**Name Date**

**Thematic Essay on Greek Mythology Writing Workshop – Period**

**Directions:** Please use the heading above. Write an essay with an introduction, three body paragraphs (one myth described per paragraph) and a conclusion. You may use any of the sample introductory paragraphs that each class has created as a group. You may just “cut and paste” the text into your document, or you may decide to write your own.

**Purpose:** Your task is to explain to the reader why Greek Myths are like interesting artifacts that tell us about what the Ancient Greek people valued in their society. Mythology is a part of every culture, and the telling of these stories is partly what makes us human. It is important to study and understand the myths and legends of ancient and modern cultures and societies in order to understand the people who told them. Another purpose of writing this essay is to practice writing informational essays on literature.

**Introduction:**

**The Introductory paragraph must have a thesis statement (a statement about the literature which you will then prove with evidence from the text) and a TAG sentence (title, author, genre) to identify the content of your essay.**

**Body Paragraphs 1, 2, and 3:**

**Begin with a topic sentence and include at least three supporting details with textual evidence. You may follow the outline below:**

The story of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ teaches the reader that it is not good to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

For supporting details tell about the situation facing the character.

Tell about the fatal mistake the character makes.

Tell about the consequences.

This story shows what might happen if people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion:**

**Summarize what you have discussed in the essay. Restate the thesis.**

**When you are finished with your essay**, print it, proofread it, edit it with pen or pencil, and then turn it in.

**Sample Introductory Paragraphs: The Introductory paragraph must have a thesis statement (a statement about the literature which you will then prove with evidence from the text) and a TAG sentence (title, author, genre) to identify the content of your essay.**

 (Period 2B)

Within Greek mythology, people are offered life lessons. Storytellers passed these lessons on to people to help them with behavior and decision making. In the anthology Ancient Greek Myths and Legends by Phillip Ardagh, there are many myths that teach great lessons.

(Period 5A)

 For many years, people have told stories to entertain and persuade their audience. Myths are stories that teach people how to behave better. In the myth anthology Ancient Greek Myths and Legends by Phillip Ardagh, many stories teach the audience a lesson. The myths entertain people while they are learning lessons.

(Period 5B)

In Phillip Ardagh’s myth anthology Ancient Greek Myths and Legends, there are many lessons to be learned. In several myths, there are characters that make fatal mistakes which teach the audience life lessons.

(Period 8A)

 Greek myths taught life lessons and morals to the Greek people. The Ancient Greeks learned from the stories how to behave. In the myth anthology Ancient Greek Myths and Legends, by Phillip Ardagh, there are several myths which teach valuable lessons.

(Period 8B)

Long ago, Greek people told stories or myths to teach people lessons. The characters often make mistakes which taught the audience how to live their lives. In the myth anthology Ancient Greek Myths and Legends by Phillip Ardagh, several myths teach valuable lessons.

**For the 3 Body Paragraphs, use your outline which we filled out in class.**

**For each paragraph, include 5 - 7 sentences with evidence from the text supporting your topic sentence. Try to include a direct quote to add to the textual evidence. (“Textual evidence” is details and quotes from the text which support your statements.) You do not need to retell the myths. Just pull relevant details to support your thesis.**

**Sample Conclusion:**

In conclusion, these myths teach the audience how to behave. By learning what happens to Icarus, King Midas, and Narcissus for example, the audience can learn how bad it is to be foolish, greedy, or self-centered.