



ELA Virtual Learning

8th Grade/ELA

Allusions

May 21, 2020



Lesson: May 21, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

I can identify allusions.

WARM UP

Copy down this table on a piece of paper and use the internet to fill in the blanks.

Greek God/Goddess	Roman God/Goddess	Domain
		king of all gods, god of weather, fate, and law
Hera		
		goddess of beauty and love
	Pluto	
		god of the sea
	Mars	
Apollo		
		goddess of wisdom and defense

WARM UP - Answers

Greek God/Goddess	Roman God/Goddess	Domain
Zeus	Jupiter	king of all gods, god of weather, fate, and law
Hera	Juno	queen of the gods, goddess of women and marriage
Aphrodite	Venus	goddess of beauty and love
Hades	Pluto	god of the underworld
Poseidon	Neptune	god of the sea
Ares	Mars	god of war
Apollo	Apollo	god of prophecy, music, poetry, and knowledge
Athena	Minerva	goddess of wisdom and defense

LEARN

What is an Allusion?

□ Definition-a reference within a work (text) to something famous outside it, such as a well-known person, place, event, story, or work of art, literature, music, pop culture

LEARN

Examples of Allusions

Some of the most common allusions are derived from the following works:

The Bible



Shakespeare



Mythology



In this lesson, we will focus on allusions to mythology.

LEARN

Example: Greek Myth

The car was his Pegasus!

This reference to the well-known and very powerful horse used in the Greek Myths. This would help the reader connect the power of the car to the power Pegasus is known for displaying

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

Read the following sentence: **She was on a diet, but french fries were her *Achilles' heel*.**

Now, do a little research to answer the following questions about the allusion in that sentence.

Interpret: Where does it come from?

Explain: What does it mean?



INDEPENDENT PRACTICE Suggested answer

Read the following sentence: **She was on a diet, but french fries were her *Achilles' heel*.**

Interpret: Where does it come from? In Greek mythology, the warrior Achilles was made invulnerable as a baby by being dipped into the River Styx. Only his heel—the place he was held by when being dipped—was left unprotected, which led to his downfall when it was struck by an arrow.

Explain: What does it mean? In the sentence above, french fries are her weakness. They cause a downfall of her diet.

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

There are many allusions to mythology in our culture.

Copy and complete the chart. Use your Google skills to find the answers.

Brand/Title	What it Names	Myth or God or Goddess it alludes to
Nike		.
Apollo		
Midas		
Venus		

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE ANSWERS

Brand/Title	What it Names	Myth or God or Goddess it alludes to
Nike	Athletic Apparel Company	Nike was the Greek goddess of victory.
Apollo	Famous music hall in New York city	Apollo was the Greek god of music.
Midas	Muffler and Brake Shop	Greek Myth: King Midas was granted one wish by the god Dionysus. Midas asked that everything he touched turn to gold.
Venus	Brand of women's razors	Venus was the Roman Goddess of love and beauty.

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

Read this poem about Pandora's Box. Then read the following sentences. On your notebook paper, write what you think the allusion to Pandora's box means.

- ❑ When I asked Jane about her problems, I didn't know I had opened *Pandora's box*. You should be cautious with people who are upset. You don't want to open *Pandora's box*.
- ❑ It seems like we've opened *Pandora's box* with this topic today. We've been getting hundreds of messages from listeners from around the country who have been affected by it.
- ❑ Trying to fix the bug opened a *Pandora's box* of other issues with the computer.

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE suggested answer

The phrase *Pandora's box* means to begin or introduce something that leads to many other problems. It is an allusion to the story from Greek mythology in which Pandora opens a box containing all the possible things that can affect humanity negatively.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Names in literature and film are full of allusions to mythology.

In Greek mythology, Helen of Troy had a daughter named Hermione.



Adonis Creed is named after Adonis, who was so handsome that the Greek goddess Aphrodite, the goddess of love and beauty, fell in love with him.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Cities/towns whose names are allusions to mythology:

- Athens, Georgia - Greek goddess Athena
- Atlanta, Georgia - Greek god Atlas
- Atlantic City, New Jersey - Greek god Atlas
- Aurora, Colorado - Roman goddess Aurora
- Ithaca, New York - Ithaca was the home of Odysseus, a Trojan War hero
- Olympia, Washington - Olympus was the home of the Greek gods/goddesses
- Paris, France - Paris was famous in Greek mythology for stealing Helen of Troy from her husband.

Athena



Atlas



Paris



Mount Olympus

