, nasty woman

**Brood:** to think and worry about something

**Doused**: to throw liquid on

**Wretched:** miserable

1. Why does Aphrodite tell Eris to piece Psyche with one of his arrows while she is asleep?
2. Why does Eros wind up falling in love with Psyche?
3. Why does Eros refuse to make anyone fall in love?
4. Why does Aphrodite agree to let Eros have Psyche?
5. Why do Psyche’s parents leave her alone on the mountain?
6. What is odd about Psyche’s new husband? Who is he?
7. Why do Psyche’s sisters start to say mean things about her new husband?
8. When Psyche’s sisters call her husband a monster, Psyche tells them they’re wrong and throws them out. If she didn’t believe that her husband was a monster, why does she disobey Eros and use a candle to see his face?
9. Why does Eros leave when she sees him? What does he mean by this: “Wretched girl—you are not ready to accept love. Yes, I am love itself and I cannot live where I am not believed. Farewell, Psyche.”? (101)
10. What is this story explaining about human nature?

**“Arion”**

**Voyage:** journey

**Triumphant:** victorious, feeling proud of a victory

**Treacherous:** backstabbing, ready to betray OR dangerous and perilous

**law-abiding:** following the laws

**endanger**: putting someone or something at risk or in danger

**sentiment**: a feeling, view or opinion

**restore:** to put something back the way it was

**minstrels:** musicians

1. Why does Arion stay at home until his 20th birthday? Why does he finally decide to set sail for Italy?
2. On the way home, why does the captain of the ship tell Arion he’s going to kill him?
3. When Arion jumps off the side of the ship, why do the dolphins save him?
4. What happens to the captain when he arrives in the port at Corinth?
5. Why doesn’t Arion take all the treasures offered to him?
6. How did the oracles’s prophecy actually come true?
7. What is the purpose?