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A statistical study of the contributions of certain Greek and Roman mythological terms to the modern English language

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A STATISTICAL STUDY OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF CERTAIN GREEK AND ROMAN MYTHOLOGICAL TERMS TO THE
MODERN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A Dissertation
Presented to
the Faculty of the Graduate School
College of the Pacific

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts

by
Olevia
Chrysta Richards

June 1949

PREFACE

Interest in the topic of this thesis was aroused when the writer was teaching English in Stockton High School, Stockton, California. Comments and questions of students in English 1 were a challenge which she could not ignore. The students expected a concrete and practical reason for studying mythology.

This thesis offers in reply to that challenge not only the many words derived from mythology but also a statistical study of the use of those words in current magazines. The class and individual projects and activities are planned to develop an awareness of the influence of mythology on our modern living. It is hoped that this study will aid other teachers in planning a unit on mythology which will offer the student of English an interesting and enjoyable experience.

The writer is indebted to her committee, Dr. J. William Harris, Chairman; Dr. Fred L. Farley, and Dr. Marc Jantzen, for their constant encouragement and assistance. Each of them has helped her to solve problems in their special fields of interest. I am grateful especially to Dr. J. William Harris, who gave so generously of his time and was ever ready with his friendly encouragement. He has helped to make this study not only an enriching experience intellectually but also a very pleasant one.

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CHAPTER I

THE PROBLEM AND METHOD OF SOLUTION

Many teachers of English are challenged with the question, "Why do we study these ancient myths?" The most obvious justification is the great contribution of mythology to music, literature, and other arts. However, the modern, questioning student is not entirely satisfied with this answer. A more practical appeal is made in this study of the contributions of mythology to modern language.

I. THE PROBLEM

Statement of the problem. The purposes of this study were to determine (1) which words that originate in Greek and Roman myths are used in our modern language; (2) the frequency of the use of these words in current magazines; (3) the percentage of words of mythological origin as compared with other like words; and (4) which myths should be stressed in teaching in view of the frequency of reference to those myths.

Importance of the study. Much has been written to show the contributions of mythology to the arts. One need consult only a few collections of great English literature to realize that a knowledge of mythology is essential to complete understanding of our literature. The words of

Byron, Keats, Milton, Lamb, and Tennyson are only a few of those which show the influence of the myths.

The student is made aware of contributions of mythology to literature in study questions, quotations, and reference material provided in most texts of myths.

Max J. Herzberg¹ has two such sections at the end of each chapter entitled, "The Myths in Literature", and "References to Mythology in Literature", in which he quotes numerous references.

A search of the Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature by Robinson, Joel, and Keyes, and of the "Supplement" of the same index revealed that very few articles have been written which link the myths with modern usage. Seventeen years ago, Grace P. Smith published an article to prove that, "Advertising and mythology though seemingly far apart, have certain features in common."² Hers is the most recent of such works which was listed.

A definite need exists, it would seem to me, to link more closely the past uses of the myths with the present usage. No recent study in the field of advertising and mythology has been published. There is no study given which attempts to show the use of mythological terms in current usage.

¹Max J. Herzberg, Myths and Their Meanings, Allyn and Bacon, 1947.

²Grace P. Smith, "Gods on Main Street," The Classical Journal, June, 1932, p. 706.

This study will attempt to show the contributions which mythology has made to current language as used in current magazines in context and advertisements.

II. METHODS OF SOLUTION

Tabulation of Words of Mythological Origin. The chief source of words from mythology which contribute to our language is the dictionary. In this study each word which originated in either a Greek or Roman myth has been listed along with all derivatives from that word. Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 1941, published by G. and C. Merriam Company, was used in preference to the large unabridged dictionary by the same author.

Other sources of words from mythology were books of myths to be used as texts. Four of the most popular and widely used books were consulted. They include (1) Charles Mills Gayley, The Classic Myths in English Literature; (2) Max J. Herzberg, Myths and Their Meanings; (3) Frances E. Sabin, Classical Myths that Live Today; (4) Thomas Bulfinch, The Age of Fable or the Beauties of Mythology as Revised by Rev. J. Loughran Scott.

III. WORDS FROM CURRENT MAGAZINES

This study concerning the current usage of mythological terms is based on words used in the following maga-

zines: (1) five copies of Time, 1947; (2) five copies of Saturday Evening Post, 1947; (3) one copy of Harper's Magazine, February, 1948. The first two were selected because they are very popular and widely read. The vocabulary used in them is comparable to that of the average student. The latter was selected as a more erudite type of magazine in contrast with the other two magazines.

Comparison of words used. From the lists compiled from the above magazines a comparison was made between the words of mythological origin and other words of like use. Only those words used as nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs were compared since words of a mythological origin fall into these four grammatical categories.

Myths to be taught. The lists of words actually used in current magazines are the determining factor in suggesting myths to be taught. The great wealth of myths of Greece and Rome makes it impossible to include all of them in one unit. Those myths which are suggested have contributed the greatest number of words used in the current magazines. If time permits, a more enriched experience in mythology could well be offered for the more complete understanding of our language. Other copies of these same magazines refer to other myths than those listed.

CHAPTER II

SOURCES OF WORDS OF MYTHOLOGICAL ORIGIN

Two major sources of words were used in this study. The chief source was the dictionary as is discussed below. In addition to the dictionary, books of myths were also consulted. These books are accepted texts in the field and are used in the local schools.

I. THE DICTIONARY

All of the words in the following list are to be found in Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Fifth Edition, G. C. Merriam Company, 1941. This abridged edition was chosen for these reasons; (1) the most important deities of the Greek and Roman myths are listed; (2) this edition includes most of the words a student will encounter in his reading; (3) the derivation of words is given; (4) the more technical and less frequently used words have been omitted.

No attempt is made to give the page on which the word is found in the dictionary. The reader need only consult the alphabetical listing of words in the dictionary to verify any word on the list. For ease of reference the list is also arranged in alphabetical order.

The dictionary was carefully examined to determine which words were derived from the Greek or Roman myths.

Great care was taken to avoid inclusion of words of other origin which have the same connotation in English as a word from mythology. For example, the word "Love" as a proper noun means "Cupid, or Eros, as god of love; sometimes, Venus". Since it is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word "lufu", "Love" is not included in the list.

When the research was completed, the list included only words of mythological origin. This includes root words as well as their derivatives. The list was divided into three categories according to the use of the words as follows: (1) general; (2) arts; (3) sciences. The words fell into four grammatical classifications, i.e. nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs. To differentiate the different grammatical classifications this scheme was used.

All proper nouns have no further identification beyond the initial capital letter. All common nouns are followed by the letter "n"; all adjectives by the abbreviation "adj."; all adverbs by the abbreviation "adv."; and all verbs by the letter "v". All derivatives are listed under the root word. If the spelling of the derivative is identical with that of the root word and the added suffix the derivative is listed as in the example below.

e.g. Grace	
-ful	adj.
-fully	adv.
-fulness	n.

If, however, the derivative is not spelled identically

with the root word, the entire word is given.

e.g. Chaos

Chaotic adj.

The alphabetical list of words of mythological origin as found in the dictionary follows:

GENERAL

A

Achates		Amphion	
Acheron		Amphitrite	
-tic	adj.	Anchises	
-tical	adj.	Andromache	
Achilles		Andromeda	
Achilleean	adj.	Antaeus	
Actaeon		Antaeon	adj.
Adonis		Antigone	
Adonic	adj.	Aphrodite	
Adonic verse	n.	aphrodisiac	adj.
Aegean		Apollo	
aegis	n.	apple of discord	
Aegisthus		Arachne	
Aeneas		arachnidan	adj.
Aeolus		arachnoid	adj.
Aeolian	adj.	Arcadia	
Aeolic	adj., n.	-ian	adj., n.
aeolipile	n.	Area	
Aesculapius		areocentric	adj.
-ian	adj.	areology	n.
Agamemnon		areological	adj.
Aglais		Areopagus	
Ajax		Arethusa	
Alcestis		Argo	
Alcmene		argive	n.
Alma Mater		Argonaut	
alma mater	n.	-tic	adj.
Alpheus		Argus	
Amalthea or		Argus-eyed	adj.
Amalthea		Ariadne	
horn of	n.	Artemis	
Amaryllis		Ascanius	
Amazon		Asclepius	
amazon	n.	-iadean	adj.
-ian	adj.	Astarte	
ambrosia	n.	Astraea	
-ial	adj.	Astyanax	
-ially	adv.	Atalanta	
-ian	adj.		

