

Notes/Handouts/Material covered in class:

- Mt. Olympus
 - Highest mountain in Greece
 - Believed to be the home of the 12 major gods/goddesses
- Zeus
 - Ruler of the gods/goddesses

Greek Literature:

- Myth
 - Def: Stories that people tell to explain beliefs about their world
 - Purpose: To explain the creation of the world and of human beings
 - Describes: Gods/goddesses and how they relate to each other and to humans
 - Example: Pandora's Box

- Epic poem
 - Def: a long poem that tells a story
 - Author: Homer
 - Titles: *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* (both by Homer)

- Fable
 - Def: a short story, usually involving animals, that teaches a moral lesson
 - Author: Aesop
 - Titles: *The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing* and *The Hare and the Tortoise* (both by Aesop)

-- Greek drama (written work designed for actors to perform):

Comedies (light-hearted, poking fun, humorous, pleasant emotions) often written by Aristophanes

Tragedies (serious, unpleasant emotions, tragic outcomes) often written by Sophocles

[Drawing of smiley/frowny masks as a symbol. Google: "Greek drama masks"]



[Drawing of an amphitheater (see above)] "amphi" = from both sides; "theater" = to behold



-- Olympics:

-- purpose was to honor the gods; Zeus, specifically

-- records show Olympics was held as early as 776 BCE (maybe earlier)

-- Olympics held every 4 years

-- originally for men only

-- held in Olympia

-- initially events were footraces, but then other events were added (wrestling, long jump, javelin throw, discus throw, etc.)

-- tested skills that were valuable to soldiers