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LESSON 1. The Ancient Greek World

1a. Look at this map of Greece in Ancient times. Then answer the questions below:



www.e-grammes.gr/maps/650bc.gif

- Which of today's countries covered "Greece" at that time?
- Was "Greece" a Unitarian state?
- In Archaic times, the different Greek peoples were self-governed in city-states called _____.
- Think about the names of today's cities that end in "polis", both European cities and cities in other continents. Write them below.
- Infer what relationship these words have with "city":

Politics / police

2a. Greek people spoke some variations of the Greek language, called dialects. Look at both maps of the Greek polis and of the Greek dialects and match polis with dialects. Make sentences with the language frame below.



<http://greece.mrdonn.org/city-states.html>



http://www.cassiopeia.org/wiki/index.php?title=Aeolic_Greek

In X	people spoke	
------	--------------	--

2c. The Athenians spoke Attic because they came from Attica. You can speak Oriental Catalan if you come from Barcelona or Occidental Catalan if you come from Lleida. If you came from Tarragona, you would speak Oriental Catalan. Complete these sentences:

- If I came from Ancient Corinth, I would speak_____.
- If I ____ from Ancient _____, I _____.
- If I_____from Ancient Sparta, I _____.

2d. Answer these questions using “yes, they did” / “no, they didn’t”

- Did the Ancient Greeks share a country?
- Did the Ancient Greeks share a language?

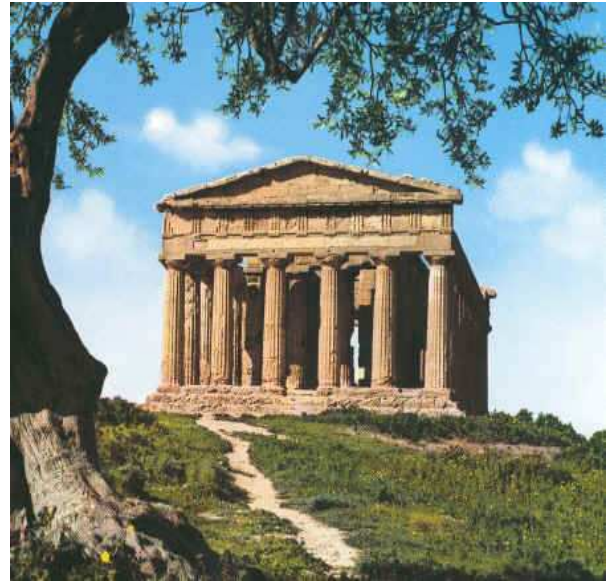
2e. Complete this sentence:

- The Ancient Greeks didn’t share _____but they _____ some variants of the same _____.

3a. Look at these pictures of Greek gods' temples and answer the questions below.



