

Denton Calvary Academy Summer Reading Program, Grade 9

Dear Calvary Students and Parents,

At Denton Calvary Academy, summer reading is a valuable extension of our academic program, encouraging students to keep thinking, questioning, and learning even while they are away from school. In preparation for your 9th grade year, all students planning to enroll in English I will read selected passages of *Mythology*, by Edith Hamilton. Our summer reading program for 9th Grade exists to meet two key goals.

First, we wish to help students maintain their critical reading skills during the break. The ability to read with fluency and comprehension is vital for academic success, not only in English, but in all areas of study. During the long summer break, it is common for students to get out of the habit of reading quickly and efficiently, which can cause frustration when students must rebuild their reading skills at the beginning of a new academic year. We believe that reading during the summer months helps students to begin the new year with readiness and confidence.

Second, we wish to bridge the gap between Jr. High and High School English classes. Here at Calvary, English 7 and 8 provide students with a solid foundation in reading comprehension, writing, and grammar, while English I is concerned with the in-depth study of foundational Western literary texts, primarily ancient epics. To help ease this transition, we ask students to read selected passages from *Mythology* in order to familiarize themselves with the subject matter that they will be studying as freshmen.

Students should read the following sections of *Mythology*, by Edith Hamilton:

- Part I
 1. The Gods
 2. The Two Great Gods of Earth
 3. How the World and Mankind Were Created
- Part IV: The Heroes of the Trojan War (all)
- Part V: The Great Families of Mythology
 1. The House of Atreus (intro)
 - a. Tantalus and Niobe
 - b. Agamemnon and His Children

After completing the reading above, students will complete the attached worksheet turn into their English instructor on the first day of 9th grade. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Thank you for partnering with us to make this program successful. Have a wonderful summer!

Stacey Baxter, Principal

Amanda Yanowski, English Department Head

**Edith Hamilton's *Mythology*:
Greek and Roman gods chart**

Instructions: Fill out the chart, using your copy of <i>Mythology</i> . All answers can be found in Part I, Sections 1 and 2. For examples of what kinds of information goes in each cell, see the answers filled in for Persephone.				
Greek and Roman names	Relationship to other gods/goddesses	Realm of influence, abilities/powers	Symbols (animals, plants, objects, etc)	Personality, physical appearance
Poseidon (Neptune)				
Hades (Pluto)				
Persephone (Proserpine)	Wife of Hades; daughter of Demeter	Queen of the Underworld; resurrection from the dead	Pomegranate; Spring (season)	Beautiful; sorrowful
Hera (Juno)				
Ares (Mars)				

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Greek and Roman names	Relationship to other gods/goddesses	Realm of influence, abilities/powers	Symbols (animals, plants, objects, etc)	Personality, physical appearance
Athena (Minerva)				
Apollo				
Aphrodite (Venus)				
Hermes (Mercury)				
Artemis (Diana)				

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Greek and Roman names	Relationship to other gods/goddesses	Realm of influence, abilities/powers	Symbols (animals, plants, objects, etc)	Personality, physical appearance
Hephaestus (Vulcan)				
Demeter (Ceres)				
Dionysus (Bacchus)				