



# WRITE YOUR OWN GREEK MYTH

MUSEUM OF CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

# WRITE YOUR OWN GREEK MYTH

Greek myths are some of the most famous and popular stories ever written. Here, you will learn how to write your own myth, starring your own heroes, monsters, and villains.

## **Step 1**

Choose your characters!

## **Step 2**

Choose your story type!

## **Step 3**

Write a story!

## CHOOSING YOUR CHARACTERS

Most myths feature the same sorts of characters. Look at the list and decide what sort of characters you want to star in your own myth!

### THE HERO



Every myth has to have a hero. The hero is the main character of your story. They're the one who goes on quests, fights monsters, or meets new and exciting people.

Every hero has something they're really good at, and something they're really bad at. The hero Odysseus was incredibly clever, but he was also very arrogant.

**What will your hero be good at? What will they be bad at? How will this affect them on their quest?**

### THE GODS



The gods love meddling in the affairs of heroes. They are very powerful, but also very childish and vengeful. They can help your hero a lot, but they can also make life difficult for them!

The goddess of wisdom, Athene, hated Paris, so made him foolish. The god of healing, Apollo, loved Asclepius, so he made him a great doctor!

**Which gods like your hero? Which gods don't? Will this affect your hero's quest?**

Can you work out which goddess disliked the hero Herakles? Hint: It's in his name!

## CHOOSING YOUR CHARACTERS

Most myths feature the same sorts of characters. Look at the list and decide what sort of characters you want to star in your own myth!

### THE MONSTER



Some myths feature terrifying monsters! These monsters have special powers that could harm your hero.

**Design a scary monster for your hero to face. What do they look like? What makes them scary? What magical powers do they have?**

### THE PEOPLE



A hero on a long journey might meet many different types of people, who live in all sorts of different ways. The hero Herakles once met a group of people called the Amazons, a tribe of only women!

**Design some people for your hero to meet. What are they like? Are they friendly to your hero? How are they different from your hero, and what can your hero learn from them?**

### THE VILLAINOUS KING



Kings quite often dislike heroes. A Villainous King may attempt to kill your hero by sending him on a dangerous quest. The hero Perseus was sent to kill the monstrous gorgon by a king hoping to marry his mother!

**Design a villainous king- or queen! What are they like? Why don't they like your hero? What do they make your hero do?**

# CHOOSING YOUR STORY TYPE

Pick one of the types of myth and write a story starring your characters. What does your hero get up to? How do they become famous? What dangers do they face along the way? It's up to you!

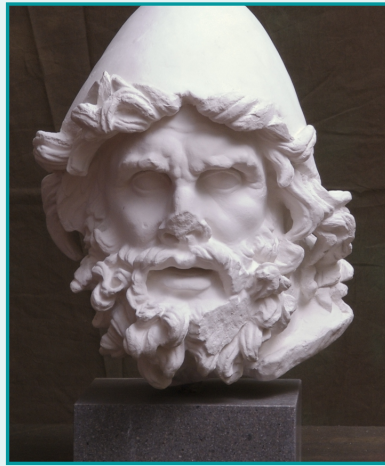
## 1. Homecoming



The Homecoming Myth tells the story of a hero's journey home from their adventures. They often meet weird and wonderful people along the way, or fight monsters. The hero will miss their family, and a hostile god may be conspiring to keep him from going home!

This is Odysseus.

He is the hero from a very famous homecoming myth, Homer's Odyssey. Write down five things that make you think he has been on a long journey.



**You could write a myth about your hero's journey home from somewhere.**

**Consider:**

- What monsters will your hero meet along the way?
- What does your hero miss about their home?
- Will they get home in the end? How long does it take?

## 2. Quest



The Quest Myth tells the story of a hero seeking out a famous object or person. They may have to travel far to get there, and will meet many people along the way. The hero will have to overcome a monster or obstacle guarding the treasure. A hostile god may not want them to get the treasure!

**You could write a myth about a Quest for something.**

**Consider:**

- What magical item are they seeking? Why do they want it? What does it do?
- Who is guarding the treasure? Why don't they want anyone to take it?

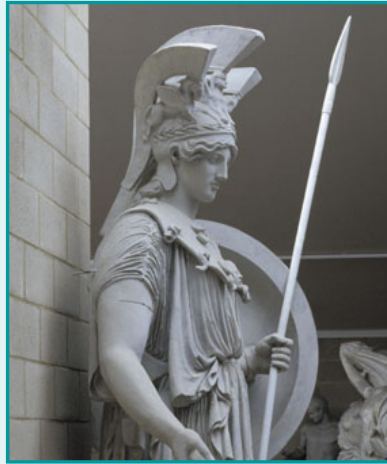
# CHOOSING YOUR STORY TYPE

## 3. Foundation



The Foundation Myth tells the story of a hero founding a city or town. The hero may have been exiled from his home or fled to escape some monster or hostile king. A friendly god may help the hero name the city, but a hostile god might send things to attack the new city!

This is the goddess Athene. She helped the hero Kekrops found the city of Athens. Can you work out what she was like from her statue? Think about what she is wearing and holding.



**You could write a myth about the founding of your home town. Consider:**

- What is your town called? Could that name have something to do with how your hero founds it?

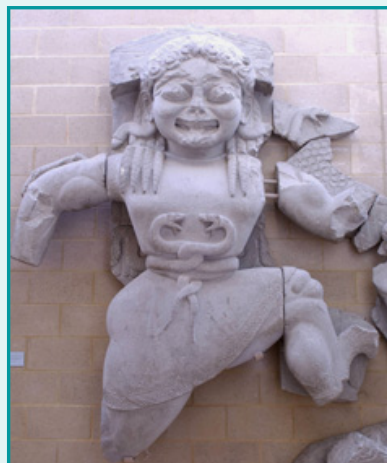
**The town 'Colchester' might be founded by the hero 'Colchestus', for example!**

## 4. Monster



The Monster Myth tells the story of a hero facing a scary monster. The monster might be guarding a treasure or threatening the hero's home. A hostile god might send the monster to hurt the hero. A friendly god might give them magical items to help them face it.

This is the terrifying gorgon. This monster faced the hero Perseus, and could turn people to stone with her eyes! Write down five things that make this statue look scary.



**You could write a myth where your hero defeats a scary monster. Consider:**

- Why does your hero want to defeat the monster?
- What magic items might help your hero defeat the monster?