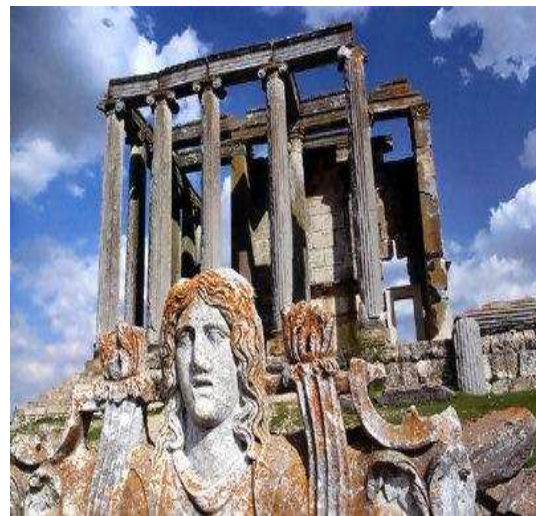
www.uoc.edu/.../Empurios/serapis.jpg



faculty.cua.edu/.../Architecture/Agrigento2.JPG



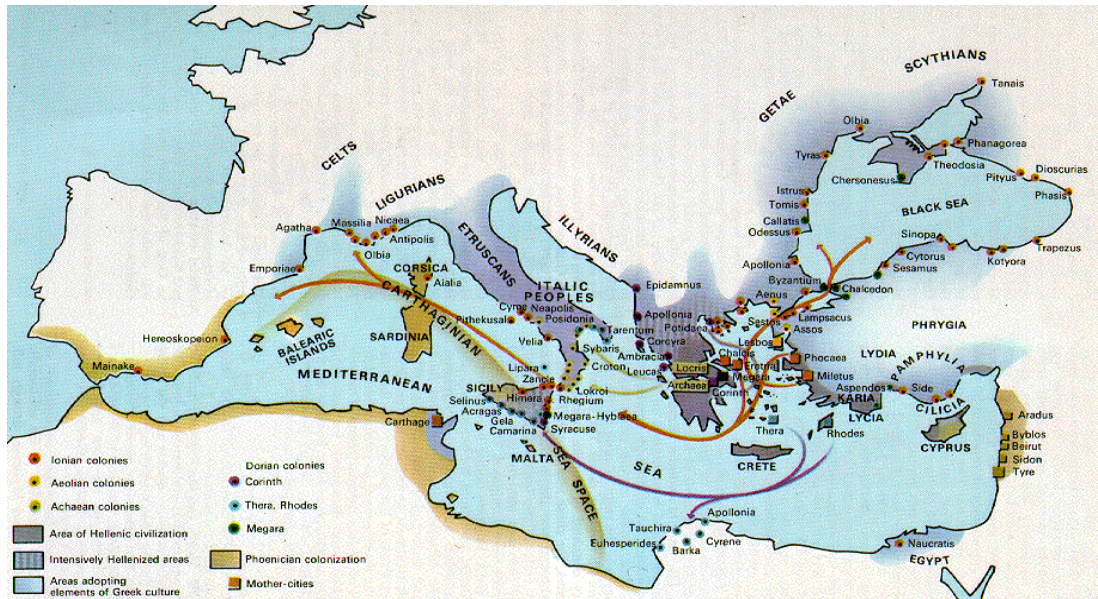
photos.igougo.com/images/p332460-Athens-Zeuss



www.cs.cmu.edu/.../ZeusTempleKutahya.JPG

- In which countries are these temples?
- Why do you think the Greek gods had temples outside of Greece?

- **4a. Here is a map of Ancient Greek colonies and Hellenic civilization in Ancient times. Look for the places where the former temples were.**



www.nafaktos.com/ancient4.htm

4b. Complete this sentence:

- The Greeks didn't share a country but they shared both _____ and _____

4c. The Greek world wasn't based on a geographical idea, but on a cultural one. Complete this paragraph with the words below:

- In Ancient times, _____ world (Hellenic world) covered the places that shared _____ culture: Greece, _____ coast of Turkey, north of Egypt, Magna Greece (south of _____ and Sicily) and the _____ colonies.

Greek / Italy / East / Mediterranean

5a. Here are three lists of the Olympians, the Greek gods of Mount Olympus. Colour in red the gods that appear in all three lists, in blue the gods that appear in two lists and in green the gods that appear only in one list. Then make sentences using the language frame below.

POSSIBLE PANTHEON	COMMON PANTHEON	DIONYSUS' MYTHS
ZEUS	ZEUS	ZEUS
HERA	HERA	HERA
POSEIDON	POSEIDON	POSEIDON
HADES	DEMETER	DEMETER
HESTIA	HESTIA	DIONYSUS
ATHENA	ATHENA	ATHENA
APOLLO	APOLLO	APOLLO
ARTEMIS	ARTEMIS	ARTEMIS
HERMES	HERMES	HERMES
ARES	ARES	ARES
APHRODITE	APHRODITE	APHRODITE
HEPHAESTUS	HEPHAESTUS	HEPHAESTUS

X	appear (s)	in three lists in two lists in one list
---	------------	---

5b. Answer these questions:

- What is a pantheon?
- Did the Greeks have only one pantheon?

5c. Fill in the gaps:

- The Greeks shared _____, although they didn't have one compulsory _____.

