Worksheet 5. The Metamorphoses and Later Works of Art

Comparing Mythic Imagery

Directions: Focus on a work of art assigned by your teacher. Read the corresponding myth by Ovid. Fill in the following information and provide answers to the questions below.

Name of work of art ___________________________ Artist ___________________________

Date created __________ Nationality of artist ___________________________

Medium used ___________________________

1. What is your first reaction to this painting or sculpture? (Be honest, but try to delve beyond the one-word answer.)

What is the focal point of this artwork?

2. What do you observe in this work of art? List as many details as you can. Do some of these details have symbolic meaning?

What is the focal point of this artwork?

3. Locate this story in Ovid and read it carefully. Write a summary of this story in your own words.
4. The artist made a choice to portray a particular moment during the story. What do you think he or she was trying to suggest to the viewer by choosing this moment?

5. How is the moment portrayed in the work of art similar to Ovid’s retelling of the story? How is it different? What has the artist added or omitted?

6. Now do some research on this painting or sculpture. What additional information can you find to share with the class? For example: What is the history behind it? For whom was it created? What gallery, museum, or individual currently owns it?

7. What questions do you still have about this painting or sculpture? List at least three.