



WORLD MYTHOLOGY

Monsters & Creatures / Journeys & Quests Combined Examination

Monsters and Creatures we have studied:

Grendel
Dragon killed by Indra
Cloud Eater
Minotaur
Norse Giants
Phoenix Bird

Journeys and Quests we have studied:

Aeneid
Odyssey
Epic of Gilgamesh
Sigurd the Volsung
Ramayana
Kotan Utunnai
Mwindo
Herakles

1. Do you recall the creation and flood comparison sheets that we filled out? It is now your task to design your own monster/creature comparison sheet. The comparison sheet should include at least five points of comparison and should include all of the six monsters/creatures listed above. You must also fill in the blanks in the sheet. (25 points)

2. Choose two heroes featured in the journeys and quests (not the monster myths) that we have studied. Compare and contrast the heroic qualities (at least five) that make these people heroes. You must specifically note what heroic qualities you will be discussing. (approx. 3-5 paragraphs, 25 points)

3. Drawing on your knowledge of the monsters, creatures, heroes, journeys, and quests that we have studied, please compose a myth in which you:

a) describe a monster or creature (could be benevolent or malevolent) of your own creation, and

b) describe a quest of your own creation to locate/capture/kill the monster or creature.

Remember, you must use your knowledge of other myths of the world when devising your own myth. That is, note the similarities among the monster/creature/journey/quest myths of various world cultures and make sure that your myth fits in with the others. (approx. 5 paragraphs, 25 points)

4. IN-CLASS QUESTION: Accurately illustrate a scene from one of the journeys or quests that we have studied. (25 points)

EXTRA CREDIT: Choose one of the journeys or quests that we have studied, and write five discussion questions based on that myth. The point of a discussion question is to help students not only to review the material read but also to come to a greater understanding of it. An example of a good discussion question is this, "What does Gilgamesh set out to do, and why?" or "Why does Rama choose to stay in exile rather than to return to Ayodhya when his brother Bharata comes looking for him? Do you think that this was the right decision?" (5 points)