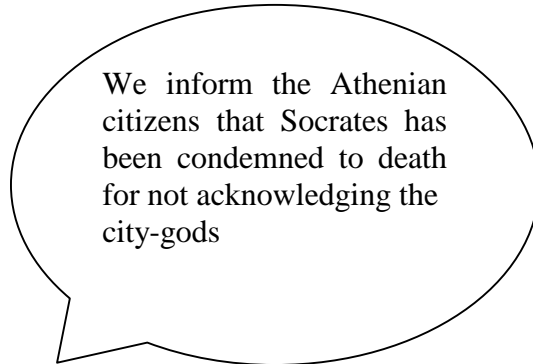
5d. Complete this paragraph with the words below:

- The Greek world lacked of any central _____ organization. Individual city-states had virtually _____ authority in _____ affairs as in everything else.

religious / ecclesiastical / unlimited

Greek religion and society. P.E. Easterling / J. V. Muir, Foreword (xiv,xv)

6a. Read this bubble and tick the right sentences in the frame below:



Socrates was Corinthian
Socrates was Athenian
He died in Athens
He died in Sparta
He died for not believing in the city-gods
He died for not acknowledging the city-gods

LESSON 2. The Olympians' origins

1a. Match each type with its definition :

1. Nuclear family	a) A family that includes three or more generations
2. Blended family	b) Parents and one or more children
3. Extended family	c) One parent (most often the mother) and a child or children
4. Single-parent family	d) Nuclear family with one or both parents with children of a / some previous marriage

1b. In pairs, ask your partner and then answer:

- Do you think the Greek gods were a blended family or an extended family?
- Which type of family is yours?
- Do you think the Ancient Greeks could be part of our family?

2a. Find out some information about the Olympians. Match gods with a description (her / his *epithet*); then, answer the questions:

OLYMPIAN GOD	DESCRIPTION
Apollo	glad
Zeus	<u>who</u> shakes the Earth
Poseidon	pitiless in heart
Hades	bloody thirsty
Dionysus	<u>the</u> herald of the gods
Hermes	<u>the</u> aegis-bearer
Ares	<u>who</u> was the best in crafts
Hephaestus	<u>who</u> shoots from away

OLYMPIAN GODDESS	DESCRIPTION
Hera	<u>the</u> bright-eyed maid
Athena	<u>who</u> goes on golden sandals
Artemis	<u>of</u> quick-glancing eyes
Aphrodite	<u>who</u> delights in arrows
Demeter	<u>the</u> mother-goddess

- Apollo and Artemis were twins. Is there any evidence of this in their epithets?
- Write a positive epithet for your partner, using the underlined patterns.

3a. This is a cut up text of Hesiod's Theogony about the origin of the Olympics. First, order these parts 1- 4.

a) Cronos was as evil as his father Uranus. He used to eat all of his children: Demeter, the mother-goddess; Hera; Hades, pitiless in heart, and Zeus. But Zeus made him throw them out and gained power.

b) I, Hesiod, start the song with the Muses. For they with Apollo, who shoots from away, inspire poets. They dance in celebration of their father Zeus, the aegis-bearing and lady Hera of Argos, who goes on golden sandals, and Athene, the bright-eyed maid, and Apollo and Artemis, who delights in arrows and Poseidon, who shakes the earth and Aphrodite, of quick-glancing eyes, and Cronos, the crafty counsellor. So they sing:

c) After that, Zeus won the Titans and so finally he hold all of the power in his hands. Zeus had several children with some goddesses. First of all, Zeus married Metis, but, when she was pregnant, Zeus ate her, so that the baby would not take his power. Later, with Leto, he is the father of Apollo and Artemis. Afterwards, he made Hera his wife and she bore Ares, bloody thirsty. But Hera got angry with Zeus and so she bore Hephaestus herself. And with Maia, Zeus is the father of Hermes, the herald of the gods. Last of his sons is glad Dionysus, who was born from mortal Semele.

d) From the very beginning there was Chaos, and next appeared Earth and Tartarus in depth of Earth, and Love, most beautiful of all gods. First Earth bore Heaven and long Hills. Later, with Heaven, she bore Oceanus, Memory and, the youngest, Cronos. Heaven hid them all inside the Earth, and so she asked her children for help. Cronos made a decision: he took a sickle, cut off his father genitals and threw them away into the sea. From that foam grew goddess Aphrodite.

