*Mythology*

Study Guide Questions

**Introduction**

1. What is the purpose of Greek and Roman mythology?

2. What is the first written record of Greece called, and who was the author?

3. What do the myths show us about the early Greeks?

4. Why did the portrayal of Zeus change over the years?

5. What is the *Theogony*, and why is it important?

**Chapter 1 *The Gods* andChapter 2 *The Two Great Gods of Earth***

1. What did the Greeks believe about the origins of the gods and the universe?

2. Who were the first parents, and who were their children and grandchildren?

3. How did Homer describe Olympus?

4. Give the Roman names for the following gods and goddesses: Zeus, Hades, Artemis,

Hermes, Hestia.

5. Give the Greek names for these gods and goddesses: Juno, Neptune, Minerva, Venus, Mars,

Vulcan.

6. How was the will of Zeus revealed at the oracle at Dodona?

7. Describe the breastplate, bird, and tree that symbolize Zeus.

8. What was the dual relationship between Zeus and Hera?

9. Describe Hera’s personality.

10. Who were Zeus’ two brothers, and where did they rule?

11. Briefly describe the characteristics and functions of any two of the following gods and goddesses: Athena, Phoebus Apollo, Artemis, or Aphrodite.

12. Briefly describe the characteristics and functions of any two of the following gods and goddesses: Hermes, Hephaestus, Hestia, Cupid, Ares, or the Muses and Graces.

13. What did Hermes have on his feet, hat, and wand, and why?

14. Name the Gods of the Waters.

15. Who are the main gods of the Underworld?

16. What are the Elysian Fields?

17. Briefly retell the story of Demeter (Ceres).

18. What were the two central ideas in the worship of Dionysus?

19. Why did Dionysus become the center of the belief in immortality?

20. How were Demeter and Dionysus different from the other gods and goddesses?

**Chapter 3 *How the World and Mankind Were Created* and Chapter 4 *The Earliest Heroes***

1. What did the Greeks think was at the very beginning of things?

2. What were the next six creations, in order?

3. Who was Cronus, and why was he significant?

4. How did Zeus become the ruler of heaven and earth?

5. Describe the Greek concept of the geography of the Earth.

6. Briefly retell the story of Prometheus’s creation of mankind.

7. Who was Pandora, and why was she created?

8. Briefly retell the story of Pandora’s box.

9. Why did Zeus punish Prometheus, and how did he do this?

10. Who was Io?

11. Briefly retell the story of Europa.

12. Briefly retell te story of Polyphemus.

13. What is the story of Narcissus?

14. Who was Echo?

15. What is the story of Adonis?