

# Mythology Key Terms Review

## Materials Covered:

Handout: Archetypes  
Archetypal Classifications  
Handout: "The Matriarchal Society"  
Notes: Common Elements in Creation Myths  
Notes: Characteristics of Heroes / Heroines (Hero Wheel)  
Notes: Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs  
Novels: Margaret Atwood's, *The Penelopiad*  
J.R.R. Tolkien's, *The Hobbit*

Items that are NOT highlighted will not be tested.

## Textbook Chapters:

- Ch. 1: What is Myth?
- Ch. 2: Ways of Understanding Myth
- Ch. 3: Greek Creation Stories
- Ch. 4: Ovid's Creation Story
- Ch. 11: Ovid's Flood Story
- Ch. 6: *The Prose Edda's* Creation Stories
- Ch. 9: Ragnarok
- Ch. 16: The Heroes of the *Prose Eddas*

## Key Terms:

Archetypes  
Urban Legend  
Paratactic Storytelling  
Syntactic Storytelling  
*Works and Days*  
*Theogony*  
*Metamorphoses*  
Creation Myths

- Babylonian
- Greek
- Roman

Insight Obtained from Myth

- Aetiological
- Anthropological
- Cosmological
- Historical
- Metaphysical
- Psychological
- Sociological

Concept of "Strife"  
Greek "Ages of Man"  
Roman "Ages of Man"  
Golden Age  
Carl Jung  
Abraham Maslow  
*The Hero with a Thousand Faces*  
Rites of Passage  
Joseph Campbell

Call to Adventure  
Supernatural Aid  
Crossing the Threshold  
Separation or Departure  
Trials and Victories  
In the Belly of the Whale  
The Meeting with the Goddess  
Woman as the Temptress  
Atonement with the Father  
Return  
Apotheosis  
The Ultimate Boon

## Greek Gods

Heaven / Ouranos  
Earth / Gaia  
Cronus / Kronos (Titan)  
Ocean (Titan)  
Tethys (Titan)  
Hyperion (Titan)  
Mnemosyne (Titan)  
Themis (Titan)  
Iapetus (Titan)  
Epimetheus (Titan)  
Prometheus (Titan)  
Zeus  
Poseidon  
Hades  
Hera  
Aphrodite  
Cupid  
Artemis  
Hermes  
Hestia  
Pallas Athena  
Phoebus Apollo  
Ares  
Hephaestus  
Dionysus  
Demeter

## Norse Mythology

Snorri Sturluson  
Prose Edda  
Ginnungagap  
Ymir  
Asgard  
Æsir  
land of Niflheim  
land of Muspellsheim  
Midgard  
Land of the dead  
Valhalla  
Yggdrasil  
Spring of Mimir  
Thor  
Odin  
Freyja  
Frigga  
Hel  
Tyr  
Balder

## Heroes / Heroines

Icarus  
Daedalus  
Jason  
Heracles/Hercules  
Perseus  
Theseus  
Orpheus  
Medea  
Homer  
Paris  
Helen  
Hector  
Paris  
Achilles  
Agamemnon  
Ajax  
Judgment of Paris  
Menelaus  
Odysseus  
Penelope  
Telemachus  
Golden Fleece  
Nymphs  
Oracle at Delphi

## Miscellaneous

Chaos  
Erebus  
Elysian Fields  
Underworld  
River Cocytus  
Mt. Olympus  
Iliad  
Odyssey  
  
Harpies  
Argo  
Amazons  
Pegasus  
12 Labors  
Aegis  
Pandora  
Cerberus  
Charon  
Minotaur  
Medusa

Ragnarok  
Norns  
Niflheim  
Valkyries  
Loki  
Fenrir  
Midgard Serpent  
Sigurd  
Brunhild  
Fafnir  
Ring of Fire  
Gudrun  
GunnaR

# *Review Packet for Mythology Final Exam*

Answer the following questions as completely as necessary in order to show you grasp the concept.

## **Intro/Psychology of Myth**

1. How does literature relate to mythology?

**All literature has its roots in mythology.**

2. Why does man create myth?

**MYTHS ANSWER QUESTIONS, SUCH AS “WHY DO I DIE?” OR “WHAT HAPPENS TO ME AFTER I DIE?” BY STUDYING MYTH, MAN CAN SEE THE HISTORY OF LITERATURE TODAY. ARCHETYPES HELP MAN TO BETTER UNDERSTAND WHAT WE READ.**

3. What does man hope to achieve through myth?

**An understanding of higher truths and universal principles.**

4. What is the rationalization of myth?

**MAKING MYTHS MAKE SENSE. PREVENT IN CULTURES WHERE TWO RELIGIOUS SYSTEMS COMPETE.**

5. In addition to speaking to man's dreams and wishes, myths also speak to man's \_\_\_**FLAWS**\_\_\_\_\_.

6. What is an archetype? Why do they exist?

**PATTERNS OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE THAT ARE REPEATED IN LITERATURE. THEY EXIST AS A PRODUCT OF ANCESTRAL EXPERIENCE.**

- Why is it important in mythology?