3b. Write a subheading for every paragraph. Explain to your partner which paragraph goes first and why. Form sentences from the next frame.

I think X goes	first second third fourth	because	it speaks about _____ it says: "first of all" ,etc.	
----------------	------------------------------------	---------	--	--

3c. Answer these questions and check with your mate:

- If *theogony* means "origin of gods", what does *cosmogony* mean ?
- Who inspired Hesiod to compose his poem? Who was their father?
- Who was the most powerful Olympian god? Did he create the world?
- Were the Greek gods eternal? Were they immortal?
- Which different types of "reproduction" are there in this text?
- Why do you think Dionysus is missing in the two gods' lists?
- Why do you think Aphrodite is the goddess of sexual attraction?

3d. Make a list of similarities / differences between the Olympians and the Christian god.

<u>GREEK GODS</u>	<u>CHRISTIAN GOD</u>
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.

4a. Here are all of the verbs from text 3a in Past Simple. Divide them into the three columns below.

appeared	held	married	took	was
had	grew	used to	cut off	ate
gained	threw away	got	became	made
bore	won	hid	asked	

REGULAR VERBS	IRREGULAR VERBS	AUXILIARY VERBS

4b. Answer this question:

- In what tense are most of the verbs in the text? Why?

4c. Complete this sentence with the words below:

- Greek myths are oral stories which pass from _____ to _____ over generations. This creates a _____.

sons / tradition / fathers

4d. Think about other traditions different from the classic one that are present in our cultural background and write them below.

5a. Read the following text about some pieces of Theogony, and complete the missing lines with 1-9 below:

Cronos was the chief god. But he was unhappy, because somebody told him that one of his children would take his place. So he did:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Time passed and Cronos went on eating babies. Mrs. Cronos got fed up and thought:

- 5.

So, when she bore Zeus, she wrapped up a big rock instead of him and passed it to her husband.

- 6.
- 7.

Cronos became sick.

- 8.
- 9.

Cronos threw up suddenly and so all the baby gods appeared together.

Choose from these lines:




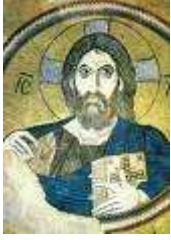



1. I'll put a stop on this game!
2. Eating it.
3. Crunchy as well!
4. Not on the new carpet, my love!
5. Can't have that. Mrs. Cronos, pass me that baby!
6. I think I'm throwing up!
7. Eating it! You've just had your tea!
8. Probably because he's bolder than the others.
9. What for? What are you doing with that baby?

Adapted from the book "Groovy Greeks", by Terry Deary

5b. In pairs perform the story in front of the class. Use good intonation, please!

LESSON 3. Names, appearances and patronage.

1a. Can you identify the Greek gods? Make sentences using the frame below:

 N.1	 N. 2	 N. 3
 N.4	 N. 5	 N. 6
 N. 7		

In picture n. ____	there is there could be there might be	a an the	Egyptian god Christian god Aztec god Greek god
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1b. Complete the following sentences about differences and similarities between Greek gods and the others (look at the example):

Ex: Number 4 looks human while number 2 has an animal head.

- N. 5 wears _____ but n. 6 is _____
- N.3 is both _____ and _____ while n. 5 is completely _____

1c. Both n.1 and n. 5 look human. Which is the main difference between them?

- N. 1 is _____ but n. 5 is _____

1d. Complete the following sentence:

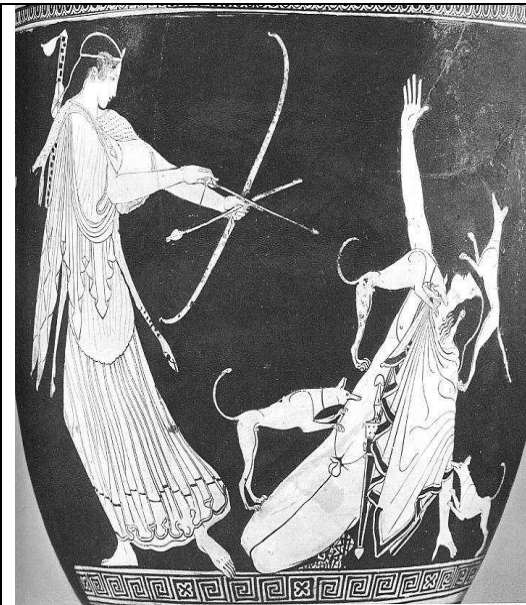
- Greek gods were in _____ shape and they could be represented _____.

