

NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

Summer Reading List: Grade 9

All 9th-grade students are asked to read *Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes* by Edith Hamilton and *Theogony* by Hesiod. Copies of both books are available from the school library for students to use and keep. Please note that the Hesiod book contains more than *Theogony*. Students only need to read the *Theogony* section. Study questions are shown below, and students must turn in answers to these questions on the first day of school.

In addition, all 9th-grade students are encouraged to read one or more of the following books:

King Solomon's Mines by H. Rider Haggard
The Prisoner of Zenda by Anthony Hope
Mr. Midshipman Hornblower by C. S. Forester

Students will receive extra credit and house points for reading any of these books if a short summary of the book is turned in at the beginning of the school year. Any student who reads **all** of the additional books will be eligible to receive a gift certificate to Givens Bookstore.

Please email Mr. Forshey at jforshey@newcovenantschools.org if you have any questions about this assignment.

Reading Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper (handwritten or typed). Complete sentences are not required. This assignment is due the first day of school.

***Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes* by Edith Hamilton**

1. Name the nine Titans and what was important about each.
2. Explain the significance of Delphi.
3. Name the nine muses and their assignments.
4. Give the names and descriptions of the Fates
5. Who was Janus?
6. Who was Dionysus? Where was he born?
7. Who was Prometheus? What did he give mankind and what happened to him?
8. What creature did Hera transform Io into and how did Hermes rescue her?
9. What two goddesses loved Adonis?
10. How were Pyramis and Thisbe able to communicate with each other?
11. How did Venus answer the prayer of Pygmalion?
12. What did Pelias ask Jason to do?
13. What three feats did Jason accomplish in order to obtain the Golden Fleece?
14. Who tamed Pegasus?

15. How did Perseus kill Medusa without being turned to stone? Whom did he rescue?
16. How was Theseus able to find his way out of the labyrinth?
17. Briefly name the twelve labors of Hercules.
18. Which goddess did Paris choose as the fairest and what was his reward?
19. How did Odysseus trick Achilles into going with him to fight in the Trojan War?
20. How did Achilles die?

OMIT CHAPTERS 15 AND 16

21. How was Tantalus punished?
22. Who are the two sons of Atreus?
23. Who killed Agamemnon? Why? Who then killed the murderer?
24. What was the answer to the riddle of the Sphinx?
25. Who conquered Thebes when Creon would not allow the five chieftains to be buried?

OMIT CHAPTERS 19 AND 20

26. Who were the Amazons?
27. Who was Chiron and what was he known for?
28. Who were the Hyades?
29. How were the Myrmidons created?
30. What is Asgard?
31. Who is the Norse goddess of love and beauty?
32. What is Yggdrasil?

Theogony by Hesiod

1. Who is the chief of the nine muses? What is the gift of the muses to mankind?
2. Who was the youngest of Earth's children (before she gave birth to the Cyclopes)?
3. What two immortals accompany Aphrodite from her birth onward?
4. What is the task of the Hesperides?
5. What happened when Perseus cut off Medusa's head?
6. Describe the Chimaera. Who killed her?
7. What did Cronos do to his children as soon as they were born? Why?
8. When Cronos vomited up the stone, where did Zeus put it?
9. What group did Zeus (with the help of the monsters Cottus and Briareos and Gyges) defeat in battle? Where are they now?
10. What happens to any god who swears falsely by the water of the river Styx?
11. What happened to Athena's mother?
12. Who were the parents of Achilles?