**Nature Myths**

Directions: Choose two to three of the following nature myths to read:

* “Narcissus and Echo”
* “Pandora”
* “Phaethon”
* “Eros and Psyche”
* “Arion”
* “Orpheus”
* “Icarus” (You can find this story in the yellow Holt book in addition to the other books.)
* “Midas”

You can find copies of these stories in *Heroes, Gods and Monster* or *D’Aulaires’ Book of Greek Myths*. I will also set out a book of plays if you want to act it out with a friend. You do not have to read all versions of a myth, but you may find some versions more helpful than others. For example, the *D’Aulaires’ Book of Greek Myths* is easier to read, but may not give you enough detail. Some students may find it helpful to read the *D’Aulaires’ Book of Greek Myths* to get an idea of what the myth is about and then read *Heroes, Gods and Monsters* for more detail.You might also find some of these stories on the internet.

Once you read a myth, you need to figure out what the main characters’ traits were. Then consider how those traits impacted the story. Find at least two quotes that show how the traits impacted the story and record them on your chart.

Your next step is to figure out the purpose of the myth and record it on your chart. Support your answer with evidence from the text.

You will be graded on the number of myths you read and the quality of your entries on the chart. For example, you will receive a higher grade if you read three myths instead of just two. You will also receive a higher grade if you fill out the chart fully and thoughtfully.

**Nature Myths Name:**

**Title of myth:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Title of the book or website the myth came from:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. How did a character’s traits impact the story’s plot? Fill out the chart with **at least two** examples.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Character** | **Trait** | **Quote that shows how the trait impacts the plot (page number)** | **Explain how the trait impacted the plot** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Bonus |  |  |  |

1. What is the purpose of this myth? Circle all the apply:

* To entertain
* To explain
* To teach a lesson (theme, message)
* To introduce a cultural hero
* To teach traditions or beliefs

1. The purpose of this myth is to (you may name more than one if you can)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Provide evidence of this purpose: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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