1e. Add two more sentences about similarities and differences between Greek gods and the others.

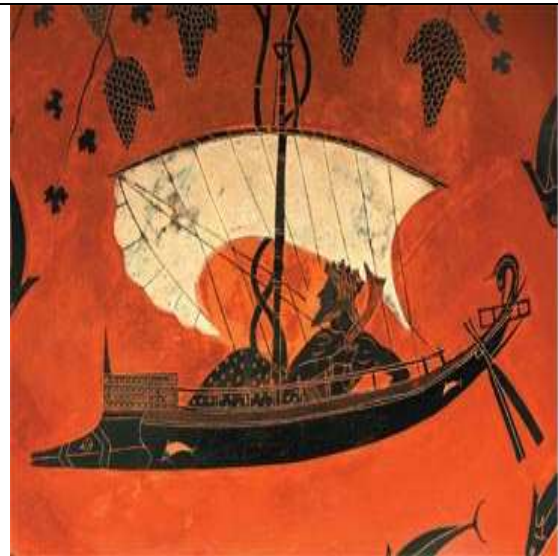
GREEK GODS

OTHERS

2a. Look at these pictures of Greek gods and find out which epithets in lesson 1 suit them:



www.beloit.edu/~classics/main/courses/classic...



www.polygraphianz.com/.../ExekiasDionysos.jpg



Antikensammlung SMPK Berlin

2b. Answer these questions:

- What makes Dionysus glad?
- Why is Hermes such a quick messenger?

2c. Greek society has its main source of life from the earth's produce. Which gods related to earth are these ones?



- _____ carries a cornucopia (a horn full of fruits), which was symbol of prosperity.
- _____ wears sheaths round her hair, symbol of agriculture.

2d. Look at these pictures.



lilt.ilstu.edu/.../birth%20from%20headBIG.jpg



lilt.ilstu.edu/.../birth%20from%20headBIG.jpg

Order these domino-cards 1-3 from a Lukianus' Gods' dialogue and find out which picture they refer to. Here is the first sentence:

Heph.: What, oh Zeus, shall I do? I've just arrived, as you ordered, carrying the sharp double axe, in case I have to split stones.

Zeus: That's it. Split my cranium. If not, I will get angry with you. So hit with all the strength, because I can't stand the pain.

Hephaistus: Be careful, oh Zeus, because the double axe is very sharp and it will make flood some blood.

Zeus: Well done, oh Hephaistus. Now, split my cranium.

Hephaistus: You joke on me? Is this what you want me to do?

Zeus: Absolutely. Hit right now.

Hephaistus: I will. Oh, you had a beautiful warrior woman in your head, and she is carrying a shield and a spear. Now I see you couldn't stand the pain.

2e. Answer these questions:




- In the picture you can't see all of Hephaestus, how do you know he is there?
- What does the warrior goddess carry in her hand?
- What does Zeus carry?

2f. In the Iliad, Homer reports Ares and Aphrodite's adultery. Read this summarised version and answer the questions below:

Ares and Aphrodite had an affair, and god Helios came to know it. He reported it to Hephaistus, Aphrodite's husband, who made invisible chains round his bed to catch the lovers inside. So, next time they met, the chains wrapped them up, so they could'n't escape. When Hephaistus saw this, he called all of the gods to watch. The goddesses didn't go, but the gods laughed and mocked when they saw the scene.

- How can you recognise god Ares in the picture?
- Goddess Aphrodite is usually represented naked. Why? Think of a famous statue of Aphrodite with the same disguise.
- Who is the little winged-god beside her?

