



Getting Ahead – Pre-course Work

#ThinkBrock

Classical Civilisation A Level

Welcome to Classical Civilisation. In preparation for the start of the course, please complete these tasks & have them with you to hand in during your first week of college in September.

These tasks should take you approximately four and a half hours to complete and are designed to give you an introduction to the subject, and the expectations we have for you to complete at least four and a half hours of independent study, per subject, per week.

Task 1 - Divinities

Research and print out a 'basic' family tree of the key Olympian Gods. The Gods were an important part of the ancient Greeks everyday lives, and how they were perceived particularly within epic poetry. Using the family tree, you should create a mini profile of who they are, containing facts such as their roles and function; their symbolic animal and plant they are associated with; their character and key family. Here is a list of the following gods to include:

- Zeus
- Poseidon
- Hades
- Hera
- Hestia
- Demeter
- Aphrodite
- Apollo
- Artemis
- Athena
- Hermes
- Hephaestus
- Dionysus

Feel free to find out more about their love lives and stories associated with them – however this could get quite complicated!!

They are truly a quite dysfunctional and convoluted family.

You may already know some of them through reading/watching Percy Jackson etc.

Task 2 - Greek Heroes

Part of the first year course is focused on Homer's *Odyssey*, a Greek hero's journey back from Troy to his homeland Ithaca. Below is a list of four Greek heroes who are famous in myth. Create a mind- map for each, containing information about what they achieved, what their characters are like and a bit about their families / loved ones:

- Odysseus
- Agamemnon
- Menelaus
- Achilles

You may already know about the famous battle of Troy, from watching the film '*Troy*', *Horrible Histories* or reading novels such as Madeline Miller's '*Song of Achilles*' etc.



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Task 3 - Greek Theatre

The other part of the first year course is about Greek Theatre, we will study three plays, but also look at the theatre itself and how it is represented in art. Please answer the following questions:

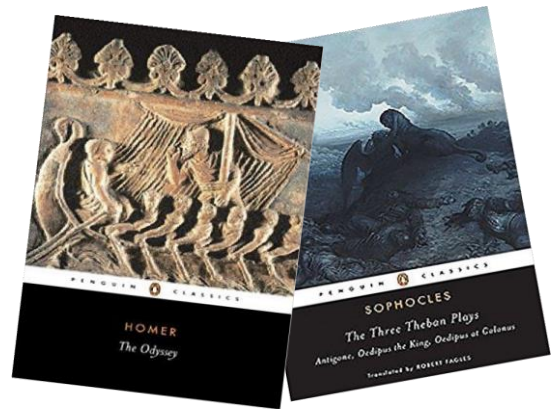
- Who is the Greek God of theatre? What is he also the god of?
- Where are the following areas of the theatre, and who 'uses' them?
 - *skēne*
 - *orchēstra*
 - *prohedria*
 - *logēion*
 - *koilon*
- Create a basic timeline, of when the following three playwrights were alive and label whether they are comic or tragic playwrights:
 - Sophocles
 - Euripides
 - Aristophanes

You may already know about the Greeks and their love of Theatre from websites like the BBC Bitesize site
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zpdfydm#z988dp3>

Getting Equipped

You will need the following:

- Textbooks:
 - For your 2 first year modules, (the 'World of the Hero' & 'Greek Theatre') there are four books that you will need in lessons. They are a course requirement, and it is important to get these specific translations, as they will be ones that the exam questions (passage extracts) are based upon. All other handouts and photocopies we will provide and are also on Canvas and as a file copy. You will only need these two books for the first term:
 - Homer's '*The Odyssey*' (Penguin Classics) 2003. Translated by E.V.Rieu
 - Sophocles' '*The Three Theban Plays*': (Penguin Classics) 1984. Translated by Robert Fagles.



N.B. There are usually secondhand copies available on sites like Amazon or eBay

- Files, Paper and Pens
 - Ring binder
 - File dividers
 - Lined paper to take notes
 - Varying writing equipment (pens, pencils, highlighters etc.)