**BY STUDYING MYTH, MAN CAN SEE THE HISTORY OF LITERATURE TODAY. ARCHETYPES HELP MAN TO BETTER UNDERSTAND WHAT WE READ.**

7. Who was Carl Jung? **SWISS PSYCHOANALYST, STUDENT OF FREUD**

- What theory did he develop? **COLLECTIVE UNCONSCIOUS**
- How does it relate to myth? **THE COLLECTIVE UNCONSCIOUS IS MADE UP OF ARCHETYPES THAT ARE TRANSMITTED THROUGH MAN'S STORIES- MYTHS.**

- How do dreams relate to mythology? **MAN'S FIRST STORIES WERE DREAMS. IN DREAMS WE TAP INTO THE COLLECTIVE UNCONSCIOUS.**

8. According to Jung, why is the study of mythology important?

**STUDYING MYTHS NOT ONLY HELPS US UNDERSTAND LITERATURE, BUT ALSO HELPS US UNDERSTAND OURSELVES.**

9. What is the collective unconscious? **THEORY THAT ASSERTS THAT HUMANS SHARE A COMMON PRIMAL MEMORY THAT EXPLAINS THE EXISTENCE OF ARCHETYPES.**

10. Who was Joseph Campbell? **MYTHOLOGIAN RESPONSIBLE FOR USING ARCHETYPES IN RELATION TO ANALYZING MYTHOLOGY AND LITERATURE.**

- Why is he important to mythology? **DEVELOPED THE MONOMYTH CYCLE- THE HERO'S JOURNEY**

11. Who was Abraham Maslow?

**DEVELOPED BY MASLOW TO EXPLAIN THE PATH TO REACHING ONE'S FULL HUMAN POTENTIAL.**

**Creation:**

12. What does Hesiod write about in

- *Theogony*: **CONTAIN SCIENTIFIC AND MYTHOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS OF THE CREATION OF THE WORLD.**
- *Works and Days*: **WORK THAT ILLUSTRATES HOW THE GODS WITHHOLD THINGS FROM HUMANS.**

13. What was Ovid's poem written to illustrate? **THE THEME OF CHANGE**

14. Provide THREE examples of change in *The Metamorphoses*. **JOVE TURNING LYCOAN INTO A WEREWOLF; FORCE OF REASON BRINGING ORDER TO CHAOS; PYRRHA AND DEUCALION THROWING STONES AND THE STONES TURNING INTO HUMANS; NEPTUNE FLOODING THE EARTH, ETC.**

15. The combination of what **four elements** created the universe, according to the Romans? **EARTH, AIR, FIRE, WATER**

16. How does Ovid's version differ from Hesiod's? **HESIOD'S PURPOSE IS TO OUTLINE PRINCIPLES THAT GOVERN UNIVERSE; OVID'S PURPOSE IS TO ENTERTAIN.**

17. Identify how each of the following cultures view chaos:

- Greeks- **GAP, VOID**
- Romans- **CRUDE, CONFUSED, SCUMBLED ELEMENTS**
- Norse- **ENORMOUS GAP**

18. Identify how humans were created in Norse mythology? **ODIN BREATHES LIFE INTO AN ASH AND AN ELM TREE**

**Destruction:**

19. What is the most common form of destruction in mythology? **FLOOD**

20. What is the new message written within all myths of destruction? **MESSAGE OF REBIRTH AND HOPE**

21. What do destruction myths represent? **REFINEMENT ON CREATION**

22. What typically follows destruction? **REBIRTH/RENEWAL**

**The Hero's Journey:**

23. Symbolically, what does the hero seek and find on his quest? **DEATHLESSNESS, IMMORTALITY**

24. Typically, heroes embody the highest **\_\_IDEALS\_\_** of a culture.

25. According to Tolkien, what does the following quote mean and how does it connect to *The Hobbit*?

“Not all those who wander are lost.” **THERE IS ALWAYS MEANING IN OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE, EVEN WHEN IT SEEMS AS IF WE HAVE LOST OUR WAY. NO JOURNEY HAS A STRAIGHT PATH. SO WE LEARN MOST ABOUT OURSELVES IN THOSE DETOURS.**