2f. Look at these pictures. Answer the questions below:

 <p>Hera (undated photo) z.about.com/d/atheism/1/0/O/P/Hera02-1.jpg</p>	 <p>upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/...</p>  <p>www.personal.psu.edu/.../delphic_tripod.jpg</p>
---	--

- The Pythonise, sat on a tripod, (“three feet”) guessed the future of the consultants at Delphi. Which god patronises this activity? Who sings with him in celebration to Zeus in mount Olympus?
- How can you recognise goddess Hera is called “lady”?
- What does Poseidon use to catch fish in the sea?

3a. Now, on account of their epithets and attributes, write the name of the god beside the activity that he or she patronises.

ACTIVITY	GOD
war strategy and wisdom	
State power and beggars	
agriculture	
wealthiness and the dead	
wine and theatre	
messengers, travellers, thieves	
marriage	
hunting	
prophecy and measure	
sexual attraction	
bloody battles	
crafts	
Seas and earthquakes	

Webtask:

1. Do research about gods’ symbols: animals, plants, tools and even cities. Look in Google on these websites:

- **The Ancient gods**
- **The Olympians**
- **Theoi Project**
- **Greek Mythology**

2. Make small drawings of the symbols you find.

3. In class, we’ll make two teams. First, members of one team will fit gods’ symbols on a feminine and masculine silhouette; the opposite team will try to recognise which is the god that carries the symbols, using sentences from this language frame:

As he / she wears _____, he / she is _____
could be _____
might be _____

4. Now, a team has to give orders, using this language frame:

If you put a _____ on him / her, Who will he / she become?
If he / she wore _____ he / she would be _____ he / she would patronise _____

4a. Which kind of relationship do you think mighty Gods had with mortals?

Read this short Hesiod's text to find out and write a short summary:

“appease the immortals with offerings and sacrifices, when you go to bed and when the holy night returns. So they may have kindly feelings towards you, and you may buy other people's land, not have someone else buy yours”.

LESSON 4. Myths.

1a. Match the religion and the sacred book:

TYPE OF RELIGION	HOLY BOOK
Jewish	Tao-te-ching
Muslim	Bible
Chinese	Koran
Hindi	Veda
Christian	Talmud

1b. Do you know which is the Ancient Greek sacred book?

1c. Fill in the gaps with the words from below:

- Greek religion had no _____, no _____, no _____. It was only the cultural authority of the _____ that preserved a measure of _____ and coherence among the religious ideas and practices of _____ communities.

unity / sacred books / Greek / creed / poets / revelation

Greek religion and society. P.E. Easterling / J.V. Muir. Foreword (xiv,xv)

2a. Do you remember which poet celebrates Zeus' power in Theogony? At the beginning of this play, Muses say: "We know how to speak many false things as though they were true, but we know, when we will, how to utter true things".

- Think of a positive and a negative meaning of the word "myth" nowadays.

2b. Remember too the adultery of Ares and Aphrodite that Homer reports in the Iliad.

- Do you think Greek gods were always taken seriously? Can you remember any other example?

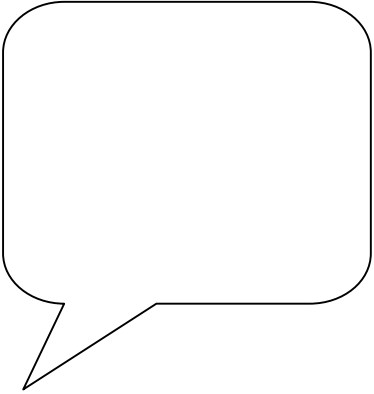
2c. On account of the Muses' words and the homeric episode, discuss in groups of three: how do you think Greek people thought about religion? Write a short summary on this issue.

3a. Myth was a useful way to explain reality. That's why myths were composed even in historical times. Here you have a summarised version of Plato's myth about the origin of living creatures (IV century b. C.)

Once upon a time, there were gods but not men. And when the day came for them, gods made them of sand, by mixing sand and fire. And when they thought about making all creatures come to light, he ordered Prometheus and Epimetheus to distribute powers to some of them. Epimetheus asked Prometheus to distribute powers. So he did. To some of them he gave strength without speed, but to the weakest he gave speed. To those who didn't have physical protection he gave power to be sure. To those small, a winged flee. So, he did everything regarding salvation for the living creatures.

