Unit 1 Guided Notes

The Epic and Epic Heroes
An _______________ is a typical example of characters that we see in literature.

Example: _______________________

An _______________ is a hero who serves as a representative of qualities a culture appreciates most.

Example: _______________________

The epic hero, who represents the ___________ of a society, is at the center of every epic. Epic heroes are exceptional people who undertake ___________ ___________ or journeys. Through the journey, heroes aim to achieve something of value to themselves or their people.

Epic heroes may experience many obstacles, or __________, along the way.

These __________ are sometimes __________, created by forces of nature or, as in many epics and myths, the gods.

Epic heroes also experience ___________ ___________. Faced with an internal conflict, the heroes struggle to overcome their own fears or doubts.

A __________ is a character that stands in stark contrast to another character. Most epic heroes have one.

Example: _______________________________

Epic heroes also all follow the same storyline:

They are special or _______________ from birth.

They are charged with a __________.

They go through trials and challenges designed to test their ___________ and ___________.

Epic heroes go to ___________ worlds that others may not enter.

Epic heroes get help from ___________________________.

Even when they hit a low point, epic heroes always come back fighting. They have a ________________, and then they are restored to their rightful place.
are long narratives told in elevated language, often relating the adventures of larger-than-life heroes.

In some way, epic heroes embody the _____________ of their civilizations.

For example, a hero may demonstrate values of _____________, _____________, or _____________.

Epics are found in many cultures and share the following characteristics:

- a physically impressive hero of _____________ or _____________ importance
- a vast _____________
- a _____________ or _____________ in search of something of value
- the involvement of _____________ __________
- a basis in a specific _____________ or _____________
- characters struggling against _____________

We can look at an epic as an encyclopedia of the _____________, _____________, and _____________ that bind a civilization together.

Like myths, epics offer people a vision of where they came from, what their laws and values are, and their destiny.

**Greek Mythology**

A _____________ is a traditional story rooted in primitive folk beliefs of cultures.

Myths use the _____________ to interpret natural events.

They explain the culture’s view of the _____________ and the _____________ of _____________.

The Ancient Greeks believed that _____________ is inevitable and final, so the goal was to become a _____________ through great _____________.

The Greeks were ____________, ____________, ambitious, hard-living, and ____________.

___________ was extremely important, and the Greeks were very _____________ if wronged.

The gods mirrored human _____________ and _____________ ____________.

Their flaws were ____________, cruelty, stubbornness, _____________, and lust for power.

The Greeks had a strong desire to be like _____________. 
In general, Greek gods were divided into three categories

- _______
- _______
- _______

The _________ ruled before the _________ They were the children of Heaven and Earth. They were overthrown by the Olympians.

The Olympians were a group of twelve gods who ruled after the overthrow of the Titans.

All the Olympians are related in some way.

They named their dwelling place _________ _________.

The Olympians:

1. _________:
   King of the gods
   God of ____________ and ____________.
   His symbol is the ____________.
   Married to _________; had many affairs and many children; some of them were gods and goddesses
   He was the ________________ _______________ of gods and men.

2. ________________:
   God of the ________________.
   Poseidon is Zeus’s brother.
   He controlled _________________. rough seas, and___________ _________________. ___________ and ________________.
   His symbol is the ____________.

3. ________________:
   God of the ________________
   His symbol is the ________________.
   He was not friendly, but he was not evil.

4. ________________:
   Goddess of the ________________ and ___________; protector of the sacred fire
   Her symbol is the ____________.
   She was Zeus’s sister.

5. ________________:
   Goddess of ________________
   Her symbol is the ________________.
   She was married to Zeus and was very jealous of his affairs.
6. ___________________:
God of ______________
His symbol is the ______________
He was not popular, and there are no positive myths about him.

7. ___________________:
Goddess of ___________ and ______________
Her symbol is the ________________.
She did not start wars; she helped soldiers with strategy and defense.

8. ___________________:
God of the __________
His symbol is the ____________ _________________.
Some myths say he drove the sun chariot; other myths give this job to Helios.

9. ___________________:
Goddess of ___________ and ______________
Her symbol is a ________________.
She was married to Hephaestus, and her son was Eros (Cupid).

10. _________________:
Messenger of the ____________
His symbol is ________________ ________________.
He delivered messages to and from the gods.

11. _________________:
Goddess of the ______________
Her symbol is the ________________ ________________.
She was Apollo’s twin sister, and she avoided men.