26. What type of assistance does the hero usually get? **WOMAN AS GODDESS, SUPERNATURAL AID, ETC.**

**The Greeks: Identify the following gods/goddesses/heroes 2-3 facts about them.**

27. Gaia: **MOTHER EARTH, WIFE OF OURANOS.**

28. Ouranos: **FATHER SKY, SHOVED HIS KIDS INTO HIS WIFE.**

29. Kronos: **TITAN, EMASCULATES HIS FATHER, OURANOS, ZEUS'S FATHER**

30. Zeus: **FATHER OF THE GREEK GODS AND IMMORTALS, GOD OF THUNDER, HUSBAND TO HERA, PROMISCUOUS.**
31. Perseus: **EARLIEST GREEK HERO, SLEW THE MEDUSA**
32. Poseidon: **GOD OF THE SEA, ZEUS'S BROTHER**
33. Hera: **QUEEN OF THE GODS, WIFE TO ZEUS, GODDESS OF MARRIAGE.**
34. Andromeda: **SAVED BY PERSEUS. SHE WAS BEING SACRIFIES TO A MONSTER SENT BY POSEIDON BECAUSE HE WAS ANGRY THAT CASSIOPEIA, ANDROMEDA'S MOTHER BOASTED THAT SHE WAS MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANY SEA NYMPH.**
35. Medea: **HELPED JASON FACE THE CHALLENGE OF KING AEETES. HELPED HIM FIND THE GOLDEN FLEECE.**
36. Hades: **RULER OF THE UNDERWORLD, BROTHER TO ZEUS, KIDNAPPS PERSEPHONE AND TAKES HER AS A BRIDE, CAUSING THE CHANGING SPRING AND SUMMER TO FALL AND WINTER.**
37. Athena: **THE GODDESS OF WISDOM AND WAR**
38. Eros: **SON OF APHRODITE, GOD OF LOVE**
39. Danae: **PERSEUS' MOTHER, LOCKED UP IN A ROOM TO PREVENT HER FROM GETTING PREGNANT AFTER IT WAS PROPHECIED THAT HER SON WOULD KILL ACRISUIS, ZEUS COMES TO HER IN THE FORM OF A GOLDEN SHOWER AND IMPREGNATES HER. SHE GIVES BIRTH TO PERSEUS.**
40. Aphrodite: **GODDESS OF LOVE AND BEAUTY, WIFE TO HAEPHESTUS IS SOME VERSIONS.**

41. Prometheus: **ANGERED ZEUS BY BRINGING FIRE TO MAN**

42. Pandora: **BRINGS EVIL TO THE WORLD BY OPENING A BOX THAT ZEUS INSTRUCTED HER NOT TO OPEN.**

43. Medusa: **A SNAKE-HAIRED GORGON WHO IS ABLE TO TURN MEN INTO STONE.**

44. Rhea: **ZEUS'S MOTHER, HID HIM FROM KRONOS, GAVE KRONOS STONE TO SWALLOW**

45. Artemis: **GODDESS OF THE HUNT, PREVENTS AGAMEMNON FROM SAILING TO TROY**

46. According to Hesiod, what is the first to emerge out of Chaos? **EARTH**

47. Who buries his children in the earth? Why? **OURANOS; AFRAID THEY WILL OVERTHROW HIM**

48. Who swallows his children? **KRONOS**

49. Who led the quest for the Golden Fleece? **JASON**

50. Define the trickster archetype. Provide and explain 2 examples

**a god, goddess, spirit, man, woman, or anthropomorphic animal who plays tricks or otherwise disobeys normal rules and conventional behavior, NEITHER SOLELY GOOD NOR SOLELY EVIL  
EX. LOKI, PROMETHEUS**