Ate			C	
ate	n.		Cadmus	
Athena or			Cadmean	adj.
Athene			Cadmean victory	
athenaeum	n.		Caduceus	
Athenian	adj., n.		-ean	adj.
Athens			Calchas	
Atlas			Calliope	
Atlantean	adj.		calliope	n.
atlantes	n.		Callisto	
Atlantic	adj., n.		Calydonian boar hunt	
Atlantis			Calypso	
atlas	n.		canicular	adj.
Atreus			Capitol	
Atropos			capitol	n.
Augean	adj.		-ine	adj., n.
augur	n., v.		Caryatid	
-y	n.		-al	adj.
Aurora			-ean	adj.
aurora	n.		-ic	adj.
-al	adj.		Cassandra	
-ally	adv.		Cassiopeia	
-ean	n.		Castalia or	
Auster			Castalie	
austral	adj.		Castalian	adj.
austro	n.		Castor	
Avernus			Cecrops	
Avernal	adj.		centaur	n.
		B	Cepheus	
Bacchus			Cerberus	
Bacchae			Cerberean	
bacchanal	adj., n.		Ceres	
Bacchanalia	n.		cereal	n.
bacchanalia	n.		cestus	n.
-ian	adj.		Chaos	
-ianism	n.		chaotic	adj.
bacchant	adj., n.		-tical	adj.
-tic	adj.		-tically	adv.
-te	n.		Charon	
Bacchic	adj.		Charybdis	
-ical	adj.		-dian	adj.
bacchical	adj.		Chimera	
Baucis			chimera	n.
Bellerophon			-rical	adj.
Bellona			-ric	adj.
Boreas			-rically	adv.
boreal	adj.		Chiron	
			(Chronos)	

chronic	adj.	D	
-cal	adj.		
-cally	adv.		
chronicle	n., v.	Daedalus	
-cler	n.	daedal	adj.
chronogram		-lian	adj.
-matic	adj.	-lean	adj.
chronograph	n.	Damon	
-ic	adj.	Danae	
chronologer	n.	Danaus	
chronologic		Danaides	
-cal	adj.	Daphne	
-cally	adv.	Daphnis	
chronologist	n.	Decathlon	
chronology	n.	Deianira	
chronometer	n.	Delphi	
-tric	adj.	-ian	adj.
-trical	adj.	-ic	adj.
-trically	adv.	Demeter	
chronometry	n.	Deucalion	
chronoscope	n.	Diana	
Chryseis		Dido	
Chthonian	adj.	dido	n.
Cimmerian	adj., n.	Diomedes	
Circe		dionaea	
-ean	adj.	Dionysus	
-aeon	adj.	-sia	
Clio		-siac	adj.
Clotho		-sian	adj.
Clytemnestra		Dioscuri	
Cocytus		Dodona	
Comus		-aeon	
cornucopia		dryad	n.
-ian	adj.	-dic	adj.
Corybant			
-tic	adj.	E	
-tine	adj.		
-tian	adj.	Echo	
Cronus		echo	n., v.
Cupid		-er	n.
cupid	n.	-ic	adj.
-ity	n.	-ism	n.
Cybele		Egeria	
Cyclops or		Electra	
Cyclopes		Electra complex	n.
-pean	adj.	Eleusinian mysteries	
Cynthia		Elysium	
Cyprian	adj.	-ian	adj.
Cypriote	adj., n.	Endymion	
Cytherea		Eolian var. of Aeolian	
-rean	adj.	-ic	
		eonian	v.

Eos			-ism	n.
-sin	n.		-ist	n.
-sinic	adj.		-istic	adj.
Epimetheus			-istically	adv.
Erato			-ly	adv.
Erebus			fate	n.
Erinyes			-ed	adj.
Eris			-ful	adj.
-tic	adj.		-fully	adv.
Eros			-fulness	n.
erotic	adj.		faun	n.
-cal	adj.		Faunus	
-cally	adv.		fauna	n.
-cism	n.		-al	adj.
erotism	n.		-ally	adv.
Erymanthus			Flora	
-thian	adj.		-al	adj.
Eteocles			-ally	adv.
Etruscan			-al emblem	n.
Etrusian	n.		-escence	n.
eudaemon	n.		in-	n.
-nia	n.		-escent	adj.
-nic	adj.		in-	adj.
-nical	adj.		-et	n.
-nism	n.		-iated	adj.
-nist			-iculture	n.
-nistic			-icultural	adj.
-nistical	adj.		-iculturally	adv.
-nistically	adv.		-iculturist	n.
euhemerism	n.		-id	adj.
-ist	n.		-idly	adv.
-istic	adj.		-idness	
-istically	adv.		-iferous	adj.
-ize	v.		-in	n.
Euminides			-ist	n.
Euphrosyne			-flower	n., v., adj.
Europa			-age	n.
Europe			-et	n.
-ean	adj., n.		-ing	adj.
-eanize	v.		-less	adj.
-ean plan			-pot	n.
Eurus			-y	adj.
Eurydice			-ily	adv.
Euterpe			-iness	n.
			non -- ing	adj.
			be -- ed	adj.
	F		Fortuna	
			-ate	adj.
Fates			un-	adj.
fatal	adj.		-ately	adv.
-ity	n.		-ateness	n.

un -- ate	adj.	-ize	v.
un -- ately	adv.	-gy	n.
fortune	n., v.	zoo -- gy	n.
in-	n.	geomancer	n.
-hunter	n.	-cy	n.
-hunting	adj.	geometer	n.
-teller	n.	geometric	adj.
-telling	n., adj.	-cal	adj.
Fury		-cally	adv.
fury	n.	-cian	n.
furibund	adj.	-ize	v.
furious	adj.	-ry	n.
-ly	adv.	geomorphic	n.
-ness	n.	geophagy	
furor	n.	-gism	n.
furore	n.	-gist	n.
infuriate	v.	geophysical	adj.
-ly	adv.	-cist	n.
-tion	n.	geophyte	n.
		geoponic	adj.
		geostatic	adj.
		geostatics	n.
		geosynclinal	n., adj.
		geotais	n.
		geotactic	adj.
		-cally	adv.
		geotropic	adj.
		-cally	adv.
		-ism	n.
		apo--ism	n.
		geotectonic	adj.
		Galatea	
		-tian	n., adj.
		galatea	n.
		Ganymede	
		Gemini	
		-nate	v., adj.
		in--nate	v.
		-nation	n.
		Genius	
		genius	n.
		genial	adj.
		-ity	n.
		genie	n.
		giant	
		-ess	n.
		-ism	n.
		-powder	
		gigantean	adj.
		-tesque	adj.

G

Gaea

geocentric
geochemistry

-ical

geode

-esic

-esical

-esist

-esy

-etic

-etical

-etically

geognosy

geographer

-hical

-hic

-hy

-hically

zoo--her

zoo--hical

zoo-hically

zoo-hic

zoo-hy

geoid

geologic

-cally

-cal

-ist

-tic	adj.	Helios	
-tical	adj.	heliocentric	adj.
-tomachy	n.	-ical	adj.
goat-god	n.	anthelion	n.
Golden Fleece		heliochrome	n.
Gordian	adj.	-ic	adj.
-Knot		heliogram	n.
Gorgon		-graph	n., v.
gorgon	n.	-grapher	n.
-ian	adj.	-graphic	adj.
-ize	v.	-graphy	n.
Graces		-gravure	n.
grace	n., v.	-stat	n.
-cup	n.	-taxis	n.
-ful	adj.	-therapy	n.
-fully	adv.	heliotropism	n.
-fulness		-type	n., v.
-less	adj.	-typy	n.
-lessly	adv.	helium	n.
-lessness	n.	apheliotropism	n.
dis-	n., v.	-pic	adj.
dis--er	n.	-pically	adv.
dis--ful	adj.	parhelic	adj.
dis--fully	adv.	parhelic circle	n.
dis--fulness	n.	parhelical	adj.
un--ful	adj.	parhelion	n.
un--fully	adv.	parahelion	n.
un--fulness	n.	photoheliograph	n.
Graea		Hephaestus	
griffin	n.	Hera	
griffon	n.	Hercules	
		-ean	adj.
		-lidae	n.
		-lidan	adj.
H		Hermaphroditus	
Hades		herma	n.
hamadryad	n.	-phrodite	n.
Harpy		-phrodite brig	n.
Harpies		-tic	adj.
harpy	n.	-tically	adv.
Hebe		-tical	adj.
-phrenia	n.	Hermes	
-phrenic	adj.	Hermes Trismegistus	
-tic	adj.	-etic	adj.
Hecate		-etical	adj.
Hector		-etically	adv.
hector	n., v.	Hermione	
Hecuba		Hero	
Helen of Troy		hero	n.
Helicon		Hero and Leander	
-ian	adj.	-oic	adj.

