

Name: _____

CLASSICS 102 (GS04) - Greek and Roman Mythology
Final Exam : April 16, 2021

Weight: 40% of final grade
Time: 3 hours

Instructor: Isabelle Donald, PhD

A. **From the list of names, choose the name of the** character which answers each of the following questions. Please note that all names can be used (2 marks each):

(20)

Aegeus, Aeneas, Aeolus, Amphiaraus, Augeus, Bellerophon, Cadmus,, Castor, Laocoon, Laomedon, Meleager, Menelaus, Peleus, Pelias, Philoctetes, Pirithous, Procrustes

1. When he couldn't find his sister, this hero went to Delphi where he was told "to follow his own destiny and found a city".

2. After escaping from a battle, this hero died when he drove his chariot through a chasm directly into the Underworld.

3. With the help of Pegasus, this hero completed three quests and tests and was rewarded with marriage and power; then he tried to fly to Mt. Olympos, so Pegasus threw him off his back.

4. A criminal whose weapons were a hammer, a saw, and a bed.

5. This hero died when a log thrown into a fire by his mother, turned to ashes

6. One of two brothers who spend alternate days on Mt. Olympus and in the Underworld.

7. Abandoned on the island of Lemnos before the Trojan War because he was bitten by a snake and the wound would not heal.

8.. After eating food in the Underworld , this hero could not stand up because he was stuck to a "magic chair" and he remained in the Underworld forever.

9. A prophecy said that "he must found his city where he saw a white sow and 30 piglets lying on a river bank".

10. He was strangled by two sea-serpents after he said, "I fear Greeks, even when bearing gifts".

- B. **From the list of names, choose the name of the** character which answers each of the following questions. Please note that all names can be used (2 marks each):
(20)

Andromeda, Antigone, Ariadne, Calypso, Cassandra, Cassiopeia, Circe, Electra, Erinyes, Hesperides, Hippolyta, Iphigeneia, Medea, Medusa, Pasiphae, Penelope, Scylla, Sirens, Sphinx, Thetis

1. Gave her brother a “symbolic burial” by sprinkling three handfuls of dirt over his corpse.
2. Perched on a cliff overlooking one of the main roads to Thebes and asked all travellers a riddle.
3. This princess was offered as prey to a sea-monster but was rescued just in time by a hero whom she then married.
4. Married a mortal man due to a prophecy that “she would bear a son stronger than his father”.
5. Gave the hero a ball of thread “with which he could trace his way out of the Labyrinth”.
6. She was doomed never to be believed, although she always spoke the truth.
7. She conspired with her brother to kill their mother, the murderer of their dear father.
8. These spirits of vengeance pursued murderers of kindred blood.
9. The melody of their singing attracted sailors who could not leave the island and, all around them, the beach was piled high with bones of men.
10. Offered to make Odysseus immortal if he would become her husband.

D. Briefly answer the following questions on folktale (10 marks in total):

(10)

1) In the folktale known as the Quest and Test there is often something extraordinary about the hero's birth. When the hero grows up, he falls under the power of an enemy and is sent on a quest and test and, after achieving success, the hero is rewarded. Using the myth of **Perseus**, briefly answer the following questions:

a) What was extraordinary about Perseus' birth and childhood?

b) Why did Polydectes send Perseus on a quest and test?

c) Who were Perseus' allies?

d) How did Perseus kill his enemy?

e) Was Perseus rewarded?

2. The folktale motif "girl as helper" is common in the Greek heroic myths. While most heroes have only one female helper, either a goddess or a so-called mortal woman, one hero, Jason, has several helpers. Give the names of **two or more** female helpers who come to Jason's aid and briefly say what each did to help him in his quest.

E. Essay question on the *Iliad*, about **1 1/2 to 2 pages** in length, **double-spaced**.
(20)

The Olympian gods play a crucial role in Homer's *Iliad* but they "are not mere manipulators of the plot [since] each acts for the most part within the scope of his or her proper function." With this quote in mind, choose **ONE** of the following Olympian gods and discuss their role in the *Iliad*:

1. Zeus
2. Athena
3. Apollo

F. Write an essay about **1 1/2 pages** in length, **double-spaced**, on **ONE** of the following questions:
(20)

1) Many heroes made a return trip to and from the Underworld, thus enabling them to live twice. But one hero, Theseus, only returned to the world of the living after he was rescued by Heracles. What does his nearly failed journey out of the Underworld tell us about the Athenian hero? Discuss.

2) As the greatest Greek hero, Heracles had more labours (quests) than any other hero and, after conquering death three times, he was deified. Is it only the number of quests or the conquest of death that leads to greatness? How do heroes who only had one quest, such as Perseus or Jason, compare with Heracles? Discuss.

3) Odysseus is a different kind of hero, one who thinks and plans ahead rather than achieving his ends through brute strength as Heracles does. At the same time each hero faced completely different tests and, therefore, required a different approach to achieve success. Discuss.