

Ancient Greek Gods – Topic learning for week of 18/1/21 and 25/1/21

In the next sequence of Topic lessons, we are going to move away from why Athens was so powerful as a city and we are going to focus on the gods of Ancient Greece!!! This learning will take a good number of lessons, so we hope you really enjoy this part of learning for our Ancient Greece topic.

Lesson 1 of the week 18/1/21

Follow the instructions below, under the LO. We have copied and pasted in some text and examples of pupil notes that will help you in seeing what you are meant to do. You can use these notes yourself if you think you will struggle with researching your own notes. It will give you some general notes AND specific notes straight away and it will show you HOW you could lay things out in your book or on a Word document.

Historical enquiry

LO: to apply enquiry skills to research about a chosen Ancient God

Research, using different forms of media, about an Ancient Greek God of your choice. I would research generally about them first so that you have a menu of gods and then you can pick your most interesting god. It's up to you!

So, having enquired generally about the Greek Gods, you are to then choose a god to research about and present a non-chronological report about this God. Think about the different aspects of their life you could research about and create sub-headings that relate to the notes you're making.

So, make general notes to start with about the Greek Gods and then make specific notes about a specific God of your choice.



The brothers Zeus, Hades, and Poseidon were the most important gods of all.
Zeus was the strongest and wisest of the three and ruled over the earth.
Hades ruled the Underworld, the world of the dead. Poseidon ruled the seas.
He was also the god of earthquakes and horses.



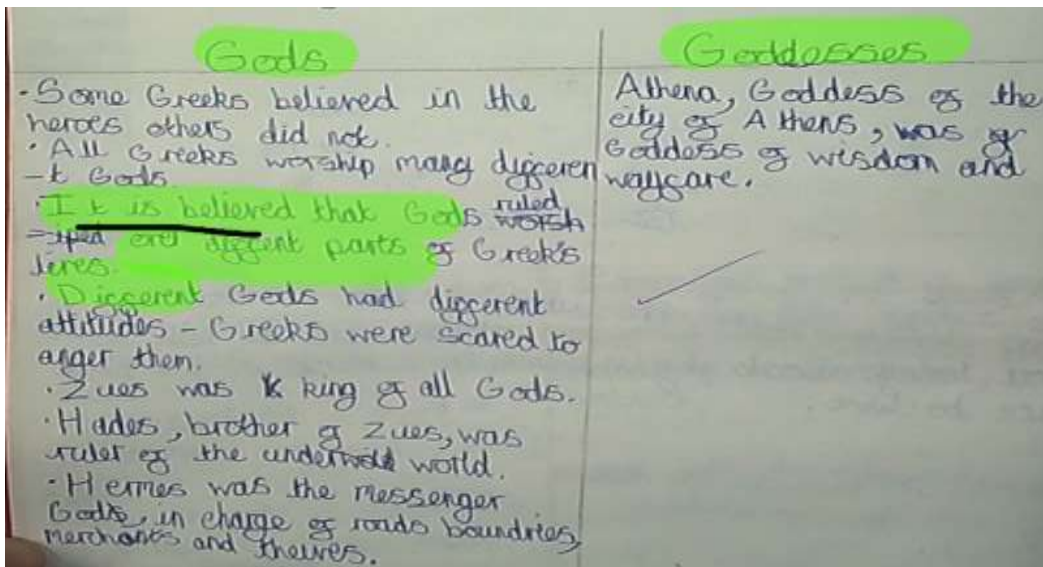
Mount Olympus

The ancient Greeks believed in many different gods and goddesses. The most powerful 12 lived on the top of Mount Olympus. This is where meetings were held and arguments were settled.