Jocasta		-cy	n.
Jove		-r	adj.
by Jove		-r caustic	n.
-vial	adj.	-rian	n.
-vially	adv.	-ate	adj.
-ialness	n.	-ated	adj.
-iality	n.	-ately	adv.
-ian	adj.	-tic	n.
Juno		-tical	adj.
June		-tion	n.
Jupiter		lune	n.
		-ette	n.
		-es	n.
	L	luniform	n.
		-isolar	n.
labyrinth		-itidal	n.
-ian	adj.	-itidal interven	n.
-ic	adj.	lunular	adj.
-ical	adj.	-late	adj.
-ine	n.	-lated	adj.
Lachesis		-uny	n.
Laertes		inter--nar	n.
Laius		sublunary	adj.
lamia	n.	-ar	adj.
Laocoön		superlunary	adj.
lares	n.	-ar	adj.
lares and penates	n.	Lupercalia	
laurel		-ian	adj.
-raceous	adj.	-ci	
-reate	adj., n., v.	Lycaon	
poet-reate		Lyceum	
-reateship	n.	lyceum	n.
-reation	n.		
Leander			
lemures			
lemur	n.		M
-ine	adj.	maenad	n.
-oid	adj.	-dic	n.
Lethe		Manes	
lethe	n.	manes	n.
lethargic	adj.	Mars	
-cal	adj.	March	
-cally	adv.	Martian	n., adj.
-gize	v.	martial	adj.
-gy	n.	-ly	adv.
Lethean		martial law	n.
Leto		May	
lotus	n.	-apple	
lotus-eater	n.	-fair	
Luna		-flower	
luna	n.		

-fly		mortiferous	adj.
-ing		-tification	n.
-pole		-fier	n.
-queen		-fy	v.
-tide		mortuary	n., adj.
-time		amortize	v.
Medea		-zation	n.
Medusa		-zable	adj.
-soid	adj.	-zement	n.
-san	adj.	amort	adj.
Meleager		immortal	adj., n.
Melpomene		-ity	n.
Memnon		-ize	v.
-ian	adj.	post-mortem	n.
Menelaus		Muse	
Mentor		muse	n.
mentor	n.	-um	n.
Mercury		music	n.
mercury	n.	-al	adj.
-rate	v.	-ally	adv.
-rial	adj.	-alness	n.
-rially	adv.	-al comedy	n.
-rialness	n.	-ale	n.
-rialism	n.	-box	n.
-rialize	v.	-hall	n.
-ric	adj.	-ian	n.
-rochrome	n.	-ianly	adj.
-rous	adj.	-of the spheres	n.
-chloride		un-al	adj.
-vapor lamp	n.	im-al	adj.
Midas		Myrmidon	
Minerva		myrmidon	n.
Mines		myth	
Minotaur		-ical	adj.
Mnemosyne		-ic	adj.
-nic	adj.	-cally	adv.
-nies	n.	-icize	v.
Momus		-icism	n.
Morpheus		-ico-historical	adj.
-hia	n.	-ographer	n.
-ine	n.	-ohistoric	adj.
-inism	n.	mythologic	adj.
Mors		-al	adj.
mort	n.	-ally	adv.
-al	adj.	-gist	n.
-ally	adv.	-gize	v.
-ality	n.	-gizer	n.
-ality table	n.	-gy	n.
-mind	n.	mythomania	n.
mortician	n.	-iac	n., adj.

mythopoeism	n.	-olepsy	n.
-ist	n.	-olept	n.
nonmythical	adj.	-omania	n.
		-omaniac	n., adj.

N

naiad	n.
Narcissus	
narcism	n.
narcist	n.
narcissism	n.
-ist	n.
-istic	adj.
Nausicaa	
nectar	n.
-ean	adj.
-eous	adj.
-ine	n.
-y	n.
-ial	adj.
Nemean	
Nemean Games	
Nemesis	
nemesis	n.
Neptune	
-nian	adj.
Nereid	
Nereis	
Nereus	
Nessus	
Nestor	
Nike	
nimbus	n.
Niobe	
-bium	n.
nisus	
Nox	
noctiluca	n.
noctuid	n., adj.
nocturnal	adj.
-ly	adv.
nocturne	
equinox	n.
equinocial	adj.
numen	n.
nymph	n.
-al	adj.
-ean	adj.
-alid	adj.

O

Oceanid	
Oceanus	
ocean	n.
-ian	n., adj.
-ic	adj.
-ography	n.
-ographer	n.
-hic	adj.
-hically	adv.
-hical	adj.
Odysseus	
Odyssey	
odyssey	n.
Oedipus	
Oedipus complex	n.
Olympiad	
-ian	adj.
-ian Games	
-ic	
-us	
Omphale	
Ops	
opulence	n.
-cy	n.
-nt	adj.
oracle	n.
-lar	adj.
-larity	n.
-larly	adv.
oread	n.
Orestes	
orgy	n.
orgiastic	adj.
Orion	
Orpheus	
-ean	adj.
-hic	adj.
-hism	
Ossa	

P

paean	n.	Phrygian	
paean	n.	Pierian	adj.
Pallas (Athena)		Pillars of Hercules	
Palladian	adj.	Pleiades	
-dic	adj.	Pleiad	
-dium	n.	Pluto	
-dous	adj.	-nian	adj.
Pan		-nic	adj.
-dean	adj.	Plutus	
-ic	n., adj.	-tocracy	n.
-icy	adj.	-tocrat	n.
-ic stricken	adj.	-tocratic	adj.
Pandean pipes	n.	-ically	adv.
Pandarus		-ical	adj.
pander	n., v.	Pollux	
-er	n.	Polynymnia	
Pandora		Polynuces	
-is box	n.	Polyphemus	
pandora	n.	Pomona	
pantheon	n.	pome	n.
Paphian	adj.	-miculture	n.
Parcae		pomiferous	adj.
Paris		pommel	n., v.
-ian	n., adj.	pomology	n.
- Green		-gical	adj.
Parnassus		-gist	n.
-sian	n., adj.	Poseidon	
Parthenon		Priam	
Parthenope		Priapus	
Parthenos		priapus	n.
Pasiphae		-pean	adj.
Patroclus		Procne	
Pegasus		Procrustes	
Pelias		-tean	adj.
Pelides		Prometheus	
Pelops		-ean	n., adj.
penates	n.	Proserpine	
Penelope		Proteus	
pentathlon	n.	-ean	n.
Persephone		Psyche	
Perseus		psyche	n.
Phaethon		- knot	n.
phaeton	n.	psychiater	n.
Phaedra		-iatry	n.
Philomela		-iatric	adj.
philomel		-cal	adj.
Phlegethon		-iatrist	n.
Phoebus Apollo		-ic	n., adj.
-be	n.	-ical	adj.
		-ically	adv.

Telemachus			Titania	
Tereus			-nic acid	n.
Terminus			-niferous	adj.
terminus	n.		-nism	n.
-nable	adj.		-nium dioxide	n.
-nability	n.		-nic oxide	n.
-nableness	n.		-nosaur	n.
-nably	adv.		-nosaurus	n.
-al	adj.		-nous	adj., n.
-nally	adv.		Tithonus	
-nate	v.		trident	n., adj.
-nation	n.		-ate	adj.
-national	adj.		-ated	adj.
-native	adj.		Triptolemus	
-natively	adv.		Triton	
-nator	n.		-ess	
in--nable	adj.		Trojan War	
in--nably	adv.		Tydeus	
-nology	n.		Tydides	
-nological	adj.		Typhoeus	
-nologically	adv.		Typhoesn	adj.
ex--nate	v.		Typhon	
ex--nation	n.			
ex--nator	n.			
ex--native	adj.			U
ex--natory	adj.			
ex--ne	v.			
Terpsichore			Ulysses	
-an	adj., n.		Urania	
Tethys			-nic	adj.
Thalia			-nite group	n.
Thersites			-nitic	adj.
thersitical	adj.		-nium	n.
Theseus			-nography	n.
Thesean	adj.		-phern	
Thetis			-phic	adj.
Thisbe			-phical	adj.
Thyestes			-phist	n.
-tean	adj.		-nology	n.
-tian	adj.		-gical	adj.
-tian banquet	n.		-nous	adj.
thyrsus			-nyl	n.
Tiresias				
Titan				V
-omachy				
titan	n.		Venus	
-ic	adj.		Venusberg	
-ess	n.		Venus of Milo	
-ate	n.		venereal	adj.
-esque	adj.		venery	n.

Vertumnus

Vesta

vesta n.

-l adj.

-l virgin

Vulcan

volcanic adj.

-ically adv.

-ic glass n.

-ism n.

-ist n.

-nize v.

-nization n.

-no n.

-nology n.

-nological adj.

-nologist n.

Vulcanian adj.

-nite n., adj.

-nization n.

-nize v.

-nizable adj.

-nizer n.

-nized Fiber n.

-nology n.

-nological adj.

-nologist n.

W

water nymph n.

wood nymph

Z

Zephyrus

zephyr n.

-cloth n.

-yarn n.

-worsted n.

