

9th Grade Quarter 4 Epic and Myth

Unit Overview: Students will read from Homer’s the *Odyssey*, with special attention to the hero’s journey and the characteristics of an epic hero. They will become familiar with classic Greek mythology and consider the role of the gods and fate in Odysseus’s adventures. Studying various adaptations of and allusions to the epic and myths will also enrich students’ interpretation and appreciation of the work. Students will research a topic related to ancient Greece to gain a deeper understanding of the historical and cultural context of the *Odyssey*; they will strategically use digital media to give an informative and engaging presentation of their research to the class. At the end of the unit, students will explore texts and media that portray the experience of soldiers going to or returning from war in contemporary times and will compare and contrast these accounts with the experiences of Odysseus.

Stage 1 - Desired Results

Note: Stage 1, which identifies the goals of the unit, is a required element. Using the standards as a starting point, Stage 1 establishes the essential questions, understandings, knowledge, and skills that frame instruction and assessment.

Overarching Goal Statements

Note: These standards are emphasized as goals in all units for their importance and application to all of the standards within their strand.

Reading: Literature	Reading: Informational Text	Writing	Speaking and Listening	Language
By the end of grade 10, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, at the high end of the grades 9-10 text complexity band independently and proficiently. RL.9-10.10	By the end of grade 10, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at the high end of the grades 9-10 text complexity band independently and proficiently. RI.9-10.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences. W.9-10.10	Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. (See grades 9-10 Language standards 1 and 3 here for specific expectations.) SL.9-10.6	Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression. L.9-10.6

Standards

Note: The following priority and supporting standards are specific to this unit. To see the quarterly standards for all grade levels, see the [6th-12th Grade ELA Standards Map](#).

<p>Priority Standards: These are a carefully selected subset of the total list of the grade-specific and course-specific standards that students must know and be able to do by the end of each school year. The following standards will be prioritized in instruction and assessments.</p>	<p>ELP Standards: There are 10 English Language Proficiency (ELP) standards that highlight a strategic set of language functions and forms which are needed by ELLs as they develop competence in English language arts. ELPs have been aligned with the priority standards of the unit.</p>	<p>Supporting Standards: These standards <i>support, connect to, or enhance</i> the Priority Standards. They are taught <i>within the context</i> of the priorities and often serve as instructional scaffolds, but they do not receive the <i>same</i> degree of emphasis. assessments.</p>
<p>RL.9-10.2 RL.9-10.3 RI.9-10.5</p>	<p>ELP Standard 9-12.1</p>	<p>RL.9-10.6 RI.9-10.1</p>
<p>L.9-10.5</p>	<p>ELP Standard 9-12.8</p>	<p>RI.9-10.4 L.9-10.4</p>
<p>W.9-10.4 W.9-10.5 W.9-10.6 W.9-10.9</p>	<p>ELP Standard 9-12.2 (W.9-10.6) ELP Standard 9-12.5 (W.9-10.9, W.9-10.7, and W.9-10.8) ELP Standard 9-12.7 (W.9-10.5) ELP Standard 9-12.9 (W.9-10.4)</p>	<p>W.9-10.7 W.9-10.8</p>
<p>SL.9-10.4</p>	<p>ELP Standard 9-12.1 (SL.9-10.2) ELP Standard 9-12.3, 4, 5, and 9 (SL.9-10.4)</p>	<p>SL.9-10.2 SL.9-10.5</p>
<p>L.9-10.1.A L.9-10.2.C</p>		

Essential Questions	Understandings
<p>Students will keep considering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How does it feel to be away from “home”? What do stories and characters’ actions reveal about a culture’s values and norms? How are heroes defined? How can we use research to inform ourselves and our audience? <p><i>Post Essential Questions in room and refer to often throughout unit. The essential questions should be the drivers of the unit.</i></p>	<p>Student will understand that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The Odyssey</i> expresses the universal human desire to overcome adversity and return to the safety of a space we call “home.” Myths are mirrors of a culture’s values, religion, family, community, science, and reasoning. Characters in fiction serve a variety of functions including advancing the plot and/or embodying a universal symbol. Each society’s values and cultural norms determine what constitutes a hero. Effective researchers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> generate and attempt to answer research questions. narrow or broaden search when needed.


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. use authoritative sources and advanced searches. d. synthesize multiple sources on the subject. e. avoid plagiarism. <p>6. Digital media can be strategically used to enhance understanding and add interest.</p>
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Knowledge	Skills
<p>Students will acquire knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Background for <i>The Odyssey</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Homer ○ Ancient Greece ○ Trojan War/Troy (<i>The Iliad</i>) ○ Myth and Mythology ○ Names and roles of gods and goddesses ● Epic of Journey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Epic poetry ○ Homeric simile ○ Epithet ○ Epic hero ○ Hero's journey ● Research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Authoritative source ○ Advanced searches ● Digital Media Presentation ● Literary Toolbox for 9th grade ● Pre-AP Literary Toolbox 	<p>Students will be able to...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrate the ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Comprehend, analyze, and critique a variety of increasingly complex texts, ○ Develop appropriate grade level skills in writing, ○ Develop appropriate grade level skills in language, and ○ Develop appropriate grade level skills in speaking and listening <p>based on the standards at or above 9th grade level.</p>

Stage 2 - Assessment Evidence

Note: Stage 2, which provides the unit assessments, is also a required element. The following District Formative Assessments (DFAs) are collaboratively designed by a grade- and course-level teams and include a system of intentionally aligned components that work together to improve student learning.

Summative Assessment



Common Assignment Ancient Greece Research Project and Presentation



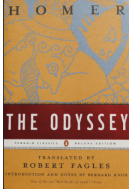
Stage 3 - Learning Activities



Note: Stage 3 provides an explicit guide for implementing the unit. This stage contains a suggested weekly timeline of instruction, learning experiences, and assessments to meet the unit's expectations; however, based on the needs of students, teachers may modify the order and time-allotment of Stage 3 activities, as well as supplement with grade-appropriate texts and lessons. Any adjustments and/or additions should be framed to meet the requirements of Stages 1 and 2.



- [Language Support](#)
- [Technology Integration](#)
- [ACT Resources and Support](#)
- [Instructional Strategies](#)
- [Pre-AP Vertical Alignment](#)
- [Lessons with Embedded *Empowering Writers' Strategies*](#)

Suggested Timeline

Ongoing Mini-Lessons	 Language Mini-Lessons L.9-10.1.A L.9-10.2.C
Weeks 1 - 3	 Common Assignment Ancient Greece Research Project and Presentation AND Stage 3 Lesson W.9-10.5 W.9-10.6 SL.9-10.4 W.9-10.7 W.9-10.8 SL.9-10.2 SL.9-10.5
Weeks 4-7	 Epic and Myth - The Odyssey RL.9-10.2 RL.9-10.3

	<p> W.9-10.4 W.9-10.9 RL.9-10.6 RI.9-10.1 RI.9-10.4 L.9-10.4 L.9-10.5 </p>
<p>Week 8</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>MODERN HEROES</p> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Informational Texts - Modern Heroism</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"> RI.9-10.5 W.9-10.9 L.9-10.5 RI.9-10.1 RI.9-10.4 L.9-10.4 </p>
<p>Week 9</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Culmination and Reflection</u> <u>With Extension Ideas</u></p>

[Citation for Images](#)