





Themes

What are the main themes?

Power 	Gods 
Creation 	Violence 
Adventure 	Heroes 

Author's Intent

Why were myths written?

To highlight the differences in the creation story and explore these differences through cultural storytelling.	To reinforce the absolute power of the Olympians.
To demonstrate the power of heroes depicted in mythology.	To solidify how violent mythological tales were, especially in Greek Mythology.

Characters in Ancient Origins

Who are the main characters in 'Ancient Origins Extracts'?

Kronos Omnipotent Hubristic Fearsome Patricidal Resilient	Zeus Omnipotent Hubristic Capricious Formidable Gargantuan	Narcissus Beautiful Egocentric Vain Self-centred Self-absorbed	Achilles Heroic Invulnerable Warrior Temperamental Integral	Odysseus Courageous Intelligent Heroic Honourable Faithful	Gilgamesh Graceful Heroic Adventurous Tragic Courageous
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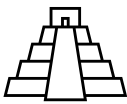







Key Quotes

What are some useful quotations to know for Ancient Origins?

'All mortal flesh is grass beneath the cruel sweep of its mowing blade.' Disposer Supreme and Judge of the Earth	'By the time Kronos consumed Hera, Rhea's [...] love for Kronos has turned to hate.' The Children of Rhea	'To Narcissus love and desire were sickness.' Echo and Narcissus	'They fell on your carcass like jackals.' Achilles
'Was Chaos a god – a divine being – or simply a state of nothingness?' The First Order	'The crops stop growing and the people of the earth wait for Persephone to return, with the spring.' Persephone, Queen of the Underworld	'He heard hissing curses of relief and triumph from the men around him as they thanked the gods.' The Belly of the Beast	'This is the one song everyone/ would like to learn: the song that is irresistible.' Siren Song

Timeline

What happens in the 'Ancient Origins Extracts'?

Mesopotamian Empire 	Classical Mythology 	Anglo Saxons & Viking raids 	Yoruba 
Egyptian Civilisation 	Han Chinese Dynasty 	Medieval period 	The Renaissance 

Techniques

What techniques are used?

Metaphor – a figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable.	Personification – giving something inanimate human features.
Juxtaposition – the fact of two things being seen or placed close together with contrasting effect.	Dramatic Irony – When the audience knows something that the character(s) don't

Context

What was going on in society at the time?

Ancient Greece civilisation thrived nearly 4000 years ago. The Ancient Greeks lived in Greece and the countries that we now call Bulgaria and Turkey.	Olympians – The Olympians ruled after Zeus defeated his father, Kronos, and liberated his brothers and sisters. Zeus was an omnipotent ruler of the Gods.
The Trojan War was waged against the city of Troy by the Greeks after Paris of Troy took Helen from her husband Menelaus, king of Sparta. Achilles fought and died at Troy.	Gilgamesh - The story was written down by a society of people that dwelled in old Mesopotamia, called the Sumerians.

Themes

What are the main themes?

Death



Love



Fate



Hate



Gender



Conflict



Author's Intent

Why did Shakespeare write the play?

To highlight the destructive -ness of unresolved conflict.

To reinforce Elizabethan views of masculinity and femininity.

To challenge Elizabethan ideas of relationships and how they should be conducted.

To demonstrate how good intentions can lead to tragic endings.

Characters in Romeo and Juliet

Who are the main characters in 'Romeo and Juliet' ?

Romeo

Romantic
Tragic
Naïve
Sorrowful
Infatuated

Juliet

Subservient
Inferior
Innocent
Overwhelmed
Naïve

Benvolio

Benevolent
Loyal
Rational
Practical
Sensible

Mercutio

Extrovert
Courageous
Devoted
Gallant
Cynical

Tybalt

Vicious
Vehement
Passionate
Honourable
Aggressive

Lord Capulet
Authoritative
Superior
Aggressive
Imperious
Domineering

Key Quotes

What are some useful quotations to know for Romeo and Juliet?

'Two households both alike in dignity.'

Prologue

'O brawling love, O loving hate, O any thing of nothing first create!'

Act 1, Scene 1

'But soft, what light through yonder window breaks?'

Act 2, Scene 2

'These violent delights have violent ends.'

Act 2, Scene 6

'A plague a'both your houses!'

Act 3, Scene 1

'Hang thee, young baggage, disobedient wretch!'

Act 3, Scene 5

'is it e'en so? then I defy you, stars!'

Act 5, Scene 1

'For never was a story of more woe Than this of Juliet and her Romeo.'

Act 5, Scene 3

Plot Summary

What happens in Romeo and Juliet?

ACT 1

The Capulets and Montagues are at conflict with one another. They are told if they fight they will have to give up their lives. Romeo Montague crashes a Capulet ball with his friend Mercutio and cousin Benvolio. There he meets Juliet Capulet.

ACT 2

Romeo and Juliet meet at the her balcony and vow to marry one another. Romeo goes to Friar Lawrence to ask for his assistance with this marriage. The Friar marries Romeo and Juliet in secret with the Nurse as a witness.

ACT 3

Tybalt, Juliet's cousin, wants to find Romeo as Romeo gate-crashed the Capulet ball. He finds Mercutio and they begin to quarrel. Romeo steps in between and Tybalt kills Mercutio. Romeo in his grief kills Tybalt. Romeo is banished from Verona. Juliet is told by Lord Capulet she must marry Paris.