49. The first Greek Parents / Creation of the World: **GAIA AND OURANOS**

**The Norse: Identify the following gods/goddesses/heroes 2-3 facts about them.**

50. Ymir: FIRST CREATURE, GIANT, EARTH MADE FROM HIS BODY PARTS

51. Frost giants: JOTARS, PRINCIPLE ENEMIES OF THE AESIR RACE OF GODS

52. Yggdrasil: ASH TREE, SUSTAINING FORCE OF THE UNIVERSE,

53. Odin: **SUPREME NORSE GOD, RULER OF DEATH, INSPIRATION, AND BATTLE.**

54. Frigg: ODIN'S WIFE, GODDESS OF MARRIAGE, HAS EVERYTHING SWEAR NEVER TO HARM HER SON, BALDUR, EXCEPT MISTLETOE

55. Ragnarok: **THE GREAT FINAL BATTLE IN NORSE MYTHOLOGY THAT BRINGS ABOUT THE END OF THE WORLD.**

56. Thor: NORSE GOD OF THUNDER, GOD OF PEASANTS, HAMMER-MJOLNIR, HOT-TEMPERED, TRICKED BY UTGARD-LOKI

57. Loki: SHAPE-SHIFTING TRICKSTER, FROST GIANT ACCEPTED INTO ASGARD BY ODIN

58. Asgard: HOME OF THE GODS

60. Midgard: HOME OF THE HUMANS

61. The 3 Norns: URD, VERDANDI, SKULD; TAKE CARE OF YGGDRASIL, IN CHARGE OF HUMAN DESTINY

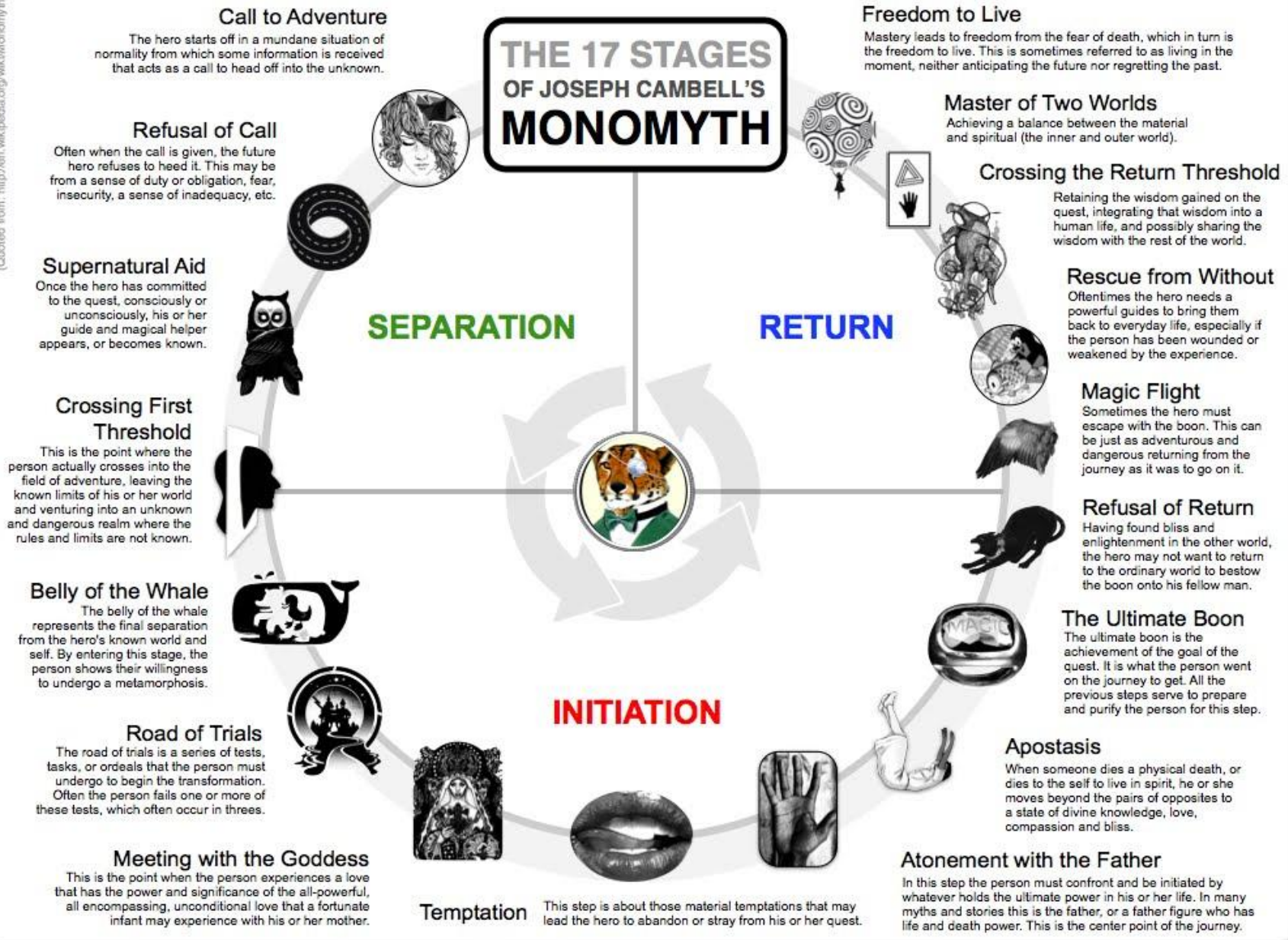
62. *The Prose Edda*: MAIN SOURCE FOR NORSE MYTHOLOGY; RATIONALIZED BY SNORRI

63. Snorri Sturluson: 13<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY ICELANDIC HISTORIAN, WROTE **THE PROSE EDDA**



(Quoted from: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monomyth>)

# THE 17 STAGES OF JOSEPH CAMBELL'S MONOMYTH



SEPARATION

RETURN

INITIATION