3b. Myths usually start "Once upon a time" and use Past Simple tense. In pairs, try to follow these two rules to write your own myth of some issue's origin from nowadays or from the past. You can make it as fantastic as you want.

4a. Read these bubbles of a dialogue between a child and his mother. What would you answer? Write it in the bubble beside and explain why.

<p>Mum, I've been told two different things at school about Aphrodite's birth: some said that she was born from Urano's genitals, but some others said she was born from Zeus and Dione. Which one is true?</p>	
---	--

5a. Imagine which bird could represent royal power (you find it in lots of flags). Now, complete this short report of Apollodorus (II century b. C.) with the words below:



bp0.blogger.com/.../s400/ganimedes-3-.jpg

“Troas had three sons. The youngest one, handsome Ganimydes, was _____ by god _____ in an _____ appearance, and was taken to _____ to serve gods as a waiter”.

5b. Complete this sentence:

- Despite having a _____ appearance, Greek gods could _____ it if they wanted.

5c. Answer this question:

- Which appearance would you take to serve some purpose? Why this one?

6a. In Alexandria (north of Egypt) Ptolemaios I founded the famous Mouseion, the Muses’ house, in the early 3rd. Century B.C. One of his directors, poet Callimachus, wrote this short hymn to Zeus. Think which should be the right order and explain why:

Grant us goodness and prosperity. Without goodness wealth cannot bless men, nor goodness without prosperity. Give us goodness and weal.

!Hail greatly hail!, most high son of Cronus, giver of good things, giver of safety. Your works who could sing? There has not been, there shall not be who shall sing the works of Zeus. Hail, Father, hail again!

6b. Imagine you have to ask something extremely important to another person. Do it as if he / she was powerful to help you.

7a. In pairs, do a mutual dictation to complete these lines of a Lukianos' dialogue about Dionysus' birth:

Part A

P. : May I have a word with Zeus?

H. : _____

P. : Nevertheless, tell him I'm here.

H. : _____

P. : Maybe he is with Hera?

H. : _____

P.: How is it so? That's weird!

H. : _____

P. : You shouldn't be afraid in front of your uncle!

H. : _____

P. : What? Has he given birth? And who's the father? His belly didn't show his pregnancy.

H. : _____

P. : I know. He's given birth again through his head, as with Athena.

H. : _____

P. : So, my brother is both father and mother of Dionysus?

H. : _____

Part B

P. : _____

H. : No, Poseidon.

P. : _____

H. : Please, don't annoy me! You can't see him right now.

P. : _____

H. : Nothing to do with that.

P. : _____

H. : So weird that I'm ashamed to explain it.

P. : _____

H. : He has just given birth.

P. : _____

H. : You're right. There was no embryo there at all.

P. : _____

H. : No. He had an affair with mortal Semele and she got pregnant. Once he approached her with his thunderbolt she got burnt. Then Zeus took the embryo and put it in his leg. And now he's just given birth. That's why he's so weak.

P. : _____

H. : So it seems.

**7b. Now try performing it emphasising the comic effect
Lukianus wanted to reach.**

LESSON 5. Tradition nowadays.

1. Advertising

This is the entrance of a famous wine shop in Cambridge. The name of the company, Bacchanalia, refers to the Latin name of Dionysus, god of wine.



1a. Imagine you are a publisher and you have been asked to use Olympians to promote some goods. Name the goods you would like to sell with a slogan related to the Olympians. (Think about superlatives, repetitions, attractive adjectives...).

1b. Show your product to your classmates. They will tell you if they would buy it or not.

2. Cinema

Which god, which hero, which man are we celebrating?

Pindar

Film "300" , directed by Zack Snyder.

2a. Here are some statements about the battle at Thermopylae between a group of Spartan warriors and the Persian army, in 480 B. C. Some of them are true and some are false. Tick your answers.

