

1. Conceptually (rather than mythologically) list a few ways in which Dionysus and Apollo differ.

- Apollo is the god of music, prophecy, healing, and plague.

Dionysus is the fertility god or god of vegetation

- Apollo represents self-control, control of sexual drive, or the “rational” in man as he protects the law.

Dionysus is symbolic of the “irrational” in man because he punishes everyone who does not honor Dionysus or accept his rites which include ecstatic music and dance, possession of followers and eating of raw flesh. He also represents release of inhibition, free flow of unconscious drives, or sexual release.

- Items that are related to Apollo are cithara, lyre, bow, raven, laurel, and tripod

Dionysus is associated with thyrsus, ivy wreath, satyr, panther, bull, and serpent

- Mother of Apollo had a hard time to find a place to give birth to Apollo and his twin.

Finally, he was born on a floating island named Delos.

Mother of Dionysus had long died before he was born. In fact, he was born from Zeus’s thigh.

- Apollo occupied Delphi 9 months of year.

Dionysus inhabits the rest 3 months

2. Explain how the **myths of Apollo and Dionysus** show similarities and how they differ; in explaining their similarities and differences, explain or mention the significance of these similarities and differences.

Apollo and Dionysus are half-brothers, whose father is mighty Zeus. Because they are both sons of Zeus, they are inherited with great power. It, once again, strengthens the idea that children of Zeus are honorable and play important role in the life of human beings. Even though they share some similarities as sons of the King of gods, they are nearly opposites of one another. Dionysus is the god of vegetation, or fertility and winemaking, while Apollo is a god of light, prophecy, healing, and plague. Moreover, Apollo represents self-control, control of sexual drive, or the “rational” in man as he protects the law. Meanwhile, Dionysus associates with irrationality, dreamy feelings, appeals to emotions, chaos, instincts, and sexuality. They represent for the two opposite sides to makeup a complete human. Thus, missing one side of the two is not impossible. Speaking of similarities, a significant power that both Apollo and Dionysus have is inspiring entertainment and relaxing activities. Dionysus is the god of wine, dance, festivity, and theater, and Apollo presides over music, songs, dance, and poetry. However, their kinds of music are different. Apollo practices the golden lyre, which create a feeling of harmony. On the other hand, Dionysus invents the timbrel which creates furious beaten drum sounds. Besides that, both Apollo and Dionysus were not given birth properly. Hera was jealous of their mother getting pregnant from Zeus that Hera took revenge and caused trouble to them. Mother of Apollo, Leto, had a hard time to find a place to give birth to Apollo and his twin. Hera did not allow any island to give his

Leto a place to give birth to them. Fortunately, Leto was able to give birth to the twins on a floating island named Delos. Mother of Dionysus had long died before he was born. Due to Hera's trick, Dionysus's mother was burnt by Zeus's light bolt. Fortunately, Zeus saved him from the fire on time and put him in his thigh. In fact, he was born from Zeus's thigh.

Another similarity is that Apollo and Dionysus both start cults that show their divinities, and they spend their youth recruiting new worshipers for their respective cults. However, as Dionysus is symbolic of the "irrational" in man, he spread the cult by punishing everyone who does not honor his power or accept his rites which include ecstatic music and dance, possession of followers and eating of raw flesh. On the other hand, Apollo was honored with shrines, at Delos and Delphi. People come to him on their will to obtain his oracle or prophecy.