

Allusion Research Jigsaw

An allusion is a reference, explicit or implicit, to previous literature or history. Using allusions, authors can enrich a passage by inviting readers to make associations that can deepen or broaden meaning. Readers unaware of allusions, however, will miss these meanings—not OK for an AP student.

Learn the following allusions well. Use whatever sources you wish: children's tales, the Bible, encyclopedias, or reference books, or credible websites, not personal pages. For the Bible; prefer the Authorized (King James) Version, the one that's had by far the greatest influence on literature. If you are up for the originals of much of the mythology, check out Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. Britannia.com is a good site to start for Arthurian character and story information. For fairy tale research, try the Internet Public Library Pathfinder: <http://www.ipl.org/div/pf/entry/48473>.

Next, you are going to create a teaching document that includes, in your own words, an explanation of the story with an MLA (or APA) citation of the source. If you already know the story by heart double-check with an outside source for accuracy and cite the source. You will need to send me an electronic copy of your document and provide a hard copy in advance of your teaching day, so that photocopies can be made. A good website to help you create your MLA works cited page is Purdue's OWL at: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>.

The stories you explain need not be long; written, most should be a paragraph or so. The purpose here is to give all of you a working knowledge of allusion. You will be teaching this information to your classmates. A test will follow.

BIBLICAL GROUP 1

Creation
Adam and Eve
Cain and Abel
David and Goliath
Moses (birth to the promised land)
Abraham and Isaac
Tower of Babel
Jonah and the Whale
Samson and Delilah
Solomon
Job
Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors
Armageddon

BIBLICAL GROUP 2

Daniel in the Lion's Den
Elijah
Jezebel
Sodom and Gomorrah
Birth of Jesus
Parable of the Prodigal Son
Lazarus
John the Baptist
Last Supper
Judas
Crucifixion and Resurrection
Doubting Thomas
Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse

GREEK/ ROMAN MYTHOLOGY GROUP 1

Prometheus (and Io)
Narcissus
The Golden Fleece
Orpheus and Eurydice
Daedalus (and Icarus)
Cupid and Psyche
Pygmalion and Galatea
Daphne (and Apollo)
Perseus
Theseus

GREEK/ ROMAN MYTHOLOGY GROUP 2

Hercules
Oedipus (including Sphinx)
Antigone
The Trojan War (including the fall of Troy, Achilles, Hector, Paris, Helen, and the Trojan Horse)
Midas
Bacchus
Agamemnon, Orestes, and Electra (also known in whole as *The Oresteia*)
Leda and the Swan
Pandora
Odysseus/Ulysses (know who he is, do not study *The Odyssey*)

ARTHURIAN GROUP

Uther and Igraine and the story of Arthur's birth
Arthur, Guenevere, and Lancelot (their stories & the love triangle)
Sir Gawain and "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight" (story in verse)
Merlin
Morgan le Fay
Nimue alias Vivienne, Lady of the Lake
Perceval
Mordred
Places: Avalon and Camelot
Objects: Excalibur, the Sword in the Stone, the Holy Grail

FAIRY TALE GROUP

The Ugly Duckling
Snow White
Rumpelstiltskin
The Princess and the Pea
The Pied Piper of Hamelin
Little Red Riding Hood
Hansel and Gretel
The Frog Prince
The Fisherman and His Wife
Cinderella
Bluebeard
Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves
Aladdin

adapted from Jenna Gardner