

Mythology Questions

Chapters 17, 18 & 19 "The Great Families of Mythology"

Answer the following in complete sentences, on your own paper, and include the question in your answer.

The House of Atreus

1. Who brings all of the misfortune on the house of Atreus? What evil deed does he do? What is his punishment?
2. What are Cassandra's gift and curse, and who is responsible for these? (See the first few pages of Chapter 15: The Adventures of Odysseus for more information)
3. Why does Agamemnon kill his daughter? Who punishes him and what is the punishment?
4. What is difficult about the decision Orestes has to make? What does he decide, and what is the consequence of it?
5. What is one good thing that results from Orestes's repentance?

The Royal House of Thebes

6. What do the gods do to Cadmus and Harmonia toward the end of their lives? What lesson did the gods want to teach by what happened to them?
7. What wrong does Oedipus commit? How does he punish himself? Explain whether you believe he was guilty or innocent of this wrong.
8. Why is Antigone killed?
9. How does Theseus, King of Athens, help Adrastus and the relatives of the chieftains who fought against Thebes?

The Royal House of Athens

10. What are two things for which Cecrops is usually remembered?
11. How does Philomela let Procne know of Tereus's evil deeds? What do the gods do to Philomela, Procne and Tereus?
12. How does Cephalus test Procris's devotion to him? What is the outcome?
13. Where are Creusa and Ion reunited? Who reunites them?