

Handout 3B: Evidence Organizer

Directions: Choose the strongest evidence to support your focus statement. Write brief notes in the boxes. Follow the prompts at the top of the chart. Remember to only write notes that support your focus statement.

Prompt: For an audience who might be interested in learning more about myths and why people created them, write a well-developed paragraph in which you explain what a myth is and why the Greeks created them. Develop your ideas with evidence and examples from pages 6–23 of *Understanding Greek Myths* and from the book *Gifts from the Gods*.

Focus Statement:

| Context | Evidence | Source | Elaboration/Explanation |
|--|---|---|--|
| What are the characteristics of myths? | List details from the text that support your focus statement. Be sure to use quotations and paraphrasing. | Where did this information come from? List title and page number. | Why is this important? What does this help us understand? |
| Include gods and goddesses. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greeks believed gods created everything in the world. • Zeus was king of gods. • Demeter controlled seasons | "Understanding Greek Myths" pgs. 4-7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greeks were polytheistic (believed in many gods). • Gods controlled everything • Religion was important to Greeks. |

Date: _____

Name: _____

| Context | Evidence | Source | Elaboration/Explanation |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p>What are the characteristics of myths?</p> | <p>List details from the text that support your focus statement. Be sure to use quotations and paraphrasing.</p> | <p>Where did this information come from? List title and page number.</p> | <p>Why is this important? What does this help us understand?</p> |
| <p>Include heroes and monsters.</p> | <p>Heracles, Achilles, Perseus, Jason . Monsters were nine-headed hydra, human-eating birds.</p> | <p>pages 4-9</p> | <p>• Taught people through exciting stories how to behave. • Taught people that hard work, humility, generosity were important.</p> |
| <p>Creation myths tell how the world came to be.</p> | <p>• "Described how world, landscape, plants, animals, and even people came to be." . Promethus myth explains how people got fire.</p> | <p>page 8 page 14</p> | <p>• Explained things people didn't understand like changes in seasons or fire.</p> |
| <p>Morality myths taught people how to behave.</p> | <p>• explain how people should behave and what could happen if they do otherwise. . Goodness ; generosity were rewarded.</p> | <p>page 8</p> | <p>• Taught people how to behave properly . Scared people because of possible punishment if they are bad. . Rewards good ; kind people</p> |