12. _________________:
God of the ______________
His symbol is the ____________
He was in charge of making weapons, including Zeus’s lightning bolts.

13. _________________:
Three daughters of Zeus who determine ____________ _________________.
They were __________ and all shared one ________________.
One spun the ____________ of life, one ________________ the thread of life, and the other ________________ the thread of life.

14. _________________:
They were __________ daughters of Zeus.
They inspired ________________.
______________ was the muse of epic poetry.

**Research and Writing Terms**
1. ____________________- the most important idea that the author is trying to convey
2. ____________________- a form of writing in which the author establishes a position on a topic and uses evidence and facts to convince the reader that the author’s opinion of a subject is correct
3. ____________________- the underlying idea of an argument
4. ____________________ - the thesis statement for an argument; explains which side of an argument the author takes
5. ____________________ - a short and amusing/interesting story about a real person or incident
6. ____________________ - the way an author expresses an attitude about a topic through writing
7. ____________________ - a list of sources used in a research paper
8. ____________________ - a statement, reason, or fact for or against a topic
9. ____________________ - a statement, reason, or fact that contrasts with the main argument
10. ____________________ - the reason an author writes about a specific topic
11. ____________________ - the arrangement of ideas, incidents, evidence, or details in a written piece.

Types of Organizational Structure:

a. ____________________ - the author lists the reasons for--and the consequences of--an action, event, or decision
b. ____________________ - the author analyzes a problem and offers a solution
c. ____________________ - the author compares and contrasts topics
d. ____________________ - the author orders events, reasons, etc. in a specific order (i.e., chronological, large-to-small, etc.)

12. ____________________ - the art of effective or persuasive writing or speaking, especially the use of figures of speech and other compositional techniques

Types of Rhetorical Strategies:

a. _________________ - an appeal to logic
b. _________________ - an appeal to emotion
c. _________________ - an appeal to credibility

13. _________________ - a question asked by an author for persuasive effect that does not require an answer

Literary Terms to Know

1. ____________________ - a distinctive feature or dominant idea in a literary composition
2. ____________________ - the process by which an author reveals the personality of a character
3. ____________________ - a character who is not complicated, complex, and fully developed
4. ____________________ - a character who is complicated, complex, and fully developed
5. ____________________ - a character who does not experience basic character changes during the story
6. ____________________ - a character who experiences basic character changes during the story
7. ____________________ - a stereotypical character whom audiences recognize as appearing in different works
8. ____________________ - a central character in a story who lacks conventional heroic attributes
Background for the *Odyssey*

Paris, a prince of ____________, was chosen to select the most beautiful goddess and give her a prize. ________________ told him that she would give him anything he wanted if he chose her. So he did. He wanted ________________ as his prize.

Aphrodite immediately went to work to keep her end of the bargain. Unfortunately, the most beautiful mortal woman in the world was Helen, who was married to the Greek king ________________ of ________________.

Aphrodite brought Paris to King Menelaus’s kingdom, and when Menelaus went away on a trip, Paris wooed Helen, who actually fell in love with him but was afraid because of her marriage to King Menelaus. Regardless, it took little convincing to go to Troy with Paris.

King Menelaus returned home to find that Paris had ________________ his Helen. Menelaus went to his brother, ________________. It took several years for the outraged Menelaus to assemble an army, and, when he did, kings and soldiers from all over Greece, including ________________ and ________________, sailed to Troy to bring back Helen. According to myth, thus began the ________________!

This story opens in the 10th--and last--year of the Trojan War. The war is at a ________________ (they can’t get behind that Trojan wall), and in the Greek camp there is much dissension amongst the Greeks themselves. The story of that dissension, and the wrath of Achilles, is the topic of the ________________ (which ends with a twelve-day truce in which both sides bury and mourn their dead. The focus of the *Iliad* is ________________.

In the ________________, Homer starts by telling about the last days of the Trojan War in this second epic. The story relates that the man responsible for the fall of Troy is ________________.

Odysseus conceived the plan to use the huge wooden horse (the ________________) to get into the gates of Troy. It worked! The ________________ defeated the ________________.

Because Odysseus was instrumental in Troy’s destruction, he angered the gods who were sympathetic to Troy, and they vow that he will have a long and difficult journey home. This journey, which takes ten years, is the subject of Homer’s *Odyssey*. 