Zeus

ARTS

aeolian harp	n.
aeolian lyre	n.
grace	n.
grace note	n.
helicon	n.
flute	n.
nimbus	
Panpipe	n.
syrinx	n.
terpsichore	n.

SCIENCES

Anatomy

Achilles tendon	
arachnoid	n.
aponeurosis	n.
atlas	n.
gigantism	n.
hermaphroditism	n.
hermaphrodite	n.
hippocampus	n.
iris (of eye)	
iris diaphragm	n.
labyrinth	n.
lunule	n.
sagittal	n.
solar plexus	n.

Astronomy

Alcyone	
Aldebaran	
Algol	
Andromedae	
Antares	
aphelion	n.
apogee	n.
-geal	adj.
-gean	adj.
Areology	
Argo	
aurora australis	n.
-borealis	n.
callisto	
Canicula	
Canis Major	
Canis Minor	
Cassiopeia	
-Chair	
Castor	
Centaurus	
Cepheus	
Ceres	
Ganymede	
Gemini	
giant star	n.
Great Bear	
heliacal	adj.
-cally	adv.
heliocentric	adj.
-cal	adj.
heliumeter	n.
-tric	adj.

eucalyptus	n., adj.
geometrid	n.
hydra	n.
-nth	n.
-roid	adj.
-rosome	n.
-rozoan	n., adj.
Io Moth	
June beetle	
Luna Moth	
Maia	
medusa	n.
nemertean	n.
-ean	n., adj.
nympha	n.
-lidae	n.
Philomela	
phoebe	n.
pieridine	n.
Polyphemus moth	
pygmy	n.
python	n.
rhea	n.
saturniid	n.
satyr	n.
siren	n.
-ian	adj.
sphinx	n.
triton	n.
wood nymph	n.

II. BOOKS OF MYTHS

The following lists have been verified by checking with Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language, Second Edition, Unabridged, 1947. If the words were omitted in the unabridged dictionary they were not considered as a part of the English language.

Each book was listed separately for sake of reference. The index of the book gives the page reference for the myth from which the word was taken. It was felt that the reader should read the myth indicated for a fuller understanding of the less familiar words. For the most part, these words remain unchanged from their original form in the myths from which they come.

Words Found in

"The Age of Fable or Beauties of Mythology"
by Thomas Bulfinch

Revised by Rev. J. Loughran Scott, 1898

Acestes	Deiphobus
Achelous	Delphinia
Acis	Demodocus
Acrisius	Dirae
Adrastea	Dirce
Adreastus	Doris
Aeacus	Dryope
Aegina	Echidna
Aegipan	Eileithyia
Aegyptus	Enyo
Aerope	Epeus
Aganippe	Eropeus
Agathodaemon	Erechtheus
Agave	Eriphyle
Agenor	Euryale
Alcinous	Eurynome
Alcmaeon	Eurystheus
Amphiaraus	Evadne
Anadyomene	Favonius
Anteros	Feronia
Antilochus	Fides
Aquilo	Glaucus
Arges	Harmonia
Arion	Heliades
Aristaeus	Heliotropium
Asopus	Horae
Athanas	Himeros
Auge	Hippomedon
Autonoe	Iasion
Belus	Icarus
Brontes	Inachus
Cabiri	Iole
Cacus	Ion
Calais	Ismene
Callirrhoe	Isthmina Games
Camenae	Ithaca
Capaneus	Juventus
Cephalus	Juventas
Ceryx	Ladon
Chloris	Lapithea
Coronis	Larva
Cottus	Lenae
Creon	Leucothea

Lichas
Linus
Lucina
Lycus
Melampus
Melicertes
Menoceus
Mulciber
Myrrh
Nais
Napaea
Palaemon
Pales
Panathenaea
Phaon
Phobos
Phorcys
Pirene
Pontus
Pylades

Rhoecus
Salii
Salmoneus
Salus
Somnus
Sterope
Stheno
Symphalian
Telegonus
Tellus
Teucer
Thamyis
Thanatos
Thaumas
Themis
Tisephone
Troilus
Trophonius
Tyche
Victory
Zethus

Words Found in

"The Classic Myths in English Literature and in Art"
by Charles Mills Gayley, 1911

Aeacides	Philoctetes
Aedon	Phyllis
Aegle	Pierides
Aether	Polydorus
Aglauros	Polyxena
Anazarete	Psychopompus
Antenor	Schaeneus
Aura	Scythia
Carmenta	Sestos
Cercopes	Sirius
Coeus	Statius
Consus	Stheneboea
Cressida	Sthenetus
Curetes	Stheno
Cydippe	Taenarus
Cypris (Venus)	Tagus
Cyrene	Talus
Dike (Justice)	Tarpian Rock
Dories	Telephus
Enyalius	Tempe
Erichthonius	Tenedos
Euryclea	Tereus
Fontinalia	Terra
Hecatonchires	Thalassios
Herse	Thesmorphoria
Iacchus	Thespieae (Lion of)
Iapetus	Thestius
Juturna	Thestylis
Libera	Thyiades
Libitina	Thyrsis
Lityerses	Tiber
Milanion	Tityrus
Mimas	Toxeus
Munychia	Trachis
Myrrha	Tritogenea
Oenone	Trivia
Pactolus	Tyrian
Pandemos	Tyro
Paphian	Tyrrheus
Parthenope	Ventumnus
Peitho	Xuthus
Penthesilea	Zante
Pephredo	Zetes

Words Found in

"Classical Myths that Live Today"
by Frances E. Sabin, 1940

Althaea	Ino
Antiope	Laestrygones
Arca	Laodamia
Briareus	Laomedon
Briseis	Latona
Creusa	Marsyas
Cycnus	Myrtilus
Dardanus	Notus
Dione	Orcus
Enceladus	Oenone
Ephialtes	Orpheum
Eumaeus	Panthesilea
Euryclea	Philoctetes
Faustulus	Pierides
Gordius	Pirithous
Helenus	Polydeuces
Hesione	Polyxena
hesperidium	Protesilaus
Hippodamia	Tityus
Hylas	Tros
Idas	Turnus
Ilus	Tyndareus

Words Found in

"Myths and Their Meanings"
by Max J. Herzberg, 1946.

Achillae	Lavinia
Aegeus	Leda
Alcides	Liber
Amphitryon	Maia
Aulolycus	Marpessa
Calais	Medusa's head
Camilla	Mezentius
Cephalus	myrmidon n.
Chronos	Nephele
Clymene	Neoptolemus
Coronis	Oeneus
Deiphobus	Ogygia
Erytheia	Palamedes
Evander	Palenurus
Eurystheus	Pelous
halcyon days	Penelopinae
Helenin n.	Peneus
Hippolyte	Phaeacian
Iolaus	Philemon
Juno's tears	Phrixus
Junonia	Sinon
Kewpie	Symplegades
lar familiaria n.	Tauri
Latinus	Taurian Games

CHAPTER III
WORDS OF MYTHOLOGICAL ORIGIN
FOUND IN CURRENT MAGAZINES

I. WORDS FROM CONTEXT OF MAGAZINES

Methods of selecting magazines. Magazines are so numerous and so varied in type that the selection of two which were representative of the average appeared to be a Herculean task. However, many magazines were eliminated because they are limited in appeal. The contents were restricted to a special field such as radio, science, gardening, or hunting; or they were of interest to men or women in particular. The "pulp" magazines were not considered since the subject matter and vocabulary are limited.

Time and the Saturday Evening Post were selected for the following reasons: (1) they appeal to both men and women; (2) the contents are varied and fall into no one special field; (3) the vocabulary is comparable to that of the average student; (4) they are popular magazines with a large, nationwide circulation.

Harper's Magazine was thought to be more scholarly and the vocabulary to be more erudite than that of the other two magazines. For these reasons, it is compared with the other magazines in the use of mythological words.

Statistics show that Time had a smaller percentage of words of mythological origin than Harper's Magazine, and Saturday Evening Post had a smaller percentage than either of the other two magazines.

Method of tabulating words. In this study the words used in the context of the magazines were tabulated in one list, and those in the advertisements were tabulated in a separate list. This separation according to use was necessary for statistical reasons.

All of the articles, stories, and special sections were carefully read in five copies of Time and in five copies of Saturday Evening Post. All of the issues were current since they were published between January and August, 1947.³ For comparison, only the February, 1948, issue of Harper's Magazine was deemed necessary.

All of the words which were thought to be derived from Greek or Roman myths were underlined. After verification by reference to the list of words in Chapter II of this thesis, each word was tabulated, and the page reference noted. However, to avoid numerous footnotes, the page references are given in the appendix of this thesis rather than in this chapter.

The following list is a compilation of all of the

³See appendix for exact dates of magazines used.

words derived from Greek or Roman myths as used in the above magazines. These words were used a total of one thousand nine hundred and seventy-nine times. After each word the frequency of occurrence is given; e.g. Amazon 8. All derivatives are listed under the root words as was done in the previous chapter. For ease of reference, this list is arranged in alphabetical order.

