

Research Paper: Themes in Greek Mythology

BEFORE you print, check your paper for these items:

- My draft is completely typed.
- My draft is at least 500 words long.
- My draft contains a title, centered, in this format: Topic: Theme-based Epithet
(example: Dionysus: Dual-natured God of Wine)
- My draft includes proper parenthetical documentation and at least two correctly used semicolons.
- I do NOT capitalize the words *god* and *goddess* when I am referring to characters in myths.
- My draft presents an argument that I prove using the myth as evidence.
- I do NOT just tell the story of the myth.
- I do NOT just tell the story of the myth.

Organization

My introductory paragraph contains...

- ...an attention getter.
- ...very basic general background information about the myth – do not retell the entire thing at this point!
- ...a statement of the common themes in mythology that my myth illustrates.
- ...a clear thesis statement that answers my essential question. (Thesis statement is not a question!)

Each of the body paragraphs (at least three) in my draft has...

- ...an argument that is developed with the following elements, not just a retelling of the myth.
- ...a theme as a topic sentence. (Do not tell the story before stating the theme it illustrates.)
- ...details from the myth that illustrate the theme I used as a topic sentence...
 - ...including proper parenthetical documentation (in-text citations).
- ...elaboration that explains how the story illustrates the theme.
- ...a transition or conclusion statement.

My conclusion paragraph contains...

- ...a restatement of the thesis (in different words than in the introduction).
- ...a summary of the main themes my myth illustrates.
- ...a “clincher” statement that refers to the myth (or the attention getter).

My Works Cited Page...

- ...is on a separate page.
- ...was created using Citation Builder or KnightCite.
- ...is properly formatted: spacing, punctuation, indenting (after first line).
- ...is properly alphabetized.
- ...contains proper spelling, punctuation, and italicizing of titles and proper nouns.
- ...contains at least three books and one website.
- ...looks neat and professional.

Remember: This is NOT to be a *report* or a *retelling* of your myth. You have to write a thesis-based argument in which you prove or illustrate a thesis that *you* generated. You will tell parts of your story to *support your thesis*, not just for the sake of telling the whole thing.

Staple this completed checklist on top of the following things (in this order): second draft, works cited page, first draft, library research handout. Turn it in!