STATEMENT	TRUE	FALSE
The Spartans won the battle against the Persian army		
They were allowed to go by the Spartan priests		
They stood in their positions until they died		
They gained immortal glory		

Imagine you are a Spartan who is assisting the “apella” a month after the battle. You are listening to the only one survivor from the Spartan group that lost in front of the Persian army. Now check if your predictions were right.

My name is Eudorus. I am the only one Spartan who came back home after the battle at Thermopylae against the Persian army.
We didn't have permission to go from the Spartan priests, for we had to fight during holy Carneia. But we went there to help the Greeks in the fight for freedom and land, we were 300 Spartans against King Xerxes, who proclaimed himself a god.
Though we were betrayed and knew we were to die, we held our positions, for a Spartan never surrenders. Such is our law.
Before the defeat I was sent by our king Leonidas to report this fact, for his last words were: “Remember us”.

2b. Discuss in groups of three:

- Do you think the Spartans lost the battle because the gods were angry with them or because they were very few warriors against the army?

Poet Simonides wrote a poem about their deed.

Here are some verses:

Of those who died at Thermopylae
glorious was their fortune,
Fame embraces them.
and also testifies it Leonidas,
king of Sparta, who left in here
a monument of immortal glory.

2c. Complete this sentence:

- Spartans _____ that battle but _____ glory in history and art.

Film “Troy” , directed by Wolfgang Tetersen .

3a. Read the following sentences and put them in the table below, with a capital letter to identify who said them (Pr: Priam, H: Hector, Ag: Agamemnon, Ac: Achilles, P: Priest) Some sentences are part of a dialogue. Once you have finished, answer the questions:

- Did the Greeks worship their gods?
- Did they believe in them?

_ All the gods are to be feared and respected.

_ We have to accept it. It’s a gift to the gods. (“it” is the big horse)

_ Apollo watches over us. Agamemnon is no match for the gods.

_ And how many battalions does the god sun command?

_ Do not mock the gods.

_ I cannot change what happened. It is the will of the gods.

_ Gods envy us because we’re mortals. Because every moment might be our last.

_ Poseidon has blessed our voyage.

_ I spoke to two farmers today. They saw an eagle flying with a serpent in its talons. This is a sign from Apollo. We will win a great victory tomorrow.

_ Bird signs. You want to plan a strategy on bird signs.

_ Show respect. The priest is a servant of the gods.

_ Priam thinks the god sun will protect him, but gods always protect the strong.

_ It is the will of the gods. Everything is in their hands.

_ Hear me, Zeus. I will smash their walls to the ground.

_ Honour the gods, love your woman, defend your country.

IN FAVOUR OF THE GODS
AGAINST THE GODS
BOTH

3b. Answer this question:

- Why did the Greeks go to Troy?

3c. Read these verses from Iliad book II, about the Greek army, and answer the questions below:

“I could not name every single one of them though I had ten tongues, and though my voice failed not and my heart were of bronze, unless you, Olympian Muses, were to recount them to me ”.

- Does the film indicate that the Trojan war was such a very big battle?
- Was it?

4. In the Ancient Greek world, they thought Muses inspired poets to remind people about men, heroes and gods' deeds. Modern poets still speak of them nowadays. Order these lines of a poem on the Olympians (*Ionic*) by Kostandinos Kavafis and write them down. Look at the Catalan translation by Carles Riba's too.

When a summer morning arises above you O land of Ionia! and an aerial, youthful-shaped form, passes through and over your mountains' peaks. Although we destroyed their statues, Although we sent them out from their temples, in your air returns a sap of their lives, their souls still keep your memories. not for that did Greek gods die at all. indefinite, with quick step, Nowadays they still love you,	Per bé que trossejarem llurs estàtues, per bé que els bandejarem de llurs temples, no per això moriren pas els déus. Oh terra de la Jònia! a tu encara t'estimen, guarden el teu record llurs ànimes encara. Quan un matí d'agost s'aixeca damunt teu. revé com una saba de llur vida, i una aèria, jovenívola forma, indefinida, amb trànsit prompte, pel cim dels teus pujols es veu com passa.
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- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.

Every time we still remember them, we keep adding links to the chain of tradition.