Words Used in Context in

Current Magazines

Aegean	4	Corybantic	1
Ajax	84 ⁴	Cupid	2
alma mater	3	Cynthia	1
Amazon	8	Damon	1
-ian	1	Echo	1
Antares	3	echo	1
Argonaut	1	-ed	1
Athens	21	Electra	3
-nian	1	Electra complex	1
Atlas	6	erotica	1
Atlanta	7	eroticism	1
Atlantic	36	Europe	150
Atlantic Ocean	2	-an	66
Mid-atlantic	1	Indo -- an	1
Trans-atlantic	1	non -- an	1
Calliope	4	fate	4
Calypso	1	-tal	7
capitol	9	-ed	2
-ine	1	faun	1
centaur	1	fauna	1
cereal	1	flora	2
chaos	8	Florence	3
-otic	4	-rid	2
Chimera	1	-rida	36
Chronological	2	-ridian	1
chronic	2	-rist	3
chronometer	2	flower	51
Clytemnestra	1	-ed	4
Colossus	3	be -- ed	1
Cornucopia	1	-pot	1

⁴Name of character in a short story.

fortune	20	Hermes	3
-nate	3	hermetically	1
-nately	9	hermaphrodite	1
un -- nate	13	hero	38
un -- nately	9	-ic	7
fury	5	-ics	4
-rious	17	un -- ic	1
-riously	7	-ine	4
in -- riated	2	ism	5
Ganymede	1	Homer	596
genius	26	Homer	5
Geodetic Survey	1	Hour	185
geographer	1	horological	1
-hic	1	-gy	1
-hical	2	horoscope	1
-hically	1	hyacinth	1
-hy	3	hydra	1
geological	4	hygiene	1
non--	1	-nic	1
-gist	6	hypnotic	2
-gy	2	-tist	1
giant	27	Iris	5
gigantic	5	iridescent	1
-ally	2	janitor	2
Grace	65	January	49
grace	13	Jovian	3
-ful	3	-ial	3
-fully	5	-ially	1
dis -- ed	3	-iality	1
dis -- ful	1	June	44
Hector	1	June	177
Hercules	3	Jupiter	3
-lean	1	laurel	5

⁵Name of character in a short story.

⁶Character in short story.

⁷Character in short story.

-eate	2	myth	4
Leander	55 ⁸	-ical	3
lethargic	2	-ological	1
-sy	2	-ology	1
Luna	4	Narcissus	1
-City	14 ⁹	-sism	1
-Terra	1	nemesis	2
Trans -- ar	1	Nike	1
Mars	20	ocean	20
March	55	-ic	1
Marsopolis	5 ¹⁰	-going	2
Martian	5 ¹¹	-ogeography	1
Martial	5	Odyssey	1
court martial	1	Oedipus	1
May	60	Olympus	1
-Day	4	-pic	4
-basket	1	-pian	2
Medusa	1	oracle	1
mentor	1	orgy	3
Mercury	2	Pan	1
mercury	1	-ic	15
Midas	1	-icky	4
Minerva	1	-icked	1
mortality	1	-ic-stricken	1
-tician	5	pantheon	1
-tuary	1	Paris	77
post -- tem	2	-ian	3
museum	29	-ienne	1
music	59	Persephone	1
--al	34	Parthenon	1
-ian	28	phaeton	1
-ianship	4	Prometheus	1
-lover	1	protean	1
-hall	1	psyche-interpreter	1
		psychiatrist	19
		-tric	1

⁸Character in short story.

⁹Modern adaptation in short story.

¹⁰Modern adaptation in short story.

¹¹Modern adaptation in short story.

-ry	3	Sylvia	5
-ric	2	tantalizer	1
psycho	2	-zingly	1
-analysis	1	tantalum	1
-analysts	3	terminal	25
-analyzed	1	Space	9 ¹²
-logical	11	-nate	2
-logist	3	-nated	3
-logy	9	ex -- ate	1
-neurosis	1	ex -- ation	3
-pathic	1	in -- nable	6
-sis	1	de -- ned	4
-tic	1	-nating	1
Pythias	1	-nation	3
python	1	Titan	3
Roman	8	-tic	3
-Catholic	18	Ulysses	2
Rome	29	uranium	5
Prix de -	3	Venus	8
Saturn	1	Venusberg	4 ¹³
ine	1	volcano	11
erday	41	-nic	3
siren	3		
Sol	1		
-ar	9		
stentorian	2		
Stygian	1		

¹²Location in short story.

¹³Location in short story.

II. WORDS FROM ADVERTISEMENTS IN MAGAZINES

Uses of words in advertisements. The words derived from the Greek and Roman myths were skillfully employed by modern advertisers who either describe or name their products in apt and significant words. As Grace P. Smith states in her article, "Gods on Main Street",¹⁴

For proof that immortals of ancient Greece and Rome play important roles in the world of twentieth century business, we have only to note advertising and business displays as we pass up and down Main Street. Truly the advertising man knows his mythology, and we must admire the skill with which he adapts it to his immediate purpose - an appeal to buyers that will promote sales.....With keen vision, the advertising man has made mythology one of the effective tools of his trade.

Today, seventeen years later, these "tools" are being utilized by master-craftsmen. Argus, the hundred-eyed servant of Juno, lends his all seeing powers to "America's First Twin Lens Camera",¹⁵ the Argo-flex made by the Argus Company. The sandals of fleet-footed Mercury are featured in the Goodyear tire advertisement,¹⁶ and

¹⁴The Classical Journal, June, 1932, p. 706.

¹⁵The Saturday Evening Post, April 26, 1947, p. 67.

¹⁶Ibid., p. 14.

Pegasus appears to enable the car to "take the hills in stride" if it uses Mobilgas as advertised.¹⁷

In the magazines used in this study words derived from the myths were used three hundred times in one hundred and sixty-nine advertisements. Many advertisers use repetition of the name as a device for impressing the name of the product on the mind of the reader. For example, Argo-flex was repeated ten times in one advertisement.

To differentiate between words used as names of products and those used to describe products, the words have been listed as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| (1) <u>Argo-flex</u> | - name of product |
| (2) Argus | - describes product |
| (3) 22 | - number of times word was used |
| (4) p | - picture of mythological character |
| (5) 3 | - number of advertisements in which that word appeared. |

The total listing of a word might be thus:

Atlas lp 5 1

The word Atlas is used as the name of a product, is pictured once, used five times in one advertisement.

¹⁷

The Saturday Evening Post, July 12, 1947, p. 67.

Words Used in Advertisements of
Current Magazines

Word		Frequency of Occurrence	Number of Advertisements
<u>Ajax</u>		4	1
Amalthea	1p	1	1
Aegean		1	1
Amazon		1	1
arachnid	1p	1	1
<u>Argo-flex</u>		22	2
Argus		13	3
Atlanta		2	2
Atlantic		16	5
<u>Atlas</u>	1p	6	2
augur		1	1
capitol		1	1
cereal		4	2
cupid	1p	1	1
Europe		2	2
European		2	2
flower		6	6
Florida		3	2
fortunately		1	1
unfortunate		1	1
genius		1	1
giant		6	2
hero		1	1
heroine		1	1
hour		25	23
hyacinth		2	1
hygiene		3	2
hygienic		1	1
January		9	9
June		22	20
Laurel		1	1
March		10	9
May		3	3
<u>Mercury</u>	4p	15	2
music		39	14
musical		10	5
musician		2	1
mythology		3	1
<u>Musaphonic</u>		9	1
Neptune	1p		1
ocean		8	7
paeon		1	1

Word		Frequency of Occurrence	Number of Advertisements
<u>Paris</u>		7	2
Pegasus	5p		3
Rome		3	3
Roman		1	1
Saturday		16	1
tantalizing		1	1
terminal		1	1
trans-ocean		2	1
trans-Atlantic		2	1
unfortunately		1	1
<u>Venus</u>	1p	5	2
zephyrus	1p		1

CHAPTER IV

PERCENTAGE OF WORDS DERIVED FROM MYTHS AS COMPARED WITH OTHER LIKE WORDS

The foregoing lists of words derived from myths might be of interest in themselves to philologists and etymologists. Interest might be aroused by the number of derivatives listed under such words as Psyche or Jove.

Moreover, in this study the lists are evidence of the fact that mythology has contributed to our modern English language as used in current magazines. The significance of the contribution can be established statistically if a comparison is made between the total words derived from myths and the total words used. However, all of the words used are not of equal significance, and for purposes of this study some may be eliminated.

I. THE DICTIONARY

The total number of words in the dictionary was compared with the number of words derived from Greek and Roman myths. No attempt was made to eliminate words which were not of the same grammatical categories as the words from the myths as was done in other comparisons.

