

Homework: Compare and Contrast Themes: Greek Myths and *The Lightning Thief*

(Answers for Teacher Reference)

Directions: Complete the chart for the story you read in your expert group to compare and contrast the themes in “Cronus” and “Medusa” with those in *The Lightning Thief*. Provide evidence from each text and an explanation of how your evidence conveys the theme. Then discuss the similarities and differences in how the theme is conveyed in the two texts.

Theme	
Those in power will do anything to stay in power.	
Evidence from “Cronus” Explanation: How does this evidence convey the theme?	Evidence from <i>The Lightning Thief</i> Explanation: How does this evidence convey the theme?
<p>“To ensure he kept his power and the prophecy did not come true, Cronus swallowed each child as soon as it was born.”</p> <p>Cronus so badly wanted to ensure he maintained his power, that he ate his own children so they couldn’t rise up against him.</p>	<p>“I had brought this storm to Half-Blood Hill. Zeus was punishing the whole camp because of me. I was furious.” (138)</p> <p>Zeus is so angry and wants to maintain his power so much, that he is willing to punish all the sons and daughters who live at Camp Half-Blood until he gets what he wants.</p>
<p>Compare and contrast the way the theme is conveyed in the two texts.</p> <p>One similarity is that in “Cronus,” both Uranus and Cronus punish children to maintain their power.</p> <p>One difference is that this time it is Zeus, who had stopped his own father, who is punishing children, and they are not his own children, but his nieces and nephews.</p>	

Theme Those who anger or disobey the gods will be punished.	
Evidence from “Medusa” Explanation: How does this evidence convey the theme?	Evidence from <i>The Lightning Thief</i> Explanation: How does this evidence convey the theme?
<p>“And by my powers, your loveliness shall be stripped away completely. Your fate shall serve as a reminder to others to control their pride.”</p> <p>Medusa is being punished by Athena for disrespecting her and her temple and for Medusa’s inability to control her pride and vanity.</p>	<p>“‘Clarisse,’ Annabeth sighed. ‘Why don’t you go polish your spear or something?’”</p> <p>‘Sure, Miss Princess,’ the big girl said. ‘So I can run you through with it Friday night’ . . . ‘We’ll pulverize you,’ Clarisse said.” (89)</p> <p>Clarisse, a daughter of Ares, the god of war, has never met Percy, yet she immediately calls him a “newbie,” a “runt.” Clarisse challenges Percy and Annabeth, saying that her team will pulverize, or destroy, their team during Capture the Flag. As a result, Percy fights Clarisse and defeats her using his water powers in the bathroom incident and during the Capture the Flag game.</p>
<p>Compare and contrast the way the theme is conveyed in the two texts.</p> <p>One similarity is that both Medusa and Clarisse were punished for being too prideful.</p> <p>One difference is that Medusa suffered a permanent punishment, being changed into a monster. Clarisse, however, only got splashed with water in the bathroom and lost the game. Her ego suffered more than anything else.</p>	