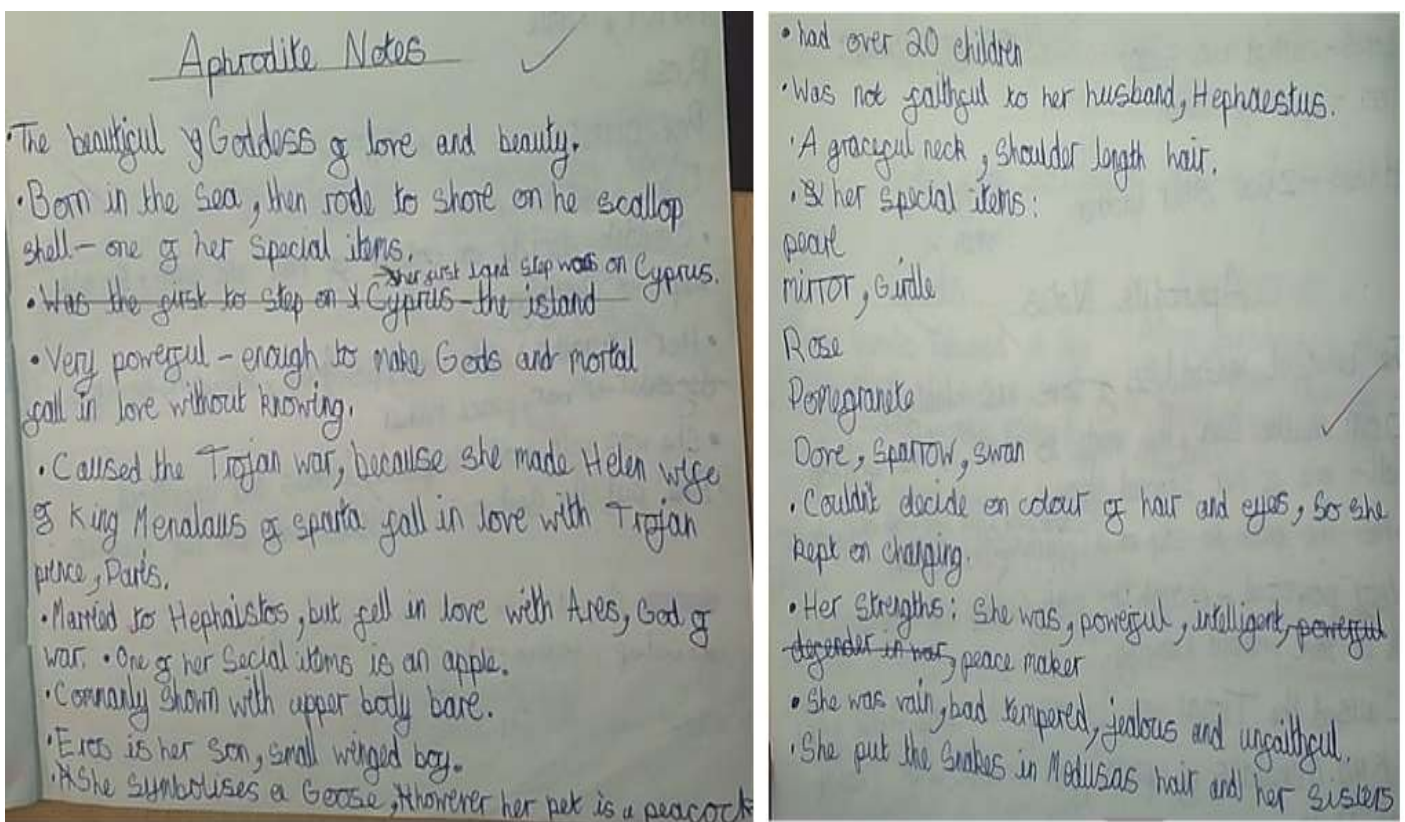
There were some very powerful gods who did not actually live on Mount Olympus, such as Hades, god of the underworld.

The notes in the pink and orange above could, for example, be used as ideas for your introduction when you come to write your Non-Chronological Report.

The blue and green notes below show HOW you might want to lay things out when taking notes. The notes below, written by a child from two years ago, show notes and ideas about her general opening Introduction where she then wrote about gods and goddesses in a general way (not writing toooooo much about one, specific god) for her Introduction. You can magpie ideas from her notes too.



This child then went on to make notes about her chosen god, Aphrodite. See below:



You should use bullet points for your notes too! Here are some further notes below that could hook into your Introduction section of your Report. If you notice, I write in a general, impersonal way, where I use, 'Some people...' to start sentences. This shows that NOT ALL PEOPLE will have believed certain things. These soft, general openers are really important to your writing style for when you write your Report. Again, you can magpie these notes and use the notes below that you can understand and get your head around...