A sample count of words on a page revealed that an average of 55 words were listed on each page. The dictionary used in this study had 1,174 pages, or an estimated

64,570 words. The words derived from the myths totaled 1,516 words. A comparison of these two totals revealed that 2.35% of all of the words in the dictionary are derived from myths.

II. THE MAGAZINES

The February 24, 1947, issue of Time and the June 7, 1947, issue of Saturday Evening Post were selected for the statistical study because they contained the average number of words derived from the Greek and Roman myths. Therefore, it was assumed that they would also contain the average number of words of like use.

The computation of the number of words in the magazines presented quite a difficult problem. The columns were not identical in length, and in the Saturday Evening Post they were different in width also. Hence, each type of column had to be computed separately.

In counting the number of words in a column, only nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs were included since the words derived from the myths fall into these four grammatical categories.

The print was measured in linear inches as is done in newspaper offices. All pictures, large type headings, and advertisements were omitted in this measurement.

Time. The Time magazine had 824 inches of print. Several columns were counted at random, and an average column selected from the group. This average column was $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and contained 209 words used as the mythological words were used. In one inch, there were 22 words or an estimated total of 18,128 words in the magazine. There were 162 words derived from the myths; therefore, .89% of the words of like use were of mythological origin.

Saturday Evening Post. In the Saturday Evening Post the pages are printed in either three or four columns. There was a total of 436 inches of three-column print with an average of 353 words per 12-inch column. In one inch, therefore, there were 29.4 words, for an estimated total of 12,728 words.

The four-column print was 1455 inches in length with 279 words per 12-inch column. One inch contained 23.3 words for an estimated total of 33,902 words.

In the entire magazine, there was an estimated total of 46,630 words as compared with 235 of mythological origin. The latter composed .50% of the total words of like use.

Harper's. For comparison, one copy of Harper's Magazine was used. It contained 1,377 inches of print with 181 words in an 8.5 inch column. There were 21.3 words per inch or an estimated total of 29,330 words. Of these, there were 305 words derived from myths, or 1.06% of the total.

The following chart gives the relative percentages of words used in these sources.

THE RELATIVE PERCENTAGES OF WORDS DERIVED FROM
GREEK AND ROMAN
MYTHS AS COMPARED TO WORDS OF LIKE USE

Source of Words	Total Number of Words	Number of Words from Myths	% of Words from Myths
Dictionary	64,570	1,516	2.35%
Harper's	29,330	305	1.06%
Time	18,128	162	.89%
Saturday Evening Post	46,630	235	.50%

CHAPTER V

WHICH MYTHS SHOULD BE TAUGHT IN VIEW OF CURRENT USAGE IN MAGAZINES?

The myths suggested in this chapter are the sources of the words used in current magazines. These myths may be found in the books of mythology¹⁸ which were used in the study. A few myths were included which are necessary for a complete knowledge of a group of gods, although that particular god may not have been referred to in the magazines used in this study. Also, frequent references in literature, music and the like have influenced their selection. Words from these myths have been indicated by an asterisk.

On the whole, these myths are of Greek origin, but they were later adopted by the Romans and given Latin names. A few gods were known only among the Greeks; a few were known only among the Romans.

I. BEGINNING OF THE WORLD

The details of the creation of the world differ with the narrator. However, it is agreed that there were two rulers, Uranus and Gaea, who arose from Chaos, the confusion which first existed. Their children were the twelve beauti-

¹⁸See Bibliography.

ful Titans and the monsters known as the Giants and Cyclopes.

Of the Titans, the most famous were Oceanus, the river which encircled the earth; Cronus, called Saturn by the Romans, who ruled over the Titans; Prometheus, who saved mankind with his gift of fire; and Rhea, the mother of the gods.

Both Uranus and Cronus were unnatural fathers in that they were cruel to their own children. Uranus banished his children to the lower regions, called Tartarus; Cronus swallowed five of his children and would have swallowed Jupiter had not Rhea put a stone in the infant's place. Jupiter later saved his five brothers and sisters, who with him became the Olympian Council of gods and the parents of the other gods who ruled the Greeks and Romans.

II. THE TWELVE OLYMPIANS

The home of the gods was Mt. Olympus in Thessaly, where in great splendor they lived on nectar and ambrosia. At the entrance were the gates of clouds guarded by the Hours or Seasons. No study of mythology is complete which does not include a story or two about these famous Olympians.

This divine family was made up of the following:

1. Zeus (Jupiter or Jove) - the king
of all the gods and the ruler of
mankind.

2. Poseidon (Neptune) - his brother and god of the sea, horses, and earthquakes.
3. Pluto (Hades or Dis) - also his brother and god of the underworld, minerals, and wealth.
4. Hestia (Vesta) - their sister and goddess of the hearth and home.
5. Hera (Juno) - wife of Zeus and Queen of the gods and patroness of married women.
6. Ares (Mars) - god of war.
7. Pallas Athena (Minerva) - goddess of wisdom, war, and weaving.
8. Phoebus Apollo - god of the sun, music, poetry, and medicine.
9. Aphrodite (Venus) - goddess of love and beauty.
10. Hermes (Mercury) - messenger of the gods, god of commerce and theft.
11. Artemis (Diana or Cynthia) - goddess of the moon and hunting, and patroness of maidens.
12. Hephaestus (Vulcan or Mulciber) - god of fire and workers of metal or the forge.

III. LESSER GODS OF OLYMPUS

In addition to the Olympians, there were other gods who dwelt in the heavens. They were not quite so important; however, their influence is felt in the myths which survive. These lesser gods are listed below:

1. Eros (Cupid) - god of love.
2. Iris-goddess of the rainbow and messenger of the gods.
3. Muses - nine in number.
4. Three Graces.
5. Themis*- Right or Divine Justice.
6. Dike*- Human Justice.
7. Pleiades - seven daughters of Atlas.
Maia, the eldest.
8. Parcae who ruled both gods and men.
9. Hebe*- goddess of youth and cup-bearer of the gods. Later replaced by Ganymede.
10. Nemesis - Righteous anger.
11. Nike*- (Victoria) goddess of victory.
12. Luna - the moon goddess of the Romans.
13. Sol - the sun god of the Romans.
14. Bacchus or Dionysus (Liber) - god of wine, drama, and revelry.

IV. THE GODS OF NATURE

The myths concerning the gods of nature should include a story about: (1) Faunus (Pan) - the god of nature and his contest with Apollo in which Midas was the judge; (2) Demeter (Ceres) - the goddess of agriculture and her cornucopia; (3) Eos (Aurora) - goddess of the dawn; (4) the four winds; (5) Silenus, the chief of the Satyrs.

One might also include stories about the Sirens, Triton, Proteus, Nereus, and Cybele and Corybant.

V. THE GODS OF THE UNDERWORLD

In the stories about the underworld, the student is introduced to Eumenides (Furies); Thanatos (Mors) or Death; Hypnos (Somnus) god of sleep; Persephone (Proserpina), daughter of Ceres; Morpheus, god of dreams; and Tantalus. He would also learn the significance of the rivers Styx, Lethe, Acheron, and Cocytus. He would meet Cerberus*, the three-headed dog who guards the gates of Hades. All is not evil in Hades for there too lie the Elysian Fields*, a place of blessedness.

VI. OTHER ROMAN GODS

The Romans had several gods which were unknown among

the Greeks. Our language contains a number of references and words derived from these gods. Since derivatives were used frequently, it would be well to acquaint the students with the following: (1) Flora, goddess of flowers; (2) Janus, the two-headed god who presided over the beginning of everything; (3) Ops*, goddess of plenty; (4) the Centaurs, half man and half horse; (5) Fortuna, guide of the affairs of the world; (6) Terminus, who presided over boundaries; (7) Silvanus, god of the fields and forests; (8) Faunus, protector of agriculture, god of shepherds and giver of oracles; (9) Chronos, god of time; and, (10) Hygeia, goddess of health.

The Romans also had domestic gods. The Lares* presided over the house, the fields and the roads. The Penates* were gods of the whole house but especially of the storeroom. All homes had altars to these gods.

VII. GREAT HEROES AND OTHERS

Many heroes were tested by their gods who gave them certain difficult tasks to accomplish. Hercules had to overcome the Hydra; Jason went in quest of the Golden Fleece and was helped by Argus and others; Perseus returned with the head of Medusa. Theseus had many adventures, but the most exciting one was his encounter with the Minotaur.

Other adventures include those of the following:

(1) Bellerophon and the Chimera; (2) Agamemnon and Clytemnestra; and, (3) Prometheus and Pandora.

Three famous love stories are those of Cupid and Psyche, Hero and Leander, and Echo and Narcissus. From the stories of Apollo only three contributed words found in magazines. These three were Apollo and Hyacinthus; Apollo and Daphne, who turned into a laurel tree; and his slaying the Python.

