

APEX 9: Summer Assignment 2011

Objective: The summer reading this year is designed to help prepare students for our first book, Homer's Odyssey, a story of Odysseus's perilous, adventure-filled journey home from the Trojan War. Although many of you have studied Greek and Roman mythology either in 6th grade or on your own, this review will be helpful as we immerse ourselves in Ancient Greek culture.

Assignment 1: Read the following sections in Edith Hamilton's Mythology:
Introduction to Classical Mythology (p. 1-23)
Part One: The Gods, the Creation, and the Earliest Heroes (p. 24-95)
Part Four, chapters 13, 14, 15: The Heroes of the Trojan War (p. 185-229)

Optional: You may choose to take notes as you read.

You can pick up a copy of this book during the APEX Summer Academy (6/20—6/24) here at WJ. Alternatively, I will leave copies of the book in the Main Office. You are also welcome to buy your own copy. It's a good resource to have in your personal library!

Assignment 2: Watch "Joseph Campbell: The Hero's Journey." This is available to be downloaded and viewed instantly on *Netflix*. If you don't subscribe to *Netflix*, see if you can check it out at the public library. If you have trouble locating this film, please email me, and I'll help you out! (This assignment is optional.)

We will discuss how Odysseus's journey matches the hero's journey as outlined by Campbell.

Assignment 3: Read one other book that incorporates a character going on a journey. This journey can take place in any setting – time or place. You probably read about Bilbo Baggins' journey this year in J. R. R. Tolkien's The Hobbit. If you need help choosing a book, ask your librarian or email me for help.

I look forward to meeting all of you soon!

Sincerely,

Ms. Reynolds
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