ACT 4

Juliet goes to Friar Lawrence and begs for a way to out of marrying Paris. Friar Lawrence recommends a sleeping potion which will make her appear dead but she will wake up 42 hours later. Juliet takes the sleeping potion and is discovered to be 'dead' by the Nurse the next morning.

ACT 5

Balthasar meets Romeo in Mantua and tells of Juliet's death. Romeo in his grief buys a poison from an apothecary and races to Verona to die next to his beloved. He meets Paris and they fight. Paris is killed. Romeo takes the poison and dies. Juliet wakes up finds Romeo dead and stabs herself. The Capulets and the Montagues reconcile.

Techniques

What techniques does Shakespeare use?

Symbols

Symbols such as light and dark, and daggers are used to reinforce the play's themes.

Prologue

The Prologue is used to introduce the story and intrigue an Elizabethan audience.

Oxymorons

Oxymorons (contrasting ideas) are used to show Romeo's uncertainty in his romantic escapades.

Foreshadowing

There are constant warnings and hints that something terrible is going to happen to the titular characters by the end of the play.

Context

What was going on in society at the time?

Europe was a traditionally Catholic society with a strong belief in damnation for mortal sin.

Elizabethan women were expected to be subservient to men and fulfil the role of housewife with no complaint.

Shakespeare was writing following 'The Reformation' and this was when England became a Protestant nation, having broken away from the control of the Catholic Church.

Elizabethans believed in the ideas of fate and astrology. Many people believed that they had no choice to change their destiny because everything was already 'predestined'.

Themes

What are the main themes?

Superstition



Social class



Violence



Friendship



Family



Education



Author's Intent

Why did Russell write the play?

To highlight the issues with unemployment in Liverpool in the 1950s-1980s

To reinforce the issues with the social hierarchy and how the working class were treated in society.

To challenge preconceived opinions of superstitions.

To demonstrate how the Education system was unfair and limited progression for all.

Characters in Blood Brothers

Who are the main characters in 'Blood Brothers'?

Mrs Johnstone

Superstitious
Gullible
Naïve
Impecunious

Mrs Lyons

Jealous
Emotional
Distant
Superior

Mickey

Inquisitive
Rambunctious
Unhinged
Depressed

Edward

Affluent
Privileged
Sheltered
Dependable

Linda

Fickle
Conceited
Crestfallen
Adulteress

Narrator

Omniscient
Judgemental
Prophetic
Foreboding

Key Quotes

What are some useful quotations to know for Blood Brothers?

'Y' can't stop the milk. I need the milk. I'm pregnant.'

Act 1

'you never put new shoes on the table.'

Act 1

'Mrs Lyons has opened the knife drawer and has a lethal-looking kitchen knife in her hand.'

Act 2

'Yes, the devil he's still got your number.'

Act 2

'Cos, if our Sammy gives y' a sweet he's usually weed on it first.'

Act 1

'You're... you're a fuckoff! Mrs Lyons hits Edward hard and instinctively.'

Act 1

'Said I reminded him of Marilyn Monroe'

Act 2

'You! Why didn't you give me away!'

Act 2

Plot Summary

What happens in Blood Brothers?

ACT 1

The play opens with the Prologue depicting the death of the 'Johnstone twins'. The prolepsis finishes with Mrs Johnstone depicting her life with seven children and one more on the way. Mrs Johnstone is in financial destitution and is pregnant. She finds out she is pregnant with twins and is convinced by Mrs Lyons to give her one of her babies. Mrs Lyons has Mrs Johnstone fired and threatens her to ensure the twins never meet.

Mickey and Edward are seven and meet. They become blood brothers but their mother's want to keep them apart. Mrs Lyons has her family move away and Mrs Johnstone manages to move her family away 'where no one will know their name.'

ACT 2

Mrs Johnstone's financial situation is better. Mickey is not fourteen and has a crush on Linda, his best girl friend. Mickey and Edward meet after all this time and continue their friendship. Mrs Lyons is angered by this and tries to kill Mrs Johnstone.

Edward goes off to university. Mickey and Linda marry and have a baby. Mickey and Edward fall out as they grow apart. Mickey loses his job and falls into a life of crime. Mickey becomes addicted to anti-depressants. Edward and Linda begin a relationship.

Mrs Lyons shows Mickey this and Mickey tries to kill Edward. Both are killed as a result of violence.

Techniques

What techniques does Russell use?

Symbols

Symbols such as the shoes on the table; Edward's locket; and the toy gun link to key themes throughout the play.

Prologue

The Prologue is used to introduce the story and intrigue a modern audience.

Dramatic irony

When the audience knows something that the character(s) don't.

Omniscient Narrator

An all knowing character – the narrator is the all knowing character throughout, being aware of everything that happens.

Context

What was going on in society at the time?

Margaret Thatcher was a Conservative politician who was elected as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom in 1979.

Liverpool's docks, a chief source of employment in the city folded causing thousands of households to fall into poverty and unemployment. Crime levels increased, drug use sky-rocketed, and housing deteriorated in poorer areas.

Seeing British manufacturing as uncompetitive, she blamed trade unions as being too strong in calling strikes on weakened employers. She reduced unions' powers and sold off and closed uncompetitive companies.

Marilyn Monroe was a famous Hollywood actress. She became addicted to anti-depressants and eventually died from an overdose.