Selections from Homer's Odyssey should include the story of Ulysses and Calypso, and Ulysses and the Mentor. The Trojan Wars should be read in part also, for they have contributed many words to the language.

The students might also be interested in the story of Minerva and Arachne, Oedipus, and Romulus and Remus. In many stories the men consult the oracles to learn the wishes of the gods, and they worship the genius loci. The Delphi was the location of one of the most famous oracles, for here were the temple and oracle of Apollo.

The above suggestions constitute the minimum requirements for a unit on mythology. The course of study should allow at least six weeks for this unit, for the wealth of material could hardly be covered in less time. An enriched course would be preferable, and other myths selected if time and interest permit. In most cases no specific title of a myth was given for texts vary so in

wording in details in the myths. It is suggested that the reader consult the index of his text for the stories of the gods suggested in this section.

CHAPTER VI

AIDS IN TEACHING MYTHOLOGY

The stimulation of interest in a new unit may be a real problem. Before starting the unit on mythology, the teacher might arouse interest by means of pictures on the bulletin board. The author used the "Mobilgas" advertisement, which features Pegasus, the Mercury car advertisement, and a few pictures of statues of the gods of Greece and Rome.

Many of the students had read about the myths in the fifth grade. They identified the gods for the class. We discussed them briefly, and then the question arose as to the beliefs of the Greeks concerning the origin of the world. A student volunteered to bring the information to class the next day.

A story or poem about the gods could be used instead of the pictures. The modern myths of Paul Bunyan or Pecos Bill might also stimulate interest in the ancient myths. If the Olympic Games are being held soon, they could be utilized instead of the above.

The history teacher cooperated with the English teacher in this unit. The students were studying ancient Greek civilization in history at the time the myths were introduced in the English class. Our work was correlated

as much as possible. Speeches, projects, and written work were either about the myths or about the ancient Greek customs, their dress, or their religion.

The aid of the science and other teachers should be sought in pointing out terms used in other fields of study which are derived from the myths. Music and art are rich with references to mythological subjects.

As the study of the myths progressed, the students compiled a notebook containing references to the gods or their symbols which they found in print. These references included advertisements, trade names, stories, articles, and titles found in books, magazines, and newspapers. When possible the picture or article was put in the notebook, and the god was identified. If the source were a book, the reference was quoted, or the picture was drawn by the student.

The bulletin board committees vied with each other in displaying references they had found that week. Many of them brought vases, pictures, medals and other articles decorated with scenes or symbols from the myths.

An effort was made to find several versions of the same myth. Thus, the students realized that stories handed down by word of mouth differ with the narrator. Attention was drawn to Homer, Ovid, Hesiod, and Virgil who wrote down the myths for their generations.

The students wrote a myth either about the adventures

of the gods we had studied, or about the adventures of their original characters. The stories were delightfully original and showed a real feeling for the myth. One boy wrote of the great battle between Soap and Water and Dirt. The battle field was the neck and ears of a boy. Soap and Water won, but not for long for they soon found Dirt on another boy. Their battle goes on without ceasing.

A girl wrote of the origin of the Rose, a mortal lover of Apollo who still weeps for him. In the early morning, one can still see the tears on her cheeks to this day. A few other topics were modern trips similar to the Odyssey, trials to prove one's worthiness or skill, origin of the Atom Bomb, and the origin of various metals such as uranium.

The text books used in this study¹⁹ have excellent "Word Study" sections at the end of each chapter. They also list references found in literature and are so rich in material that there is little need to supplement them. We often read a poem in its entirety.

The Olympic Games furnished material for another group of projects. They were as follows:

1. Trace the history of the Olympic Games from the time of the early Greeks until the present.
2. Write a news report of the games in either the time of the early Greeks or the present time.

¹⁹See Bibliography.

3. Compare the types of contests held in the original games and those held in the last games.
4. Prepare a radio broadcast of the games.
5. Collect stamps from various countries which are honoring the games in a special issue.
6. Collect and display on the bulletin board all of the pictures available to you of both the ancient and present olympic games.
7. Give a report to the class of the opening day of the present games. Which events have survived the test of years? What is the meaning of various customs still observed? The opaque projector could be used for illustrations for this report.

The class also listened to the "Tales of the Olympian Gods" as narrated by Ronald Colman.²⁰ The myths are based on Bulfinch's The Age of Fable, and are recorded on three discs. The stories included the following: (1) The Story of Apollo and Daphne; (2) Apollo and Phaeton, Apollo and Clytie; and, (3) The Story of Diana and Echo.

The music teacher lectured on the musical instruments which had their origin in the myths. She brought several reed instruments, the lyre, and other primitive string instruments to illustrate her lecture. Simple tunes were

²⁰Tales of the Olympian Gods, Narrated by Ronald Colman, Published by Decca Records, Inc., 1946.

played for the class, and they were encouraged to try to make a simple reed instrument as a project. She told them of the uses of music among the ancient people and played a few typical melodies. The drama and dance were discussed briefly.

We discussed the stories and then listened for them in the following musical selections: (1) Afternoon of a Faun by Debussy; (2) I Have Lost My Eurydice from Gluck's opera "Orpheus"; (3) selections from Gluck's opera "Alceste"; (4) selections from Handel's "Semele"; and, (5) Saint Saens' "The Youth of Hercules." Other musical selections influenced by the myths are listed, but they were not available in our record library:

1. Cesar Franck - Psyche Suite.
2. Frederick Converse - Endymion.
3. Beethoven - Creatures of Prometheus.
4. Scriabin - Prometheus, a Poem of Fire.
5. Saint Saens - Ompale's Spinning Wheel.
6. Wagner - Bacchanale from "Tannhauser".
7. Richard Strauss - Ariadne auf Naxos (opera).
8. Saint Saens - Phaeton.
9. Gluck - Paride ed Elena (opera).
10. Gluck - Iphigenie ed Aulide (opera).
11. Gluck - Iphigenie en Tauride (opera).
12. Richard Strauss - Elektra.

13. Henry Purcell - Dido and Aeneas.

In addition to our class discussions and the above group activities, the students also completed individual projects. Their interests were so varied that a wide variety of topics was suggested to them. Not all of the following projects were selected by a student, but they may serve as a guide to the reader.

In all cases the story or identity of the gods was included to explain the use of the picture, word, or selection. Thus, the student did not simply compile a group of designs without explaining their symbolism. The projects which were suggested to the class were as follows:

1. Write a play or dialogue using characters or events from one of the myths in this chapter.
2. Write a play or dialogue using original events or characters. Keep the feeling of the myths.
3. If you wish, cooperate with someone on 1 or 2 and present the play to the class. You may use puppets for your characters if you wish.
4. Write a poem using the myths as the source of your names or events.
5. Compile a list of the names of cities and towns in California and/or another state or country the origin of which is in mythology.

6. Draw a map of the heavens showing the names and locations of the stars, planets, et cetera, whose names are derived from myths. If there is a story about how that star was placed in the heavens, please tell the story.
7. Make a chart showing the genealogy of the gods. Select the most important ones for your project.
8. Draw an illustration of the underworld, Mt. Olympus, or the early Greek world.
9. Draw a picture of Pandora and the modern evils which might be in her box. Tell the story of your picture.
10. Make a notebook of one of the gods of the Olympic Council and include all of the pictures you can find of the god and his symbols. Tell your favorite stories about that god.
11. Read Lamb's Tales from Shakespeare. Chose one or two of the stories which you think Shakespeare might have borrowed from the myths. Give both versions of the story and point out the differences and similarities.
12. If you are interested in one branch of

- science, list and explain the origin of the words used in that science which has originated in the myths.
13. Select from one to five musical selections which either use a mythological name in the title or tell a story from mythology. Tell the story from the myth which explains the above.
 14. List the names of clubs and organizations which use words from myths. Explain why such a name is fitting.
 15. Collect designs in any of the following and identify the symbol or god used; materials, book jackets, book plates, medals, seals, et cetera.
 16. Draw designs from money, both foreign and domestic, which utilized mythological figures or symbols.
 17. Read either a modern play or an early Greek play which is based on the myths. Report on it either orally or in writing.
 18. Go to the local museum and note all of the pictures, designs, or statues which are on display which show an influence of the myths.
 19. Note the designs used on our schools, banks,

and public buildings. Sketch the designs from mythology.

20. Tell the story explaining the designs found in 19.

21. Mount stamps showing designs from myths. Identify.

Most textbooks of mythology contain suggested projects. The teacher will find them helpful in stimulating interest in mythology. The above suggested projects are meant to unite more closely the past and the present; to stimulate an awareness of mythological terms and symbols as used today; to suggest other activities of interest to students of mythology. This list is not intended to be all inclusive for a thesis could be written about the technique of teaching myths.

Activities may be used to arouse enthusiasm for the unit, or they may be used by some teachers as "busy work" and lose their real importance as a teaching technique. Success, of course, depends on teacher enthusiasm and on his skill in arousing interest in his students.

CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The preceding chapters have offered a solution to the problem as stated in the first chapter. To reiterate the problem, what has Greek and Roman mythology contributed to modern English language?

Webster's Collegiate Dictionary listed 1,516 words which were derived from the myths. These words include proper nouns used as names of the deities as well as derivatives of these nouns. The part of speech was given in the word list, which included the names of all of the major gods of the Greeks and Romans as well as many of the lesser gods. This list was augmented with words found in Sabin's Classical Myths That Live Today, Gayley's Classic Myths in English Literature, Bulfinch's Age of Fable or Beauties of Mythology, and Herzberg's Myths and Their Meanings.

In order to determine which words were used in current English language, five copies of Saturday Evening Post, five of Time, and one copy of Harper's Magazine were carefully read. Each word of mythological origin was listed as used in either context or advertisements. The words used in advertisements were classified according to use of word: (1) name of product; (2) describing a product; (3) picture of deity used as symbol of product. A total of 702 words were used in the three magazines of different types.

The total number of words in the entire magazine was estimated, and the percentage of words of mythological origin was determined. It was found that Harper's Magazine had 1.06%, Time had .89%, and Saturday Evening Post had .50% of the total words derived from myths. These percentages may appear so small as to be unimportant. However, the etymological study made by Edwin Lindsay listed only .12%, of the words of Thorndike's Ten Thousand Words Most Frequently Used as mythological in origin. No other etymological study was available for comparison. This unexplored field of study might be of interest to other future candidates for a Master's Degree. The author is convinced that the percentages are significant, but one study is scarcely a sufficient basis for comparison.

The percentage of words used is of less importance than the significance of those words. These words are very descriptive, and a complete understanding of the material read is impossible without a knowledge of the mythological origin of the words. How else could one understand the full implication of Stygian darkness, Herculean task, or "He is an Apollo?"

Since it is generally impossible to study all of the myths, the words used in the magazines aided the author in determining which myths should be taught. Stories of the gods of the Olympic Council were included for complete under-

standing of the gods of the Greeks and Romans. Also suggested were the myths concerning the origin of the world and of the underworld. Some of the more important gods of the sea and sky were suggested as well as some of the well known lesser gods. Teachers of English or mythology are referred to Chapter V for the complete list of myths suggested. The list may be of assistance in planning a unit on mythology, for the myths not mentioned in the chapter were not referred to in any of the magazines and can be omitted when time is limited. Perhaps the history or social science teacher may find the list helpful also in suggesting myths to be read by students of early Greek and Roman civilization and culture. The list also includes myths of interest to scientists who study the stars, flowers, or minerals for many words in these fields are of mythological origin.

Further aids to the teacher of mythology are offered in Chapter V, which suggests techniques of teaching myths. Various methods of introduction of the unit are suggested as well as various group and individual projects. The writer was particularly pleased with the results obtained in the units in writing original myths and those activities centered around the Olympic Games. An awareness of words of mythological origin was stimulated by the units dealing with the use of myths in advertisements, book

jackets, et cetera. However, the suggested activities are in no sense all inclusive, for a thesis could well be written on aids and techniques in teaching myths.

The writer is convinced by this study that mythology should be taught in high school English classes. The student cannot be considered educated in the fullest sense of the word if he is ignorant of this great segment of our culture. We owe much to the culture of the early Greeks and Romans, and their influence on our language is felt in words used in literature, art, science, and in our daily newspapers and magazines. How then can we deny the student this knowledge which gives him a fuller understanding of all he reads?

An enthusiastic teacher of mythology gives his students not only a tool in the form of words of mythological origin but also the opportunity to know and enjoy some of the most interesting stories in our literature.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX

WORDS FROM CONTEXT OF HARPER'S MAGAZINE, FEBRUARY 1948

Atlantic - P. O. 6.
chaos - p. 10.
Chronological - p. 146.
corybantic - p. 143.
Electra - pp. 190, 191.
Europe - P. O., pp. 3, 97, 143, 144, 175, B2,
B8, 178, 180, 187, B1, B2.
European - P. O., pp. 98, 102, 136, 149, 152, 154, 173,
175.
fated - p. 28.
Florence - p. 150.
florist - p. 120.
flower - pp. 15, 106, 108.
flowered - p. 120.
furious - pp. 183, 190.
furiously - p. 189.
genius - p. 172.
geographers - p. 98.
geographic - P. O., p. 7.
geographical - p. 172.
geography - p. 167.
giant - p. 172.
gigantic - p. 183.
graceful - p. 135.
gracefully - p. 166.
Herculean - p. 152.
hero - pp. 152, 158, 160, B6, 7.
heroic - pp. 164, B6.
un-heroic - p. B6.
heroine - p. 129.
January - P. O., pp. 6, 101, 115, 173.
laurel - p. 147.
March - pp. 131, 132, 189.
May - pp. 112, 138, 158.
May Day - pp. 34, 58.
museum - P. O., pp. 5, 6.

P. O. - indicates section "Personal and Otherwise" which
precedes body of magazine.
B - indicates section on "Books" which follows body of
magazine.

music - P. O., pp. 120, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 142, 143,
191, 192.
musical - pp. 137, 138, 142, 143, 192.
Musician - pp. 139, 144, 145, 192.
musicianship - pp. 139, 143, 145, 192.
myth - p. 146.
mythical - p. 146.
Ocean - p. 146.
Odyssey - p. 142.
Oedipus - p. 143.
orgy - p. 142.
panic - P. O., pp. 7, 108, 167.
pantheon - p. 166.
psychoanalysts - P. O., p. 7.
psychological - pp. 110, 183, 191.
psychology - p. 173.
psychoneurosis - p. 161.
Roman - P. O., pp. 7, B2.
Rome - P. O., pp. 7, 150, 154, 158.
Saturday - P. O., pp. 5, 8, 105, 106, 118, 126, 144, 189.
Terminated - p. 170.

WORDS FROM CONTEXT OF SATURDAY EVENING POST

- Aegean - June 7, p. 111.
 Ajax - June 7, pp. 33, 34, 135, 136, 137, 138.
 alma mater - April 26, pp. 102, 156.
 Amazon - Feb. 8, pp. 107; April 26, p. 10; Aug. 16, pp. 4, 27, 126.
 Amazonian - Aug. 16, p. 125.
 Athens - Feb. 8, pp. 21, 78; July 12, p. 100.
 Antares - April 26, pp. 30, 110, 111.
 Argonaut - April 26, p. 148.
 Atlanta - July 12, pp. 37, 56.
 Atlantic - Feb. 8, pp. 21, 31, 34, 35, 64, 66, 68, 75, 125; June 7, pp. 35, 47, 154, 170.
 Atlantic Ocean - Feb. 8, p. 35; June 7, p. 153.
 Atlas - Feb. 8, pp. 29, 114; June 7, p. 126; Aug. 16, pp. 122, 124.
 calliope - Aug. 16, pp. 31, 53.
 Calypso - Feb. 8, p. 28.
 capitol - Feb. 8, p. 133; July 12, p. 26.
 capitoline - July 12, p. 148.
 chaos - April 26, p. 110; June 7, p. 19.
 chaotic - April 26, p. 30; Aug. 16, p. 66.
 Chronic - Feb. 8, p. 93; July 12, p. 23.
 chronological - Aug. 16, p. 125.
 chronometer - April 26, p. 111.
 Clytemnestra - April 26, p. 134.
 Colossus - April 26, p. 23; Feb. 2, p. 31.
 Cornucopia - April 26, p. 147.
 Cupid - June 7, p. 59; July 12, p. 43.
 Damon - Aug. 16, p. 23.
 Europe - Feb. 8, pp. 25, 26, 27, 31, 90, 92, 125, 126, 128; June 7, p. 47; 111, 176; July 12, pp. 30, 31, 91, 98, 100, 104, 145, 148; Aug. 16, pp. 20, 33, 58, 63.
 European - Feb. 8, pp. 26, 27, 90, 125, 128; April 26, pp. 99, 102, 105; June 7, pp. 45, 47, 149, 170; July 12, pp. 12, 98, 104; Aug. 16, pp. 58, 63.
 Indo-European - July 12, p. 100.
 Non-European - Feb. 8, p. 125.
 echo - June 7, pp. 78, 105; July 12, pp. 24, 46.
 fatal - April 26, p. 26; July 12, p. 91; Aug. 16, pp. 121, 124.
 fate - April 26, p. 49; July 12, p. 38.
 faun - July 12, p. 34.
 Flora - Feb. 8, p. 96.
 florid - July 12, p. 127.

- Florida - Feb. 8, p. 46; April 26, p. 10; June 7, pp. 24, 153; July 12, pp. 83, 123; Aug. 16, pp. 16, 24, 25, 103.
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