Notes from secondary sources (books and online)

Gods

Different Gods ruled over different areas of ~~of~~ a person's life. This is what Greeks believed.

- Zeus led most important God family.

- Some people believed Gods existed whereas others did not.

GODS

The Greeks worshipped many different gods, each of which, they believed, ruled over a different area of their lives. The most important gods belonged to one family led by Zeus, the king of the gods. Greek writings show that people had different attitudes to their gods. While most people believed in the powers of the gods and feared angering them, others doubted that they even existed.

Now, read this below. For this section, just think about growing your overall understanding. You maybe don't need to make a lot of notes - just read...

Gods, goddesses, and heroes

DEMETER FROM DELOS
Demeter was the god of wine and earth fertility. In this mosaic from the island of Delos, he is riding a tiger.

THE KING OF THE GODS
Zeus was the king of the gods. He usually appears in art as a strong, middle-aged, bearded man, of great power and dignity. Sometimes he carries his symbol, a thunderbolt.

HOME OF THE GODS
Mount Olympus is the highest mountain in Greece and was believed to be the home of the gods. It is in the north of Greece, on the borders of Thessaly and Macedonia.

THE GREEKS BELIEVED that all the gods were descendants of Gaia (the earth) and Uranos (the sky). They thought the gods were probably very like humans: they fell in love with each other, married, quarrelled, had children, played music, and in many other ways mirrored human characteristics (or humans mirrored theirs). All the gods had their own spheres of influence. Demeter and Persephone were responsible for the grain growing. Artemis was the goddess of hunting. Apollo could foretell the future, and Aphrodite was the goddess of love. Many of the best-known gods had temples and sanctuaries dedicated to them, and much money and artistic ability were lavished upon them. Religion played a large part in the lives of ordinary people. Indeed, most of the beautiful buildings which still survive are temples. Worshippers believed that the gods would treat them well and meet their needs if they offered them the fruits of the harvest and animal sacrifices.

Below are some other general points about a range of different gods, and notes about Mount Olympus, where the gods lived.

Mount Olympus

The ancient Greeks believed in many different gods and goddesses. The most powerful 12 lived on the top of Mount Olympus. This is where meetings were held and arguments were settled.

There were some very powerful gods who did not actually live on Mount Olympus, such as Hades, god of the underworld.

Hades

Hades was the brother of Zeus. The ancient Greeks were quite afraid of him.

Hades was the god of the dead. He ruled the underworld, where people went when they died.

People made sacrifices to Hades when they wanted something bad to happen.



Zeus

Zeus was the most powerful of all the gods. He was god of the sky and the King of Mount Olympus.

He was married to the queen of the gods, Hera, but he had many other lovers.

His temper affected the weather, and when he was angry he threw thunderbolts.

Ares

Ares was the god of war. He was cruel and a coward.

Ares was the son of Zeus and Hera and they did not like him.

He killed the giant Ekhidnades, a fierce monster and enemy of the gods.



Poseidon

Poseidon was the god of the sea. He was the most powerful god except for his brother, Zeus.

He lived in a beautiful palace under the sea and caused earthquakes when he was angry.

Poseidon delayed the return of Odysseus from the Trojan War by causing his boat to be shipwrecked.



He rode a chariot pulled by seahorses.

Hera

Hera was the sister and wife of Zeus. She was powerful and beautiful but very jealous and vain.

Hera was an Earth goddess and the goddess of family and marriage. Greek men thought of her as unpleasant.

She tried to kill Zeus' son Heracles (also known as Hercules).



Did you know?

His throne was upholstered by human skin.

So...All of the notes above are here to help you if you are struggling with researching your own information about the Greek Gods and then YOUR CHOSEN GREEK GOD. You must now go and use your research skills to explore and make notes about the Greek Gods and a Greek God of your choice, also. Good luck! Here is a list of the 12 Greek Gods below for you to choose from:

Greek Gods

